

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: Climate control and space allowance - transport of pigs

Learning goals:

After the course, the participants will have gained:

- Knowledge about the intention of the EU-legislation (climate control and space allowance overlapping EU-legislation on food/water during transport).
- Updated knowledge about the biology and needs of pigs in relation to transport.
- Knowledge about how the welfare of different production-categories of pigs are affected during transport.
- Training in reflection on difficult terms, e.g. "animal welfare", "suffering", "unnecessary suffering".
- Training in reflection on the dilemmas between the needs of the animals and what the legislation says about climate control and space allowance.
- Tools for calibration and practical training in calibration using the most validated indicators available.
- Knowledge about indicators useful for checking the compliance and their strengths/weaknesses, if there are validated indicators available.
- Knowledge on good practices/tools to be used for transport inspection.
- Knowledge about challenges in the communication with the farmers during inspection.



Programme and suggested training material for a training course Climate control and space allowance - transport of pigs

Programme	Link to knowledge, ideas for materials	
	you can use in the course	
9:00-9:30 Welcome Participants present themselves. Presentation of learning goals by course leader. 9:30-10:30 • Transport legislation (Climate control and space allowance and related legislation on access to space, water, ventilation and feed) - the background of the EU-legislation	EURCAW-pigs https://www.eurcaw.eu/en/eurcaw-pigs.htm Review on Review of climate control and space allowance during transport of pigs, EURCAW-scientific output	
 how does it connect to scientific based knowledge about the biology of the pigs & needs of the pigs? 	https://edepot.wur.nl/515292 Animal Transport Guides	
Factsheets on climate control and space allowance from EURCAW-pigs are presented and discussed (Handouts)	https://edepot.wur.nl/521409	
 Pigs from different categories are affected differently during transport – how and why? 	Guide to good practices for the transport of pigs, Animal Transport Guides project https://edepot.wur.nl/507699 Pig travelling, factsheet Animal Transport Guides Project https://edepot.wur.nl/507718	
10:30-12:30 (including coffee break) Introduction:	The following paper can be used as material for the participants but it must be read before the course starts:	
What does animal science tell about notions like suffering and animal welfare? Why is it difficult to define these terms? How can we understand /work with a term like suffering/unnecessary suffering?	Textbook-chapter: What is suffering in animals? Daniel Weary. Chapter 11 from "Dilemmas in Animal welfare". https://edepot.wur.nl/531431	
Suffering – possibilities and limits in relation to the legislation.		

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In groups:	
Examples from inspectors (photos and videos from pig transport or barn) are shown, participants discuss/comments in plenum on these examples. Do they agree/disagree about what they see in relation to the different ways of understanding/defining suffering? Cases shown should be related to space and climate, but can also include feed and water.	
12:30-13:00 Plenum	
Groups refer to plenum about agreement/disagreement in relation to their discussion.	
13:00-13:30 Lunch	
13.30-14.30 Continued Group Discussion About dilemmas during inspection of climate control and space allowance.	*See suggestion to questions to group- session about dilemmas in Annex 1
14:30-15:00 Plenum-discussion	
A member of each group gives back to plenum an example of disagreement around a dilemma in the group.	
15:00-15:15 Coffee break	
15:15-15:45 Hands-on suggestions	
Suggestions from 2 inspectors on how to check the lorries (deck heights, how to check temperature and humidity, checking ventilation, animal based indicators) What are the challenges? Advice/tools on how to overcome practical challenges.	
15.45-17:00 (possible subjects to choose between)	
Good practice. Examples from companies who have developed new standards for transport of pigs.	



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https://edepot.wur.nl/531434

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 National legislation on transport – summing up how national legislation looks and why it is relevant in relation to the pigs' biology/ needs. Specific introduction on paper-work. 	
17:00-19:00 Break and evening-meal	
19:00-21:00 Evening session	
Communication – what are the challenges for inspectors to communicate with for instance drivers or farmers? Experiences from inspectors on how good or bad communication has affected the inspections. Is change a possibility during inspection?	Farmers, inspectors and animal welfare: possibilities for change: A Review, EURCAW-Pigs https://edepot.wur.nl/514920
 Introduction of the topic Group work Discussion Evaluation of the course	Possible readings: Paper on communication between inspectors and farmers: To inspect, to motivate — or to do both? A dilemma for on-farm inspection of animal welfare https://edepot.wur.nl/531433
	Experiences and opinions of Danish livestock drivers transporting sows regarding fitness for transport and management choices relevant for animal welfare.



Annex 1, suggestions for group discussion, Transport, space and climate

Dilemma discussion 1 - transport and space

It says in the legislation that there should be room enough for all pigs to lie down in a natural position and that they should have x m2 to do that. However, depending on the category of pigs, the specified area may not be enough for the pigs to lie down.

Discuss in your group what the consequences are for the pigs and how you handle this dilemma during inspection? What does space mean in relation to different categories of pigs 30 kg, finishers and sows.







Dilemma discussion 2, transport and climate

It says in the legislation that the animals should not suffer. However, it is compliance if you transport sows in temperatures up to 30 degrees, which is far beyond the upper limit of their thermoneutral zone (= heat stress).

Discuss what you see on the photos. How does climate affects pigs of different categories – and which indicators can be used to measure it e.g. 'open mouth breathing' as seen on the photo? How do you handle it during inspection?



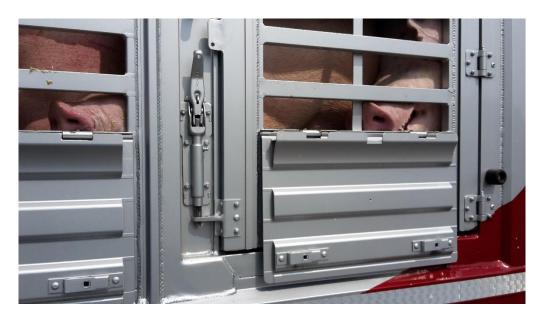


Photo: Anja Putzer