



ISTITUTO G. CAPORALE
TERAMO

Areté Research
Consulting
in Economics

BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD PROGRAMME

Animal welfare concerning farming of pigs

27/30 September 2011 – Italy

Agenda

Service contract n° 2010 9614 “EAHC/2010/BTSF/06”



Introduction

The [Council Directive 2001/88/EC](#) amends the Council Directive 91/630/EC laying down minimum standards for the protection of pigs and aims in particular to :

- Ban the use of individual stalls for pregnant sows and gilts during a period starting from 4 weeks after service to 1 week before the expected time of farrowing and the use of tethers,
- Improve the quality of the flooring surfaces,
- Increase the living space available for sows and gilts,
- Allow the sows and gilts to have permanent access to materials for rooting,
- Introduce higher level of training and competence on welfare issues for the stockmen and the personnel in charge of the animals,
- Request new scientific advice in relation to certain issues of pig farming.

From 1 January 2003 these requirements are applicable to all holdings newly built or rebuilt. From 1 January 2013 these provisions shall apply to all holdings.

In parallel, the Commission has adopted [Directive 2001/93/EC](#) amending the Annex to Council Directive 91/630/EEC on the welfare of pigs. Supplementary improvements have been achieved for all categories of pigs. The [Standing Veterinary Committee](#) supported the proposal of the Commission aimed to introduce improved standards concerning the following issues:

- Light requirements and maximum noise levels,
- Permanent access to materials for rooting and playing,
- Permanent access to fresh water,
- Additional restrictive conditions to carry out mutilations on pigs,
- Minimum weaning age of four weeks.

The Member States have to apply the new requirements from 2003 on.

The two Directives were initially proposed by the Commission on the basis of the [Scientific Committee](#) 's report "[The Welfare of Intensively Kept Pigs](#)"

EFSA has adopted a number of scientific opinions on the welfare aspects of pig farming:

- ✓ Scientific Opinion on the welfare aspects of the castration of piglets
- ✓ Scientific Opinion on the welfare of weaners and rearing pigs: effects of different space allowances and floor types
- ✓ Scientific Opinion on animal health and welfare in fattening pigs in relation to housing and husbandry
- ✓ Scientific Opinion on the animal health and welfare aspects of different housing and husbandry systems for adult breeding boars, pregnant, farrowing sows and unweaned piglets
- ✓ Scientific Opinion on the risks associated with tail biting in pigs and possible means to reduce the need for tail docking considering the different housing and husbandry systems
- ✓ Scientific Opinion on Food safety aspects of different pig housing and husbandry systems.

Specific learning objectives

The course will allow participants to achieve the necessary skills to:

- a) interpret relevant EU legislation;
- b) apply scientific basis for proper housing, management (including provisions of enrichment material, group housing of sows and gilts, feeding practices for dry pregnant sows and gilts, mutilation procedures such as tail-docking, tooth clipping and castration) and handling of pigs;
- c) assess existing farming systems (including requirements for manipulability and rooting materials, flooring types etc.) with the current EU legislation;
- d) monitor animal welfare outcomes, throughout practical experience on the farm;
- e) carry out efficient inspections at farm level, including practical guidance on how to verify compliance of farming systems and management practices with the EU legislation;
- f) collect specific information in order to contribute to the future development of internet-based learning activities for veterinarians both in Member States and in Third Countries.

The course will also provide practical training on welfare inspection of pigs in farms, focused particularly on the assessment of the housing conditions and management practices. Practical demonstration on how to use animal based welfare outcomes will be included.

Agenda

Day	Hour	Location	Tutor	Activity	Time
27 September 2011	Morning	Transfer from International Airports to the Hotel	Secretariat	Arrival and transfer to the hotel	----
	14.30	Hotel Esplanade	----	Welcome Tea/coffee	30 m
	15.00		Istituto "G. Caporale"	Welcome addresses	10 m
	15.10		Judit Krommer	The Better Training for Safer Food training strategy	10 m
	15.20		Barbara Alessandrini	Course background, objectives, expected results	10 m
	15.30		Judit Krommer	Welfare of intensively kept pigs: EU legislation in force and its evolution in last 15 years	30 m
	16.00		Ignacio Carro Perez	Efficient inspections at farm level	30 m
	16.30		Wim Pelgrim	OIE animal welfare standards and the development process of the animal welfare production system standards	30 m
	17.00		Paolo Dalla Villa	The Italian measures for applying EU legislation requirements	30 m
	17.30		All tutors facilitate	Group activity: exchange and comparison of good practices implemented at national level	40 m
	18.10		Working group leaders	Presentation of the group activity results: plenary session and discussion	50 m
	19.00		---	End of the first session and free time	1 h
	20.00		----	Dinner	---

