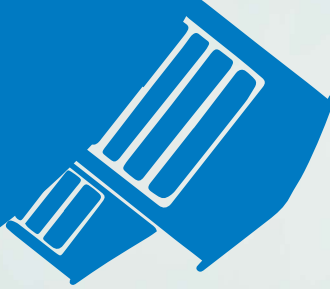
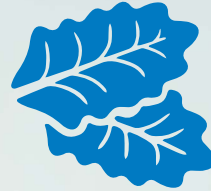
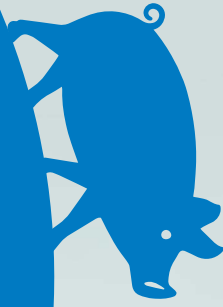




# Free Range and Free Farmed Pigs

Farm Audit Checklist



# Farm Audit Checklist for Free Range and Free Farmed Pigs

Version 1 – 2020



## Contact

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# Introduction

This farm audit checklist for free range and free farmed pigs provides a summary of the relevant SPCA Certified standards and is intended to help members assess their farm and prepare for an audit.

It is not exhaustive and not intended as a replacement for the standards, which should be read and understood before this checklist is used.

In addition, while completing this checklist and addressing any problems it raises will increase the likelihood of a successful audit, it is not a guarantee of success.

Please do not send this document to SPCA Certified. It is provided purely for your own reference.

<b>Date of assessment:</b>		<b>Group ages:</b>	
<b>Overall comments:</b>			

<b>Reference Standard</b>	<b>Summarised standard</b>	<b>Check (Y/N)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	<b>Good Nutrition</b>		
	<b>Feed</b>		
<b>N1 – N3 &amp; N5</b>	Pigs have daily access to a good diet, which is provided in a suitable way and does not contain swill, hormones, growth promoters or pig derived proteins. Food by-products are fed in accordance with MPI guidelines.		

<b>N4</b>	Detailed information on food composition is available on request.		
<b>N6 &amp; N7</b>	Feeders are checked daily and are not situated in dunging areas.		
<b>N8 &amp; N9</b>	Feed is stored securely and enough is on hand to last for 48 hours if needed.		
<b>N10 &amp; N11</b>	Body condition is assessed daily and recorded monthly for the herd. Action is taken if a pig is below 2 or above 4.5 on a five point scale.		
	<b>Water</b>		
<b>N12 - N15</b>	Drinkers provide all pigs with clean water when they need it, are checked daily and do not contaminate bedding areas.		
<b>N16 &amp; N18</b>	<i>E.coli</i> is tested in the water line annually. Non-town supply water is also tested annually and a back-up water source/treatment option is available for emergencies.		

Reference Standard	Summarised standard	Check (Y/N)	Comments
	<b>Good Environment</b>		
	<b>Buildings and housing</b>		
<b>E1</b>	A detailed site plan is available for viewing.		
<b>E2 &amp; E3</b>	Internal surfaces are easy to clean and the environment does not pose an injury or health risk to the pigs.		
<b>E4 &amp; E5</b>	Equipment, including auxiliary power supplies, is maintained in full working order and electrical tests are conducted annually.		
	<b>Flooring in barns</b>		
<b>E6 – E8 &amp; E10</b>	Flooring is solid and stable, with adequate drainage. Slats do not comprise more than 25 % of the floor area and bare concrete is not used.		
	<b>Lying areas and bedding</b>		
<b>E11 – E16</b>	Lying areas are solid, with good quality bedding that is checked daily and replaced between groups.		

	<b>Lighting in barns</b>		
<b>E17</b>	Shed lighting mimics normal day/night length.		
	<b>Temperature</b>		
<b>E18</b>	Suitable resources are provided to enable pigs to maintain a comfortable temperature at all times.		
	<b>Ventilation and air quality</b>		
<b>E19</b>	All structures that pigs use are properly ventilated, without causing draughts.		
<b>E20 &amp; E21</b>	Dust and ammonia are minimised.		
	<b>Outdoor environment</b>		
<b>E22</b>	The outside area is managed to maintain ground cover and reduce disease and environmental risks.		

