



Workshop on pig welfare
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**Cross Compliance:
a useful tool to obtain better implementation of
EU legislation on pig welfare. Practical
implementation in a Member State**

Finland

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Administration for Cross Compliance

- MAF/ Dept. of Food and Health (ELO) is responsible for national legislation in the Cross Compliance (CC) areas of animal health and animal welfare, public and plant health
- Finnish Food Safety Authority (Evira) is responsible for respective controls in the CC areas
- Council Reg. (EC) 73/2009, Annex II, SMR 6 - 18





Authorities in Cross Compliance

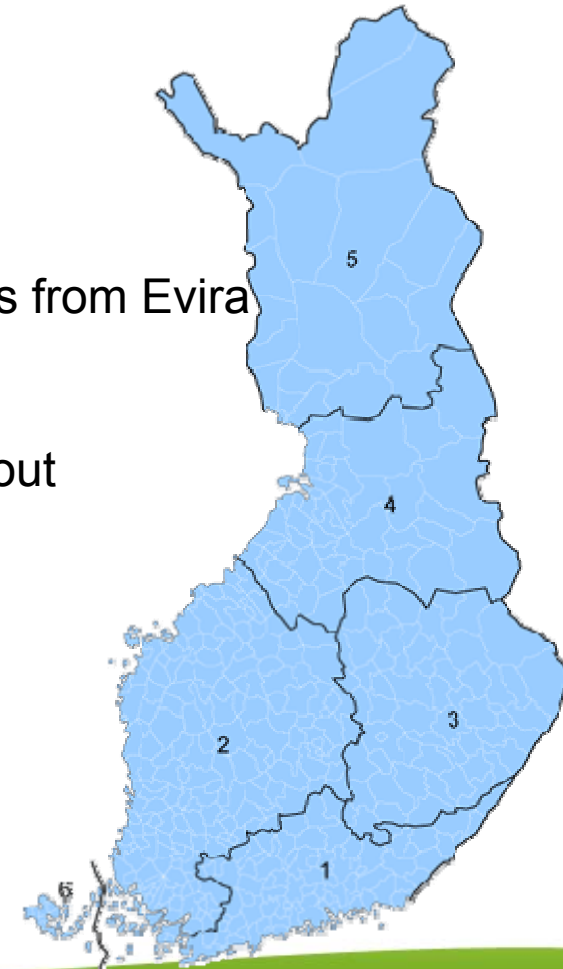
- Competent authority: MAF
 - Dept. of Food and Health: animal health and welfare, public and plant health (Council Reg. (EC) 73/2009, Annex II, SMR 6-18)
 - Dept. of Agriculture: Environment (SMR 1-5) + GAEC
- Competent Control Authorities:
 - Agency for Rural Affairs (Mavi = Paying Agency)
 - Evira, Control Department: Animal Welfare and health, etc.
 - (Government of Åland)





Provinces (6)

- Are responsible for the following CC controls:
 - Animal welfare
 - Public and animal health (except feed controls and plant protection products)
- Receives control guidelines and lists of inspected farms from Evira
- Municipal Veterinarian Officers (MVO) or State Provincial Officers (SPO) (veterinarians) carries out farm controls
- Have access to IT-systems for CC
 - Elite
 - ID-application
 - IACS





Cross Compliance control procedure

1. Sampling

- Animal welfare and diseases and foodstuffs min 1 % (Evira)
- ID min 5 % (Evira)
- Environment & GAEC min 700 farms (1% (Paying Agency, MAVI))





Cross Compliance control procedure

2. a On-the-spot inspections based on sampling

- animal welfare, animal diseases and foodstuffs : veterinarians
- Environment & GAEC: TE-centers
- ID, feed, PPP: TE-centers




Control report





Cross Compliance control procedure

2.b Administrative inspections based on On-the-spot control

- A Competent Authority receives information that might indicate poor animal welfare
 - e.g. MVO carries out Animal Welfare inspections and informs SPO about non-compliance
 - SPO draws up 
 - suggestions on the sanction percentages
 - suggested percentages are sent to Paying Agency