Day	Hour	Location	Tutor	Activity	Time
28 September 2011	9.00	Hotel Esplanade	Antonio Velarde	Biology and behaviour of pigs in natural and semi-natural conditions	45 m
	9.45		Xavier Manteca	Relevance of animal based indicators for pig welfare assessment (part 1)	45 m
	10.30		---	Morning tea and coffee break	15 m
	10.45		Xavier Manteca	Relevance of animal based indicators for pig welfare assessment (part 2)	45 m
	11.30		All tutors facilitate	Case studies	1 h
	12.30		Working group leaders	Presentation of the group activity results: plenary session	30 m
	13.00		---	Lunch	1 h 15 m
	14.15		Paolo Ferrari	Relevance of resource based indicators for pig welfare assessment	45 m
	15.00		Antoni Dalmau	Welfare assessment protocol on farm	45 m
	15.45		Antonio Velarde	Mutilation procedures: welfare implication and new strategies	30 m
	16.15		---	Afternoon tea and coffee-break	15 m
	16.30		Emma Fabrega	Animal health and welfare aspects of different housing and husbandry systems for pig production	30 m
	17.00		Herman Vermeer	Group housing and feeding strategies for sows and gilts	30 m
	17.30		All tutors facilitate	Group activity: case studies	45 m
	18.15		Working group leaders	Presentation of the group activity results: plenary session	30 m
	18.45	---	---	Social programme / Free time	1 h and 15 m
	20.00	Hotel	---	Social Dinner Dress code: smart casual	---

Day	Hour	Location	Tutor	Activity	Time
29 September 2011	7.00	Hotel Esplanade	Secretariat	Departure to pig farms	1 h 30 m
	8.30	Pig farms	All tutors facilitate	In field exercises	3 h 30 m
	12.00		Secretariat	Departure to the hotel	1 h 30 m
	13.30	Hotel Esplanade	---	Lunch	1h 30 m
	15.00		All tutors facilitate	Group activity. Discussion on the in field exercise and preparation of ppt presentations	2 h 30 m
	16.30		---	Afternoon tea and coffee-break	15 m
	16.45		Working group leaders	Presentation in plenary session of the in field activity ppt reports. Final comments	1 h
	17.45		---	End of the session and free time	2 h 15 m
	20.00		---	Dinner	----

Day	Hour	Location	Tutor	Activity	Time
30 September 2011	9.00	Hotel Esplanade	Sara Barbieri	Environmental enrichment to improve pig welfare	45 m
	9.45		Emma Fabrega	Genetic improvement of pig welfare	45 m
	10.30		Paolo Ferrari	Social and economical aspects of animal welfare concerning farming of pigs	45 m
	11.15		All tutors facilitate	Discussion	15 m
	11.30		Course coordinator	Course major outcomes and final conclusions	15 m
	11.45		----	Brunch	----
	12.30		Secretariat	Transfer from the hotel to International Airports	----

TRAINING COURSE METHODOLOGIES

The course aims at improving participant practical skills to be applied in their daily work. They focus on developing the abilities of participants identifying critical points and solutions to main problems encountered in the everyday work.

Training methodology, drawn upon the experience of the trainees, takes into consideration that the trainee is in most cases already quite informed on the issues related to animal welfare standards.

On the basis of previous DG SANCO experiences and taking into account adult learning styles, the training methodologies will be the following ones:

Methods
Lectures by experts
Group works/facilitated group discussions
Study and discussion of typical cases
Structured exercises and simulations
Individual reading assignments and individual exercise
Demonstrations in field activities

A one-day visit to farms applying internationally recognised animal welfare standards, will be organised for practicing simulation exercises.

Participants

Official veterinarians belonging to the National Competent Authorities of EU Countries, candidate and Third Countries, involved in:

- ✓ official controls on animal welfare aspects concerning the farming of pigs;
- ✓ development of best practices to improve the application of European norms and/or international standards (where appropriate).

Location

Hotel "Esplanade" - Pescara (Italy)

http://www.esplanade.net/index_en.html