<b>E23 &amp; E24</b>	Pigs have access to artificial shelters that are dry and can withstand the effects of bad weather.		
<b>E25</b>	Pigs have access to shade during hot/humid weather.		
	<b>Transport (off-farm)</b>		
<b>E26 &amp; E27</b>	Pigs are assessed before transport and no unfit animals are transported.		
<b>E28 &amp; E29</b>	Equipment, vehicles and holding areas are fit for purpose, clean and safe for pigs to use.		
<b>E30 &amp; E31</b>	Less than 1 % of pigs fall during loading and those that do are immediately treated.		
<b>E32</b>	Pigs are not off food for more than 16 hours and have access to water until immediately before loading.		
<b>E33 &amp; E34</b>	Outdoor pigs are not moved into barns until 48 hours before loading and unfamiliar pigs are not mixed.		

<b>E35</b>	Tusked boars are transported in way that minimises the risk of injury to themselves, other animals and people.		
<b>E36 &amp; E37</b>	Pigs are not loaded/transported in hot weather (>30°C) and transport does not exceed eight hours from start to finish.		
<b>E39 &amp; E40</b>	Accurate transport records are kept and a contingency plan for delays/emergencies is in place.		
<b>E41</b>	Pigs are not transported for sale at auction or market.		
	<b>Emergency preparedness</b>		
<b>E42</b>	An emergency preparedness plan is in place and regularly reviewed.		
<b>E43</b>	Fire prevention procedures are in place and any alarms/extinguishers are well maintained.		

Reference Standard	Summarised standard	Check (Y/N)	Comments
	<b>Good Health</b>		
	<b>Animal health plan</b>		
<b>H1 &amp; H2</b>	A detailed animal health plan, which is regularly reviewed and which covers major health and welfare issues, is in place.		
<b>H3</b>	Regular veterinary visits are undertaken and the outcomes recorded.		
<b>H4 &amp; H5</b>	Herd injury and lameness records are kept and any sudden deaths or disease outbreaks are reported to SPCA.		
	<b>Pharmaceutical use</b>		
<b>H6 – H8</b>	Pharmaceuticals are only administered by competent people, following veterinary prescription, stored safely and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.		
<b>H10</b>	Pharmaceuticals are not routinely used for induction.		

<b>H11</b>	Accurate records of all treatments are kept.		
	<b>Surgical husbandry procedures</b>		
<b>H12 - H14</b>	Surgical procedures are conducted by competent people that can recognise signs of pain/distress in pigs, and use clean, well maintained and appropriate equipment.		
<b>H15</b>	Significant surgical procedures are performed using pain relief.		
<b>H16 &amp; H17</b>	Records of surgical procedures are kept and animals are regularly inspected afterwards.		
	<b>Tail docking</b>		
<b>H19</b>	Docking is done no later than 36 hours after birth, using a hot iron to remove no more than half of the tail.		
<b>H20</b>	Any docking done after 36 hours is done by a veterinarian, using pain relief.		

<b>H21 &amp; H22</b>	Tail biting incidents are recorded and a plan is in place to stop tail docking.		
	<b>Tooth clipping/grinding</b>		
<b>H23 &amp; H24</b>	Tooth clipping/grinding is done before five days of age and is not routine.		
	<b>Tusk trimming</b>		
<b>H25 &amp; H26</b>	Tusk trimming is done under sedation, by a veterinarian using embryotomy wire.		
	<b>Nose ringing</b>		
<b>H27 &amp; H28</b>	Nose rings/clips are inserted into the correct part of the nose and wire is not used.		
	<b>Castration</b>		
<b>H29 - H31</b>	Surgical castration is not done and all use of Improvac® (Zoetis) is recorded.		

	<b>Animal identification</b>		
<b>H32</b>	Procedures are conducted by competent people, using clean, well maintained and appropriate equipment.		
<b>H33</b>	A maximum of two tags per ear are used and ear notching is not done.		
	<b>Breeding</b>		
<b>H34 &amp; H35</b>	AI and pregnancy scanning (through the flank) are done by a competent person. Other methods are performed by a veterinarian.		
<b>H36</b>	Farrowing aids are lubricated and not used to increase the speed of birthing.		
	<b>Inspection of animals</b>		
<b>H37 - H39</b>	Pigs are inspected daily in a careful manner and any issues are recorded.		
<b>H40</b>	Inspections increase in frequency during bad weather or if there are welfare concerns.		

