

Tainted Hogs

Written by Dave Blanks
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The tainted pet food scare has now worked its way to one North Carolina hog farm -- but state agriculture officials say that it is not affecting the food supply.

Hogs at one unnamed western North Carolina farm tested positive for Melamine, a chemical used to make plastic, after eating tainted feed. Melamine was also found in dog and cat food which has been recalled, after a number of pet deaths. The chemical was traced to rice protein in pet food, which was deemed imperfect for sale to the general public, which was used as a component of the hog feed. The farm has been quarantined, according to assistant state veterinarian Mary Ann McBride. She says they do not have any indication that the tainted food has been used on any other farms in North Carolina. She says the North Carolina pigs were fed the tainted feed for only one day -- and have shown no signs of illness. The 1,400 hogs are being monitored. No decision has been made on whether to destroy the animals. Farms in at least five other states may also be affected.