



## Protective items

Swine barns by their nature have higher levels of dust, noise and odour than what is generally found out doors. Simple protective devices can make barn work safer and more pleasant.

Pigs when excited (e.g. at shipping or feeding) are very shrill in their vocalization. Permanent hearing damage can result from long term exposure to their squealing. Ear muffs give good protection but many find they are too hot to wear for extended periods. Foam ear plugs while offering slightly less protection are more comfortable for longer periods.

Dust masks can relieve many of the symptoms associated with exposure to swine barn dust. Not all masks are created equal. Those with only one band give limited protection as they can not seal tightly against the face. A mask with 2 bands or straps is significantly better and should prevent you from inhaling 95% of the dust particles in the air. If you wear glasses, a mask with an exhaust valve will reduce the problem of fogging.

Pig dirt and smell are hard to remove from the hands. Disposable plastic gloves reduce this problem for those having direct contact with pigs or manure. Gloves and also hair nets are particularly appreciated by visitors and provides another layer of biosecurity protection from pathogens they may bring in on their hands.



## **VIDO SWINE TECH GROUP**

*Linking knowledge to practical solutions*