

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 2021-2022. The diversity of the different EU Member states (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: Heat stress in pigs on farm

Learning goals:

After the course, the participants will have gained:

- Updated knowledge about thermoregulation of pigs.
- Knowledge about how the welfare of different production-categories of pigs is affected by heat stress on farm.
- Knowledge about indicators for heat stress in finishers and lactating sows.
- Tools for calibration and practical training in calibration – using the most validated indicators available.
- Directions to prevent or reduce heat stress.
- Knowledge about challenges in the communication with the farmers during inspection.

Programme and suggested training material for a training course

| Program | Link to knowledge, ideas for materials you can use in the course |
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| <p>9:00-9:30 Welcome</p> <p>Welcome, participants present themselves. Presentation of learning goals by course leader.</p> <p>9:30- 10:30 Presentations and discussions on key topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is thermoregulation and how do pigs thermoregulate? • What is meant by heat stress in pigs in different stage of production. <p><i>Questions and discussion</i></p> | <p>Link to EURCAW-pigs website</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs dossier "Heat stress in pigs in farm"</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs "Review on heat stress in pigs on farm"</p> <p>Possible reading: Link to EURCAW-Pigs "Review of climate control and space allowance during transport of pigs"</p> <p>Legal requirements:</p> <p>Link to "Council Directive 2008/120/EC of 18 December 2008 laying down minimum standards for the protection of pigs" - <i>Annex I, Chapter I, Article 3</i></p> <p>Link to "Council Directive 98/58/EC of 20 July 1998 concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes" – <i>Annex, Article 10</i></p> |
| <p>10:30-10:45 Coffee break</p> | |
| <p>10:45-11.45 Presentations and discussions on key topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main risks for heat stress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lactating sows ○ Finishers • Indicators for heat stress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lactating sows ○ Finishers | <p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs "Review on heat stress in pigs on farm"</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-pigs Indicator Factsheets on heat stress in pig on farm</p> |
| <p>11:45-13:00 Practical solutions</p> <p>Presentation of feasible technical and management measures.</p> | <p>Link to Heat Stress – Challenge in 2020. Technical Report EU PiG – Animal Welfare. With some practical examples to prevent heat stress.</p> |

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| <i>Discussion</i> | |
| 13:00- 14:00 Lunch | |
| <p>14:00-16:00 Calibration exercises and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show video clips and photos illustrating different levels of common issues. • Discuss as a group how you would respond to these examples. • How could you use indicators and knowledge about pig behaviour and biology in order to assess this situation? • How should you proceed regarding legislative compliance? • How would you address it to the farmer? | <p>Link to EURCAW-pigs Indicator Factsheets on heat stress in pig on farm</p> |
| 16:00-16:15 Coffee break | |
| 16:15-17:30 Discussion of case examples | |
| 17:30-19:30 Break and evening meal | |
| <p>19:30-21:30 Evening session on communication (or next morning if the course is planned for two days)</p> <p>Video on communication challenges.</p> <p>Discuss in small groups on communication challenges and successes that you have encountered in your work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What worked in this or other situations? What did not work? How could it have gone better? • When does communication work best with different farmers? • Are there tools that you feel would better equip you for conflict resolution in your work? <p>Course wrap up and evaluation</p> | <p>Possible readings:</p> <p>Link to paper on communication between inspectors and farmers: To inspect, to motivate — or to do both? A dilemma for on-farm inspection of animal welfare</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-pigs document on relevant tools and resources for better communication training</p> |