



The Danish Crown Product Standard for UK Welfare Pigs

INTRODUCTION

This product standard with appendices sets out the requirements for the production of UK welfare pigs for Danish Crown. It serves as an add-on to the requirements specified in the DANISH Product Standard.

In the production of UK welfare pigs for Danish Crown, both the requirements of the applicable DANISH Product Standard and the Danish Crown Product Standard for UK Welfare Pigs must be complied with. The owner of the production herd have ultimate responsibility for complying with the requirements of the product standard.

The latest standard and information about new requirements are available at <https://www.danishcrown.com>

Ownership: Danish Crown

Purpose: The purpose of the Danish Crown Product Standard for UK Welfare Pigs is to provide accredited third-party certification of the production of live pigs under the ISO 17065:2012 standard.

Compliance with the requirements of the product standard will be checked at an initial audit, which is a precondition for the conclusion of a contract for the production of UK welfare pigs. New herd owners wishing to produce UK welfare pigs must register with Danish Crown Coop. Supply and through the website of the certification body, currently Baltic Control Certifications. When a pig producer has registered for production and supply of UK welfare pigs to Danish Crown, Danish Crown Coop. Supply issues a 'Contract for the production of UK welfare pigs' to the pig producer.

The items of the Product Standard for UK Welfare Pigs are add-ons to the DANISH Product Standard. The certificate is valid for 13 months from the date of certification. Re-certification audits can be made unannounced and up to three months before the certification expires.

This Product Standard for UK Welfare Pigs takes effect on 1 January 2020. Certificates issued in accordance with 'version 1 January 2016' will remain valid until their expiry dates.

Version 1.0
January 2020

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1. Pig identification and traceability

1.1. Identification systems and production practices must ensure that UK welfare pigs originate from approved UK welfare pig herds. All herds with sows, weaners and slaughter pigs must be approved by a certification body accepted by Danish Crown (currently Baltic Control Certification) in order to be able to produce or supply UK welfare pigs. Pig producers who purchase non-UK welfare pigs for an approved UK welfare pig herd will immediately lose their UK welfare pig approval and will no longer be able to produce UK welfare pigs.

The supplier number of the farm of origin must be clearly tattooed on both hams of all pigs sent for slaughter. It is not yet possible for UK welfare pig herd owners to make group deliveries of slaughter pigs.

2. Feed

2.1. Purchased feed must be checked upon receipt. Content or package leaflets must be checked and signed when the feed arrives and retained for a minimum of two years. The form for the feed company (see Appendix 7) makes it clear to feed suppliers that the pig producer has a signed contract for the production of UK welfare pigs with his or her abattoir. The form may be completed and returned by the feed supplier, duly signed.

2.2. The pig feed must contain no blood plasma or blood products.

2.3. Animal fats must not be used in the feed.

2.4. Fishmeal must not be used in the feed for slaughter pigs weighing more than 40 kg. Fishmeal in the feed must be certified according to a sustainability standard such as MSC, IFFO RS certification.

2.5. To minimise the risk of contamination of the pig feed with impurities, all equipment, trolleys, trailers and silos coming into contact with the feed must be maintained and clean.

3. Animal health and medicine use

3.1. All visitors must be registered by name, date and, where relevant, the date of their latest visit to a pig herd and a note stating whether they bring recording or camera equipment, for instance mobile phones, into the herd (see example in Appendix 1).

3.2. On pig farms, food may only be consumed in designated areas. Such areas must be marked on the diagram showing the pig building and herd area. Pork must never be consumed in the clean area (herd area) – see Appendix 3.

3.3 A written cleaning/disinfection plan must be in place for the herd – see Appendix 6.

3.4. The location of rat and mouse poison stations must be marked on a diagram – see example in Appendix 3. It must be ensured that poison is placed in the rat poison stations only if there are visible signs of constant use of the poison stations. When the poison stations are no longer frequented by rodents, the poison must be removed.

3.5. Cats in the pig building must not be allowed access to the outside, and must be dewormed as necessary.

3.6. Medicines and vaccines must be kept under lock and stored in accordance with the veterinarian's instructions, as stated on labels or packaging, for example in a refrigerator or medicine storage room which can be locked when there is no one in the pig building. Locking the entire pig building is also an option.

3.7. The producer must maintain a logbook recording medical treatment. When dispensing medicine, the veterinarian must provide written instructions on treatment and post-treatment retention times. The following information must be recorded for each treatment: Date, animals – which ones and how many (unique identification or, where not possible, number, estimated weight and pen number or pig building section or similar division), reason, medicine, dosage, method of administration, end date of post-treatment retention period (number of days is not sufficient) and the person providing treatment (initials) – see example in Appendix 4.

4. Culling of sick or injured pigs

4.1. The slaughter of pigs must be performed using a captive bolt pistol (or similar device) followed by exsanguination. The procedure for cleaning and checking captive bolt pistols must be available for inspection – see example in Appendix 9.

5. Pig buildings and equipment

5.1. It is recommended that a sign be posted on the entrance door, stating: "Access by agreement only, contact [Telephone number]" see example in Appendix 12.

5.2. A building diagram with measurements of the pig building and pens and the number of pigs per pen must be available for inspection – see example in Appendix 3.

