

## Prohibited Pig Feed - Don't Feed Swill to Pigs

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### What is prohibited pig feed?

Foods that should not be fed to pigs include all meat, meat products and any food that has come in contact with meat – traditionally called swill.

### Swill feeding is illegal

Swill feeding can carry exotic diseases that could devastate our livestock industries. Meat and mammalian material can contain viruses that are not found in Australian livestock. Diseases like foot and mouth disease, classical and African swine fever and transmissible gastroenteritis can be carried and transmitted by feeding swill to pigs.

It is illegal to feed swill to pigs in all states and territories. These rules apply to all pigs, including pet pigs and pigs kept on your property for your own consumption. Under the Northern Territory (NT) Livestock Act and Regulations, individuals could be liable to penalties of up to \$31,000 for allowing pigs to eat prohibited pig feed. Illegal activities include:

- feeding or allowing or directing another person to feed prohibited pig feed to a pig
- allowing a pig to have access to prohibited pig feed
- the collection and storage or possession of prohibited pig feed on premises where pigs are kept
- supplying to another person prohibited pig feed that the supplier knows will be used for feeding pigs.

### Prohibited pig feeds

Food products that are **prohibited** for feeding to pigs include:

- meat and meat products
- dairy products from overseas
- pies, sausage rolls, bacon and cheese rolls, pizza, deli meats and table scraps
- household, commercial or industrial waste, including restaurant food and discarded cooking oils
- anything that has been in contact with prohibited pig feed via collection, storage or transport in contaminated containers (such as meat trays and take-away food containers).



Figure 1. Leftover pizza and quiches that may have come into contact with meat products (e.g. bacon) are prohibited pig feeds and should not be fed to pigs

## What can I feed pigs?

Food products that are not prohibited for feeding to pigs include:

- commercially prepared pig feeds
- grains
- milk, milk products and milk by-products of Australian origin
- eggs
- dry meal made from meat, blood or bone (processed by commercial hot rendering and purchased from a reputable produce store or feed merchant)
- non-meat bakery food substances
- fruit, vegetables and cereals that have not been in contact with swill. You cannot remove meat from a sandwich or salad and then feed the rest to a pig.

## Food premises

Any business which prepares and sells food has a legal responsibility to dispose of food waste appropriately. This includes kitchens, restaurants, hotels, airports, hospitals and market stalls.

Prohibited food waste should be placed in an appropriate garbage bin for collection by the council or commercial waste service for disposal in a landfill or for composting at an appropriate recycling facility.

## Report swill feeding

To maintain Australia's disease free status, you must immediately report the following activities to the NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources:

- feeding swill to pigs
- allowing a pig to have access to swill
- supplying swill to pigs
- collecting swill waste from a food premise to provide to pigs.

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All reports will be treated confidentially.

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Serial No. 602 Agdex No. 440/59

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