



Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

Training course on “Animal Welfare in pig production”

**Implementation of the EU legislation by
Member States Competent Authorities –
Danish experience and perspectives**

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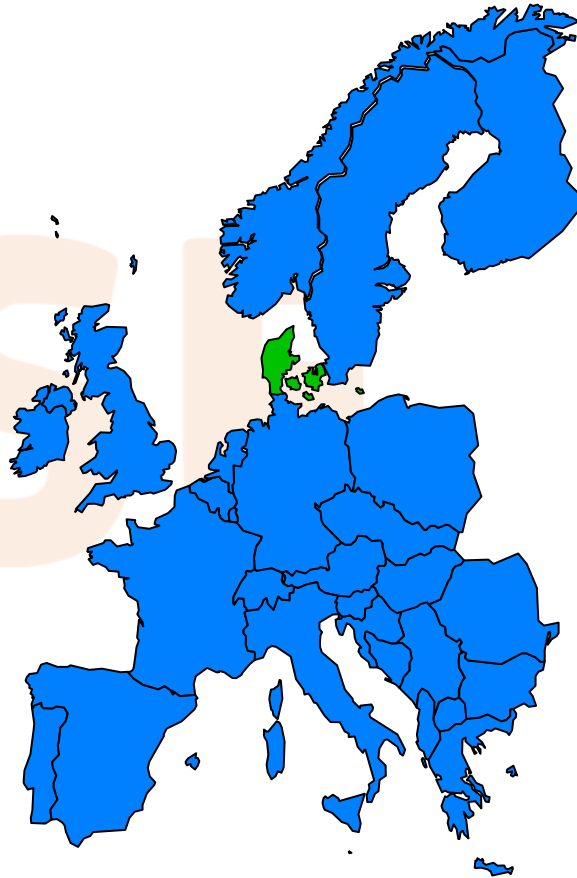
Overview of the presentation

Danish experience concerning EU legislation on the protection of pigs – some selected issues

- A few production data
- Mixing of pregnant sows and gilts
- Ill or injured pigs
- Space allowances – pregnant sows and gilts kept in groups
- Flooring surfaces for piglets
- Material investigation and manipulation



Denmark



Denmark – a few statistical data

Country size: 44,000 sq. km

Population: approx. 5,4 mill

Pigs (2013 approx. figures)

Number of sows: 1 191 000

Number of pigs slaughtered: 19 070 000

Number of exported weaner pigs: 9 600 000



Danish experiences – mixing of sows and gilts

☞ Measures shall be taken to
minimise aggression in
groups



☞ Isolation of aggressors /
those who
have been attacked



Danish experience – ill or injured pigs



Ill or injured pigs

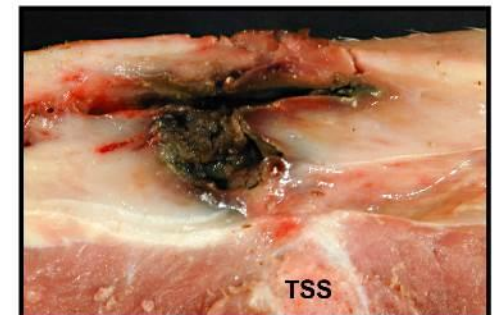
- ✓ cared for without delay, veterinary advice if no response
- ✓ where necessary isolated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding – or killed without delay

Danish national legislation require that there is always room available to isolate ill or injured pigs, and has provisions on space allowance, flooring and thermoregulation

Danish experience – ill or injured pigs



Examples of unacceptable conditions



Danish experience – ill or injured pigs

- Other unacceptable conditions



Danish experience – space allowances for pregnant sows and gilts kept in groups

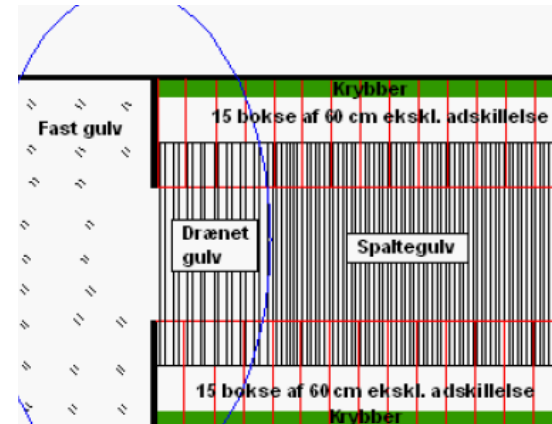
Directive 2008/120/EC:

Gives minimum figures for the total *unobstructed* floor area and the area with *continuous* solid or drained floor

What is meant by unobstructed?

What is meant by continuous?

In DK a drained floor can have max. 10 % openings

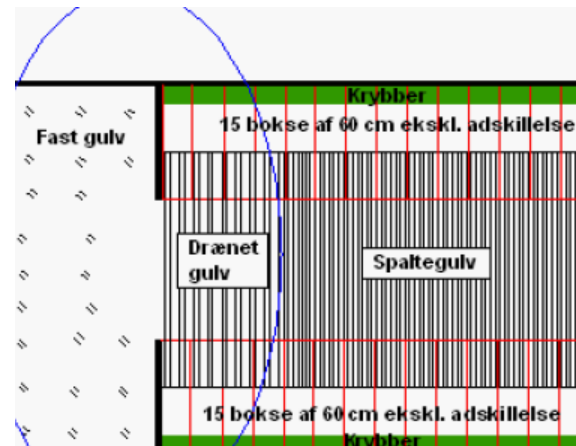


Danish experience – space allowances for pregnant sows and gilts kept in groups

Directive 2008/120/EC:

State that the pen must have sides greater than 2.8 metres / 2.4 metres when fewer than six animals

Danish national legislation requires that the pen nowhere shall be narrower than 3 metres



Danish experiences – size of flooring surfaces for piglets

Size of flooring surfaces

For piglets:

a part of the floor, which allow all piglets to rest together at the same time must be solid or covered with a mat or litter – also when the piglets are close to weaning!



Danish experiences – material for investigation and manipulation

- ☞ Pigs must have permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation
- ☞ The directive gives examples: straw, hay, wood, sawdust, mushroom compost, peat
- ☞ Danish interpretation: all the examples mentioned in the Directive are manipulable and deformable natural materials, consequently footballs, chains, tires, plastic boxes etc. are not acceptable as material, which enable proper investigation and manipulation activities



Danish experiences – material for investigation and manipulation

More examples of material for
investigation and manipulation



Photo: Pig Research Centre, Denmark



Photo: Pig Research Centre, Denmark



Danish experiences – material for investigation and manipulation

More examples of material for investigation and manipulation



Photos: Pig Research Centre, Denmark

Thank you for your attention!





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