Cross Compliance control procedure

3. Final control decision

- Co-ordinator in Paying Agency make decisions on reductions on payments (796/2004, art. 66-67 reduction as a general rule: 3 % or ↑ or ↓)

4. Final decision to farmer

- Paying agency





Swine production in Finland

- Since 1990, total number of farms has decreased. However, number of large scale farms has been increasing.
- 2700 farms (2008)
- Average 514 pigs/farm
- 2.4 milj. slaughtered pigs /yr





Welfare criteria concerning pigs

Farmers' obligations under cross compliance

- Farmers must comply with the national animal welfare legislation (Animal Welfare Act, Governmental Decree and Statutory Orders), implementing Directives 2008/120/EC and 98/58/EC
- Control based on “indicators”

E.g.:

- farmers must comply with the requirements set for rearing sows and gilts in cages which prevents them from turning round and rearing sows in groups
- the requirements for the social interaction of pigs must be met
- when the well-being of pigs depends on artificial ventilation, the functioning of the equipment in case of disturbances is appropriately ensured
- the requirements set for farrowing crates or cages and the group pens for sows and gilts must be met
- the requirements set for the pens for boars must be met





Sampling in Animal Welfare

- Combining the data of four different databases
- Basic group requirements: 1) farms are active at the time of sampling
2) farms receive subsidies
- 25% selected randomly
- 75% selected risk based, e.g.
 - previous history of the farm in animal protection inspections
 - a strata from the group of farms that have non-compliance in certain time period in statutory farm inspections (2006/778/EC for 98/58/EC and 2008/120/EC; 882/2004/EC; 796/2004/EC)
 - a strata from the group of farms, which have been received inspection via suspicion and which have received an order and follow up visit
 - no events in register (Swine register, Bovine register etc.)





Case on pig farm (Farm X)

Introduction of Farm X

- From farrowing to finish -farm
- Approx. 1000 pigs (sows, piglets, fattening pigs and boars)





Case of farm X

2007

Animal Welfare history of the farm

- Animal activists invaded many farm animal holdings in autumn 2007 in order to show how badly pigs are treated in intensive production. Film material was shown through all the media.
- Invaded farms were visited ("suspected violation") by veterinary officer and their compliance with animal welfare was inspected
- Farm X had several non-compliances:
 - all pigs were not able to eat at the same time
 - dangerous holes in a slatted floor
 - Ill and injured animals were not separated from others
 - poor air quality
 - dirty animals and pens

→ Order to correct non-compliance within two to six weeks

→ Follow-up check — Most of the non-compliances were corrected

→ The result of inspection were saved to the veterinary database (Elite)





However,

- Administrative check for Cross Compliance based on On-the-spot-control was not made
- The explanations and reasons given were:
 - Farmer was under serious stress → according to inspector, it was not reasonable to make CC-inspection
 - Competent Authorities worked overtime during activists' project and were lacking resources
- The CC-inspection should have been done!





2008

- sampling for year 2008
 - risk strata: "neglects in earlier AW-inspections"
- Farm X was selected
- On-the-spot control based on 2006/778/EC by MVO
 - All requirements in Animal Welfare legislation were inspected
 - No deficiencies were reported





2009

- FVO-mission team selected Farm X for an audit in Feb. 2009
 - Several infringements recognised
 - ✓ a protrusion likely to cause injury (dangerous holes in a slatted floor)
 - ✓ all pigs were not able to eat at the same time
 - ✓ lack of manipulating material for fattening pigs in some of the pens
 - ✓ dirty animals and pens
 - Order to correct non-compliance within 1 month
 - Follow up inspection after 1 month
 - ✓ All non-compliances were corrected
- Afterwards, farmer made a complaint because authorities visited the farm





After the FVO-mission 2009

- CC-sampling for 2009
 - Farm X fell AGAIN into sample (73/2009/EC)
 - strata: "neglects in earlier AW-inspections"
- CC-Inspection
 - a remarkable improvement to the previous situation
 - corrections were made in all areas
 - clean holding
 - intact constructions
 - At the end: Farm was in compliance with the Animal Welfare legislation





Result: Remarkable improvement

- ← because of an implementation of CC procedures?
- ← getting tired of many inspections?
- ← possible deterrent effect?

