

## **Training guide EURCAW-Pigs: suggestions for national training in EU Member States**

EURCAW-Pigs provides a training course example as a sort of standard for each of the eight welfare focus topics in our Work Programme 2019-20. The diversity of the different MS on how training is organized in general has to be taken into account: Hence, 'standards' for training will not fit all national needs, but need to be adjusted to the different contexts in the MS.

### **Subject: Farrowing housing and management**

#### **Learning goals:**

After the course, the participants will have gained:

- Knowledge about the intention of the EU-legislation (Farrowing management and housing).
- Updated knowledge about the biology and behavioral needs of sows and piglets in relation to farrowing management and housing and how this related to the animal welfare.
- Knowledge about at least the five main risk areas for poor welfare for sows and piglets.
- Knowledge about indicators suggested by EURCAW to use to check compliance within the five risk areas and the strength/weaknesses of these.
- Tools for calibration and practical training in calibration using the EURCAW indicators.
- Knowledge on measures to improve welfare within the five risk areas.
- Knowledge about challenges in relation to communication with farmers during inspection.

**Programme and suggested training material for a training course Farrowing housing and management**

Programme	Link to knowledge, ideas for materials you can use in the course
<p><b>9:00-9:30 Welcome</b></p> <p>Participants present themselves. Presentation of learning goals by course leader.</p> <p><b>9:30- 11:00 Two presentations by expert(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sows behavior during nest building, farrowing and lactation – what do we know?</li> </ul> <p><i>Plenum Discussion/Questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the five main risk areas for poor animal welfare during farrowing and lactation period based on scientific knowledge on pigs' physiological and behavioral needs?           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Insufficient space and lack of freedom to move.</li> <li>○ Inadequate thermal environment/climate.</li> <li>○ Lack of possibilities to build a nest and no access to a nest.</li> <li>○ Large litters and high levels of competition within a litter.</li> <li>○ Mutilations (tooth, tails and testicles).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Plenum Discussion/Questions</i></p>	<p>EURCAW-pigs  <a href="https://www.eurcaw.eu/en/eurcaw-pigs.htm">https://www.eurcaw.eu/en/eurcaw-pigs.htm</a></p> <p>Review of Farrowing management and housing, EURCAW-scientific output  <a href="https://edepot.wur.nl/517902">https://edepot.wur.nl/517902</a></p> <p>Link to thematic factsheet “Farrowing housing and management”, EURCAW-Pigs  <a href="https://edepot.wur.nl/521762">https://edepot.wur.nl/521762</a></p>
<p><b>11:00-11:15 Coffee break</b></p>	
<p><b>11:15-11:30 Presentation by expert</b></p> <p>EU legislation related to the first three main risk factors in the farrowing and lactation period just mentioned and suggested indicators to measure compliance</p>	<p>EURCAW dossier on the legislation and indicators for poor welfare in the farrowing and lactation period <i>[in prep]</i></p> <p>Indicator factsheets “Farrowing housing and management”, EURCAW-Pigs,  <a href="https://edepot.wur.nl/513361">https://edepot.wur.nl/513361</a></p>

<p><b>11:30–12:30 Group discussion</b></p> <p>Calibration exercises related to selected risk factors and inspection of the relevant EU legislation (also including national legislation if meaningful):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photos shown of nest material among sows – different amounts found during inspection. Discussion among participants – which level suggests compliance with legislation and in relation to meeting behavioral needs of the sow?</li> <li>• Photos shown of piglets and sow in relation to lactation. How do you measure if piglets have enough space? When is it necessary to measure?</li> <li>• Photos shown of different combinations of sow size and space inside the crate. When is it necessary to measure? Which indicators suggest compliance?</li> </ul> <p><i>12:30-13:00 Plenum</i></p> <p>Groups report back in plenum on dilemmas in their discussion.</p>	
<p><b>13:00-13:30 Lunch</b></p>	
<p><b>13:30- 14:30 Presentation by expert</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large litter size. Why and how does it challenge welfare of sow and piglets?</li> <li>• Pain, short term and long-term consequences for pigs. How do they respond to pain?</li> <li>• Mutilation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tail docking</li> <li>▪ Reduction of corner teeth</li> <li>▪ Castration</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Different practices – examples are given. What does the EU directive say? National legislation?</p> <p><i>Discussion/questions on large litter size and pain</i></p>	

<p><b>14:30-15:30 Presentation by expert</b></p> <p>Using indicators. How do you measure welfare in relation to legislation?</p> <p>Presenting the EURCAW suggestions for <b>relevant indicators</b>. How can indicators suggested by EURCAW be included during inspection – and/ or in communication with the farmer?</p> <p><i>Discussion and questions</i></p>	<p>Indicator factsheets “Farrowing housing and management”, EURCAW-Pigs, <a href="https://edepot.wur.nl/513361">https://edepot.wur.nl/513361</a></p>
<p><b>15:30-15:45 Coffee break</b></p>	
<p><b>15:45-17:00</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two possible subjects to choose between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Measures to improve practice. Example from loose house farrowing systems. Discussion about which welfare problems are improved. Which problems may arise? How to weight the dilemmas?</li> <li>○ Measure to improve practice. Examples of management measure to handle large litter size. What is seen during inspections? What are the pros and cons of these measures?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• National legislation on farrowing management and housing – a sum up if any national legislation goes further than EU.</li> <li>• Specific introduction to paper-work.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>17:00-19:00 Break and evening-meal</b></p> <p><b>19:00-21:00 Evening session</b></p> <p>Communication – what are the challenges for inspectors to communicate with for instance farmers/farm workers? Experiences from inspectors on how good or bad communication has affected the inspections. Is change a possibility during inspection?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of the topic</li> <li>• Group work</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul> <p><b>Evaluation of the course</b></p>	<p>Farmers, inspectors and animal welfare: possibilities for change: A Review, EURCAW-Pigs <a href="https://edepot.wur.nl/514920">https://edepot.wur.nl/514920</a></p> <p>Possible reading: Paper on communication between inspectors and farmers: To inspect, to motivate — or to do both? A dilemma for on-farm inspection of animal welfare <a href="https://edepot.wur.nl/531433">https://edepot.wur.nl/531433</a></p>