



## What does manure on the body indicate?

- Pigs are known as clean animals: they keep their lying and dunging areas separate.
- When sows are dirty through manure/faeces on the body, this may be due to e.g. lack of (lying) space, thermal stress or bad ventilation.
- High ranked sows that are dirty may indicate that ambient temperature is too high. Low ranked sows that are dirty may indicate that there is not enough space allowance.



Council Regulation (EC) **No 98/58/EC**: {Annex, Point 10}: stall climate characteristics must be kept within limits which are not harmful.



*Note: Listed requirements are paraphrasing the literal text of the regulation and are not comprehensive. Moreover, there might be stricter national legislation in place. For a more detailed description on the specific requirements, see the review "[Group housing and mixing of sows](#)".*

## Legal requirements



*Requirements associated with competition for resources and climate and resting comfort:*

Council Regulation (EC) **No 2008/120**:

{Article 3, Point 1.b}: provision of total unobstructed floor area available.

{Article 3, Point 2.a}: solid floor requirements.

{Article 3, Point 4.}: group pens' length in meter.

{Annex I, Chapter I, Point 3.}: lying areas characteristics due to physically and thermally comfort, cleanness and space allowance.

{Annex I, Chapter I, Point 5.}: non-slippery floors and constructed as not to cause injury or suffering.

## Inspection method (recommended)

- The farmer records **manure on the body** during his/her daily inspections.
- The inspector verifies records of the farmer by comparing written/digital documentation with interventions taken by the farmer.
- Additionally, the inspector checks sows in different groups for manure on the body.
- The inspector reports findings to the farmer and in case of discrepancies between legal requirements and situation on farm corrective actions are taken.

# Manure on the body

# Scoring method

Pigs are scored individually according to the proportion of the body side soiled. Randomly select one body side of the pigs and assess manure on the body. To assess an animal as being soiled, faeces needs to be on the surface (fresh or dry). Discolorations of the skin or bristles are not scored as soiled or manure on the body.

For evaluation of pigs with manure on the body, calculate percentage of pigs scored as 1.

## Score 0: 0-30% of body surface is soiled



## Score 1: Over 30% of body surface is soiled



Source scoring method: summarized & adjusted KTBL Leitfaden and Welfare Quality® sow protocols



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contact [info.pigs@eurcaw.eu](mailto:info.pigs@eurcaw.eu)