Keep in mind!

- Animal welfare situation can change rapidly
 - If in one inspection results have been OK, after 6 months even serious violations can be found.
 - serious changes in life (divorce, illness, economical problems etc.)
 - market situation (animal density in holding)





Non-compliance of Cross Compliance 2008 in pig holdings in Finland

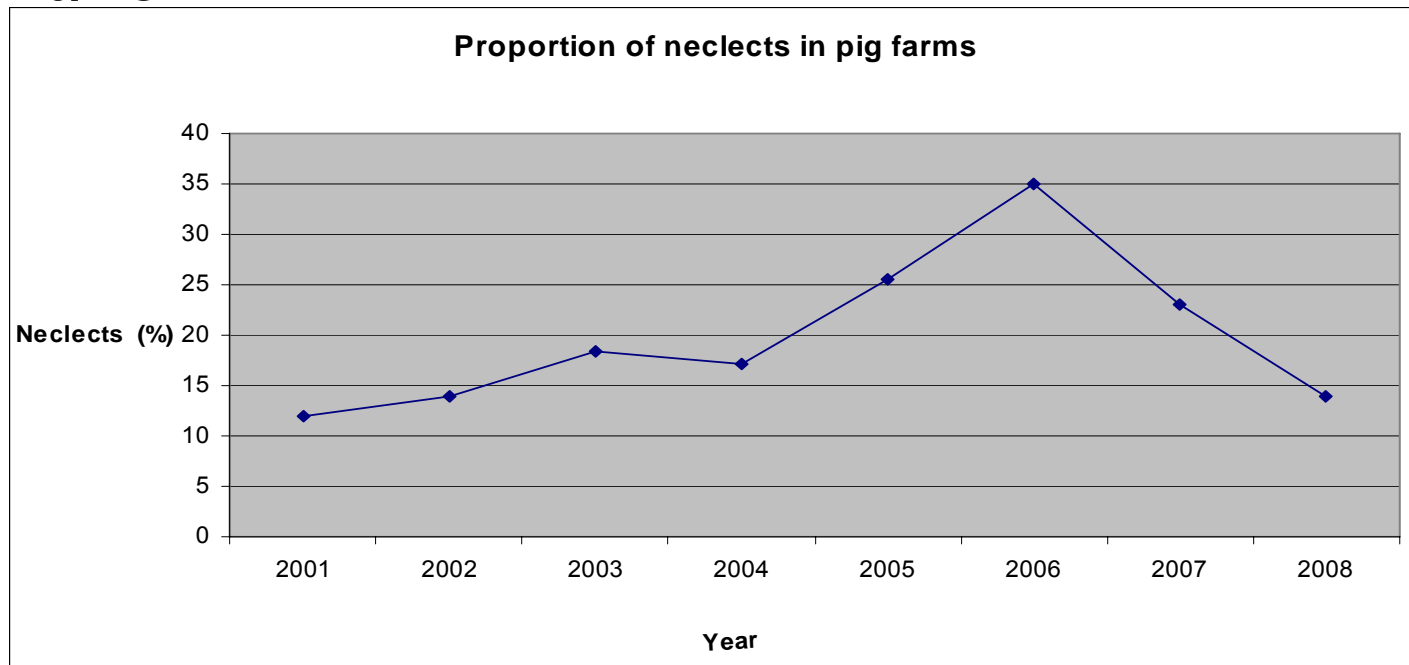
- Sanctions in 16% of inspected pig holdings (excl. administrative inspections)
- Fifth of non-compliances connected with air conditioning
- Insufficient amount or total lack of manipulative material (33%)
- Sufficient space requirements not met
- Piglets of over 8 days age were castrated by farmer





A better implementation of pig welfare by CC?

Inspections according to 2006/778/EC for 98/58/EC and 2008/120/EC





A better implementation of pig welfare by CC?

- Down ward trend will continue into the future ?
- Because of better implementation of pig welfare by CC?





**Thank You for Your
attention!**