<b>H41</b>	Foot health checks are done on adult pigs every 3-4 months.		
	<b>Sick or injured pigs</b>		
<b>H42 - H47</b>	Sick or injured pigs are appropriately cared for in hospital/isolation pens as required.		
	<b>Euthanasia and mortality</b>		
<b>H48</b>	All cases of euthanasia and mortality are recorded in the animal health plan.		
<b>H49 - H51</b>	Mortality levels are monitored and pigs are euthanased the same day as untreatable suffering is detected.		
<b>H53 - H55</b>	Pigs are euthanased by trained staff, using appropriate equipment, in a manner which minimises additional suffering.		
<b>H56 - H58</b>	Pigs are stunned before being killed, then bled out, with staff confirming that death has occurred.		

<b>H59</b>	Carcasses are disposed of in accordance with local council regulations.		
	<b>Biosecurity</b>		
<b>H60 &amp; H61</b>	A biosecurity plan is in place and lethal pest control options are reviewed annually.		

<b>Reference Standard</b>	<b>Summarised standard</b>	<b>Check (Y/N)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	<b>Appropriate Behaviour</b>		
	<b>Breeding, servicing and farrowing</b>		
<b>B1 - B3</b>	An appropriate environment, with adequate grip is used for breeding and the practices used do not cause pain or injury to the animals.		
<b>B4 &amp; B5</b>	Service paddocks are at least 10.5 m <sup>2</sup> and animals within them are closely monitored.		

<b>B6</b>	Boars are of a similar size to the sows.		
<b>B7 &amp; B8</b>	Farrowing crates are not used and farrowing accommodation is large enough for the sows to turn around in.		
<b>B9 - B11</b>	Sows are introduced to their accommodation five days before farrowing, given bedding material 72 hours before farrowing and monitored closely throughout.		
<b>B12 &amp; B13</b>	Farrowing huts are designed to minimise the effect of bad weather and in shared paddocks, are well spaced out.		
<b>B14</b>	Bedding is disposed of, or composed, once farrowing is completed.		
	<b>Management of piglets and growing pigs</b>		
<b>B15 &amp; B16</b>	Sows and piglets are monitored twice daily for one week post farrowing and any piglets that are struggling are removed or euthanased.		

<b>B17 &amp; B18</b>	Piglets are given solid feed from 21 days and are not weaned before 23 days of age.		
<b>B19 - B21</b>	Weaners are observed daily for one week post weaning and are kept in stable groups with sufficient space to move and lie down.		
	<b>Space allowances</b>		
<b>B22 &amp; B23</b>	Outdoor pigs have sufficient space to display normal behaviours and are not stocked at more than 18 sows/hectare.		
<b>B24</b>	Pigs in barns are not stocked at more than the allowances given in appendix 5 of the standard.		
	<b>Handling and moving pigs</b>		
<b>B25 - B28</b>	Pigs are handled in a low-stress way by competent people, who do not hit, shout or poke the animals in sensitive areas.		
<b>B29 - B31</b>	Pigs are moved in a way that does not involve harmful handling equipment/methods, or picking them up by their ears/tails.		

<b>B32</b>	Sick pigs are handled with extreme care or else euthanased where they are found.		
<b>B33 &amp; B34</b>	Pigs are only restrained for essential purposes and noise is kept to a minimum.		
<b>B35</b>	Slips, falls and injuries during moving are monitored and minimised.		
	<b>Behavioural enrichment</b>		
<b>B36</b>	All pigs have access to fresh foraging material.		
<b>B37</b>	If additional enrichment is used, it is regularly inspected and changed between groups.		
	<b>Wallowing</b>		
<b>B39</b>	Wallows are well maintained to keep them attractive and safe for pigs to use.		

	<b>Managers, stock-keepers and other personnel</b>		
<b>B40</b>	All farm staff comply with the standard and relevant Codes of Welfare.		
<b>B41 &amp; B42</b>	Animal welfare and whistle-blowing policies are in place on the farm.		
<b>B43</b>	Sufficient resources, including staff, are provided to meet the needs of the pigs.		
<b>B44 &amp; B45</b>	Staff are appropriately trained for their roles and training records are kept for inspection.		
<b>B46 &amp; B48</b>	All staff and contractors are aware of their animal welfare responsibilities and know who to contact if they encounter problems.		
<b>B47</b>	Staff do not undertake tasks on the farm unsupervised, until they have been fully trained themselves.		

## END OF ASSESSMENT



### **Contact**

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