5.3. Sows and gilts must be loose-housed from weaning until they are placed in the farrowing pen. In exceptional cases, sows/gilts may be temporarily housed in locked crates under the following conditions:

Single-animal level:

- When undergoing veterinary examinations, treatments and surgery
- When the pigs/sows/gilts are being marked or weighed
- While waiting to be loaded for transportation
- During service, artificial insemination, or collection of semen.

In groups:

- The latest group of weaned sows may be housed in locked crates:
- During the first week after weaning, but only for as long as is necessary to perform a heat check or insemination (max. four hours).

In herds:

- Herds of sows/gilts may be housed in locked crates:

- During feeding until the last sow/gilt has finished eating
- When pig buildings are being cleaned or in connection with the removal of manure
- It is only permitted to house sows in locked crates for the period of time needed to carry out the above measures. A sow is not regarded as being housed in a crate if the animal for instance chooses to lie down in the crate, provided that it is free to leave the crate.

Farrowing pen:

Individual sows in farrowing pens are only permitted to be housed in a crate for the first 35 days after farrowing. This also applies to lactating sows. If a sow spends more than 35 days in a crate in the farrowing pen after farrowing, the herd veterinarian – in cooperation with the farmer – is required to explain the reasons for this in writing, and also state in writing the absolute maximum number of days the sow will be confined to the crate after farrowing. The number of days must not exceed 56. This written description must be renewed annually, for example via the veterinarian's report or the form: housing in farrowing pens (see Appendix 8). Sows used as lactating sows may not have shoulder sores and/or be very skinny (emaciated) with ribs, backbone and/or hip bones protruding (body condition score 1 – see Figure 1).

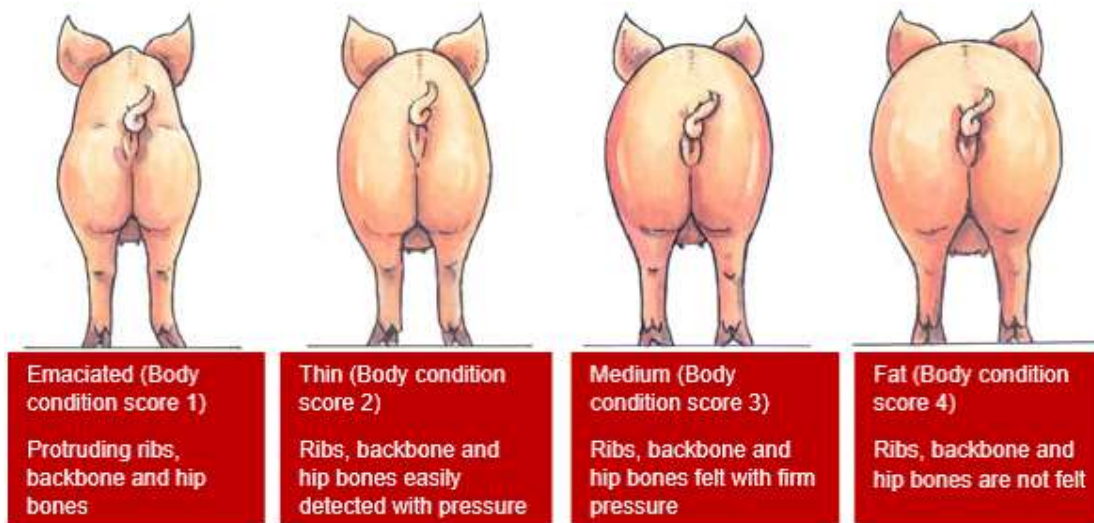


Figure 1. Body condition scoring of sows

5.4. If sows are housed in single-animal pens, the pens must be large enough for the sow to turn around unhindered.

5.5. If a mechanical ventilation system is used, an alarm must be installed to warn of any malfunctioning of the system. The alarm system must automatically alert a set of emergency contacts. The alarm system must also be able to function in the event of power failure and an increase in temperature in the individual pig building sections.

5.6. The alarm must be tested weekly, and records must be kept – see example in Appendix 2.

6. Water

6.1. If drinking water from the farm's own borehole is used, the quality of the drinking water must be checked at least once a year. It must also be possible to present analysis results from an approved laboratory.

7. Management

7.1. Any tail docking and castration of piglets must be performed within 72 hours of birth, and must be agreed with and documented by the herd veterinarian in an inspection report or in Appendix 10.

7.2. Supplementary staff training must be documented – see example in Appendix 5.

7.3. A contingency plan must be available with contact details of relevant persons/companies, various instructions and information about the location of important stopcocks/switches. For instance (Appendix 11):

Telephone numbers of:

- Owner/operations manager
- Falck (emergency medical services)
- Fire brigade
- Veterinarian
- Medical helpline
- Feed supplier
- Ventilation company
- Electrician
- Metalsmith
- Plumber

Other

- Fire and evacuation instructions
- Slurry overflow
- Chemical and oil spills
- Location of stopcocks/main switches
- Power failure instructions

8. Dead pigs

8.1. All dead animals must be handled in accordance with current legislation and collected by an approved rendering company. Containers for dead piglets and weaners must be closed, and large animals must be placed so that they are not visible from public roads.