Animal Welfare Assessment
(growing pigs, sows and piglets)

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Integration of animal welfare in the food quality chain: from public concerns to improved welfare and transparent quality

ANIMAL WELFARE PRINCIPLES

- GOOD FEEDING
- GOOD HOUSING
- GOOD HEALTH
- APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

Fork to farm approach

Based upon consumer demands and marketing requirements of retailers
The principles and criterias of Animal Welfare

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1. Sows and piglets

2. Growing pigs
GOOD FEEDING

1. Absence of prolonged hunger
   - Body condition
   - Food provision
   - Age of weaning

2. Absence of prolonged thirst
   - Water supply
GOOD HOUSING

3. Comfort around resting
   Manure on the body
   Bursitis and shoulder sores

4. Thermal comfort
   Panting
   Huddling
   Shivering

5. Ease of movement
   Space allowance
   Farrowing crates
Needs of space

- 0.4 m²
- 1.0 m²
Volume/surface

Surface
Temperature losses

Volume
Temperature gains

2 m per side

Surface = (a x a) x 6
Volume = a x a x a

Surface = (2 x 2) x 6 = 24 m\(^2\)
Volume = 2 x 2 x 2 = 8 m\(^3\)

Surface/volume = 3

4 m per side

Surface = (4 x 4) x 6 = 96 m\(^2\)
Volume = 4 x 4 x 4 = 64 m\(^3\)

Surface/volume = 1.5
GOOD HEALTH

6. Absence of injuries

- Wounds on body
- Vulva lesions
- Lameness

0 1 2
7. Absence of disease

Mortality
Coughing, sneezing, pumping
Rectal prolapse, scouring, constipation
Metritis, mastitis, uterine prolapse
Skin condition, local infections
Neurological disorders, splay leg

8. Absence of pain induced by management procedures

Nose ringing, tail docking, castration, teeth clipping
9. Expression of social behaviour
Social behaviour

10. Expression of other behaviours
Exploratory behaviour
Stereotypies
11. Good human-animal relationship

Fear of humans

2) 10 seconds

3) 10 seconds

In group

0- The sow allows the assessor to touch her between the ears or the sow withdraws when it is attempted to touch her but then approaches.

1- The sow withdraws initially but the approaches when the assessor is at the start or in the step 2 and when the sow withdraws definitively in step 3.

2- The sow withdraws when the assessor is at the start position, or the sow withdraws and remains withdrawn when the assessor crouches down in front of her.

In stalls

12. Positive emotional state

QBA
1. Sows and piglets

2. Growing pigs
GOOD FEEDING

1. Absence of prolonged hunger
   Body condition
   Food provision

2. Absence of prolonged thirst
   Water supply
GOOD HOUSING

3. Comfort around resting
   Manure on the body
   Bursitis

4. Thermal comfort
   Panting
   Huddling
   Shivering
## GOOD HOUSING

### 5. Ease of movement

**Space allowance**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weight (Kg.)</th>
<th>m² per animal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Until 10</td>
<td>0.22 (0.15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 20</td>
<td>0.35 (0.20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 30</td>
<td>0.46 (0.30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 - 50</td>
<td>0.65 (0.40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 - 85</td>
<td>0.92 (0.55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85 - 110</td>
<td>1.10 (0.65)</td>
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*25°C UE law*
GOOD HEALTH

6. Absence of injuries

Wounds on body
Tail biting
Lameness
7. Absence of disease

Neurological disorders, splay leg
Ruptures and hernias
Twisted snouts
Pneumonia, pleurisy
Pericarditis white spots on the liver
9. Expression of social behaviour

Positive

Negative

10. Expression of other behaviours

Exploratory behaviour
11. Good human-animal relationship

Fear of humans

Panic to human presence

No panic to human presence

12. Positive emotional state

QBA
Integration of animal welfare in the food quality chain: from public concerns to improved welfare and transparent quality

Integration of the measures

Measures

~30 Measures

Criteria

12 Criteria

Principles

4 Principles

Global assessment

1 Available information

Welfare Quality

IRTA
Welfare Quality is an EU funded project about integration of animal welfare in the food quality chain: from public concern to improved welfare and transparent quality.

Animal welfare is of considerable importance to European consumers. Nowadays food quality is not only determined by the overall nature and safety of the end product but also by the perceived welfare status of the animals from which the food is produced. This project aims to accommodate societal concerns and market demands, to develop reliable on-farm monitoring systems, product information systems, and practical species-specific strategies to improve animal welfare. Thirty nine institutes and universities (representing thirteen European countries) with specialist expertise participate in this integrated research project. The project started in May 2004 and will take five years to complete.

Italian text: Welfare Quality in Italian language
Spanish text: Welfare Quality in Spanish language
Thank you!!!