



## **Biosecurity Precautions for Pig Farms**

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### ***Site security***

- Maintain a secure perimeter fence
- Exclude birds and other wildlife
- Notices (with mobile phone number) at perimeter stressing biosecurity measures and contact details
- Exclude casual visitors

### ***Incoming stock***

- Check recent veterinary reports from supplying herds. Insist on health reports including both farm and slaughterhouse inspections
- Quarantine stock adequate distance (at least 2km from farm for 4-8 weeks)
- Blood test stock before moving them in to the unit
- Operate quarantine on all-in / all-out basis
- Ensure no cross-contamination by staff – have separate staff to operate quarantine unit or have farm staff manage it on the way home from work and then have a shower before returning to work the following day. Operate the quarantine with a separate clothing and footwear policy.

### ***Incoming packages***

Including semen, portable goods and tools

- Obtain regular veterinary reports from AI studs
- Packages should not be placed in contact with floor surfaces which may be contaminated.
- Have a “Two-Way Box” for AI deliveries and another “Two-Way Box” for other supply deliveries
- Staff should not make physical contact (e.g. handshake) with delivery personnel

### ***Incoming vehicles***

- Ideally the following operations should be carried out from outside the perimeter fence:
  - (a) Filling feed bins
  - (b) Collecting dead pigs
  - (c) Removing manure
  - (d) Loading pigs
  - (e) General deliveries

- Farm staff must not enter trucks or stand on tail-boards
- Drivers must not enter pig buildings
- Ideally, have a two-sided loading area that has a “clean side” (inside the farm), and a “dirty side” (outside the farm).
- Pig trucks, feed trucks and manure tankers must be washed and disinfected prior to arrival at the unit. Trucks should ideally be given a minimum 24 hour rest period after factory deliveries. Trucks should not leave a slaughter facility without washing and disinfecting the transport before going to another pig farm. Transporters should start at the top of the disease pyramid and work downwards when arranging transport of pigs to slaughter. Ideally, farms should have their own dedicated transport.

### ***Staff***

Persons working in pig units may carry disease organisms on their boots, clothes, hair, skin, or even in the nasal tract, in pig meat or pig meat products.

- Provide clean and warm changing area with adequate hot water
- Provide comfortable, clean canteen area, free of farm footwear and farm clothing. Arrange a rota of staff to maintain the canteen area.
- Provide clean work wear and launder regularly. Work wear should not leave the unit
- No contact with pigs when off duty. Facilities to shower-in and shower out are essential.
- No packed lunches or food outside the canteen
- Sandwiches or lunches should not contain pork products or salami-type meats
- Inform herd owner/manager or biosecurity advisor before returning to work if you were in contact with pigs or involved in hunting wild boar when travelling overseas
- Staff and visitors should wash their boots before disinfecting them before entering any pig building. Provide & use disinfectant footbaths outside each pig building.
- Minimise movement of staff from older to younger pigs

### ***Visitors***

Visitors include; service personnel, consultants, auditors and inspectors.

- Have signposted hard-surfaced staff and visitor parking areas
- Confine visitors to office unless access to the farm is essential
- Agreed interval (ideally 72 hours for high-health units) since last pig or pig manure contact
- Shower-in (and out)
- Use clean clothes and boots provided by the farm
- Use tools provided by farm
- Minimise animal contact as far as possible

### ***Routine hygiene***

- Subdivide houses to facilitate emptying and washing
- Wash / dry / disinfect / dry pens after each batch
- Allow to dry before refilling
- Arrange pig flow to avoid contact of young pigs with older animals
- Cover dead pig skips and keep area clean and empty regularly

- Effective pest control procedures should be practiced to exclude/eliminate rodents, birds, flies, wild mammals, pets
- Have facilities for washing and disinfecting boots and for hand washing at key locations around the farm (junction between different sections)
- Ensure that washing of transport vehicles carrying live pigs is done correctly – regularly inspect prior to loading. Turn them away if the washing is not carried out to a defined standard.

### ***Veterinary Input***

- It is critical that pig farmers work closely with their Private Veterinary Practitioner (PVP) to develop a Biosecurity Farm Plan specific for each pig unit. This Biosecurity Farm Plan should be regularly reviewed and updated as new disease challenges and new information emerges.