



THE PIGCARE™ REQUIREMENTS

PigCare™ is an independently managed animal welfare assurance programme for pig farms. This document has been written to give prospective PigCare™ applicants and other interested stakeholders an overview of the PigCare™ requirements.

PART ONE: ANIMAL WELFARE

Section	Topic	Requirement
1.0	Staff Competency	Pigs are cared for by a sufficient number of personnel who collectively possess the ability, knowledge and competence necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the animals.
2.0	Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018	Compliance with the Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018 from 1 October 2018.
3.0	Pig Handling and Movement	<p>Pigs are handled at all times in such a way as to minimise the risk of pain, injury or distress in suitably designed facilities.</p> <p>Pigs are moved in a calm, careful manner by stockpersons who understand pig behaviour and how to properly handle pigs.</p>
4.0	Elective husbandry procedures	Elective husbandry procedures are only be carried out where they are justified.
5.0	Compromised or sick pigs	The farm has a documented procedure for identifying, handling, and treating compromised pigs.

Section	Topic	Requirement
6.0	Euthanising Pigs	The euthanising of pigs is done humanely by a person who is competently trained.
7.0	Weaner care	The needs of newly weaned pigs are met by providing appropriately designed facilities, appropriate nutrition and handling procedures.
8.0	Pre-transport selection	All pigs are inspected prior to transport to ensure all are fit for transport. The farm has implemented a load out procedure based on the NZPork "Fit to Load" Guidelines to assure that only pigs fit to be transported are selected.
9.0	Load out practices	Pigs are loaded at all times in such a way as to minimise the risk of pain, injury or distress in suitably designed facilities.
10.0	Pest control	The farm has implemented a pest control programme and rodenticide management plan.
11.0	Feeding arrangements	All pigs receive adequate quantities of feed and nutrients each day to enable each pig to: maintain good health, meet its physiological demands, and avoid metabolic and nutritional disorders. Feed is provided in such a way as to prevent undue competition and injury.
12.0	Water supply	An adequate daily supply of water that is safe and palatable, is accessible to all pigs at all times.
13.0	New-born piglet care	All piglets receive colostrum or an appropriate substitute as soon as possible after birth and within 24 hours.
14.0	Temperature control	Ventilation control or other measures are in place to ensure housed pigs do not become overheated or cold stressed.

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15.0	Air quality	Adequate ventilation is provided in order to prevent the build-up of dust and gases.
16.0	Housing and equipment	<p>Housing systems and equipment are designed, constructed and maintained in a manner that provides suitable (comfortable) temperatures, fresh air, hygienic conditions, and reduces the risk of injury, disease or stress for the pigs.</p> <p>All group housed pigs are able to stand, move about and lie down without undue interference with each other in a space that provides for separation of dunging, lying and eating areas.</p> <p>Pigs are provided with natural or artificial light of appropriate intensity for a minimum of nine hours each day.</p> <p>Alternative systems and contingency measures are in place to provide for these requirements to cover the of loss of power, fire, flooding and other emergency situations.</p>
17.0	Interactions between sows and piglets	<p>Accommodation for farrowing and lactating sows is of suitable design and sufficient size to allow the sow to lie down at full length, without leg restriction and allow the sow to rise and stand comfortably without touching both sides simultaneously and allow piglets ready access to the sows udder to suckle.</p> <p>If farrowing crates are used, these must meet the current requirements set out in the Animal Welfare (Pigs) Code of Welfare 2010.</p>
18.0	Management of dry sows	<p>If mating stalls are used, they are only used for that purpose, and their use meets the current requirements set out in the Animal Welfare (Pigs) Code of Welfare 2010.</p> <p>Where sows and mated gilts are group housed, they are managed to minimise the effects of aggression.</p>

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19.0	Accommodation of boars	Boars are provided with sufficient space so that they can stand up, turn around and lie comfortably in a natural position, and that provides for separation from dunging, lying and eating areas.
20.0	Shelter for pigs kept outdoors	<p>Pigs are provided with dry and draught free but adequately ventilated shelter.</p> <p>Pigs are provided with the means to minimise the effects of adverse weather, including the effects of heat and cold stress.</p>
21.0	Pig behaviour management	Pigs are managed in a manner that provides them sufficient opportunities to express and satisfy their normal behaviours including but not limited to, feeding, drinking, sleeping, dunging and urination, vocalisation, thermoregulation, and social contact.
22.0	Pig health and Injuries	<p>Pigs are checked by a competent person at least once each day for signs of ill health or injury and timely preventative or remedial action is undertaken. This includes consultation with a veterinarian as appropriate.</p> <p>If required medication is used in accordance with professional advice, registration conditions and the manufacturer's instructions.</p>
23.0	Restricted Veterinary Medicines	Use of restricted veterinary medicines is audited.
24.0	Needle Management	A needle management procedure is in place based on the 'NZPork Needle Management Guidelines'.

PART TWO: PRESENTATION

Section	Topic	Requirement
25.0	Facilities	<p>Facilities are maintained to an appropriate standard including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fences and signage • Parking area • Roofs and gutters • Walls, windows and doors • Outdoor mating area and farrowing huts • Pen divisions and walls • Ground cover on paddocks • Dry lying areas
26.0	Maintenance and tidiness	<p>Housekeeping is to an acceptable standard including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass, weeds and vegetation control • Drains, sumps and pumps • Unused materials and equipment • Rubbish and recycling • Food preparation and storage • Organic waste • Staff amenities • Pest control • Hygiene of pig pens
27.0	Welfare	<p>Elements of the facilities that support animal welfare including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedding maintenance • Air quality • Lying areas • Condition of floors • Stocking density • Condition of stock • Cooling systems • Health

PART THREE: INDUSTRY GOOD DATA

On an as needed basis the PigCare™ assessment framework may be used to collect industry good data such as that required by regulatory authority as recommended by the PigCare™ Advisory Group.