

NZ PORK



PigCare™ Audit Manual

March 2022

Version 2

PigCare™ Audit Manual

This document is prepared to ensure PigCare™ participants are familiar with the requirements and expectations of an audit. It is not possible in such a document to cover every scenario or provide examples of every failing that might result in a Corrective Action being issued, but it is hoped that those examples that are given are sufficiently helpful to enable farmers to recognise what are likely to be failings e.g. a broken slat that leaves a hole that could lead to a leg injury. Auditors undergo calibration exercises periodically to maximise consistency between them and to share examples of risks encountered. Auditors are aware of biosecurity and take reasonable steps to ensure they do not present a risk to farms they audit. If you have any particular concerns in this area it is your responsibility to discuss these with the auditor you have chosen **before** they arrive on your farm. You may even wish to enquire about their boot and overall size! It is also your responsibility, or that of your nominated representative's (e.g. manager), to be present at the audit. Some preparation will minimise the amount of time the formal office-based component of the audit will take e.g. viewing documentation. Obviously the larger the farm the longer the audit will usually take as there is simply more farm to get around. Unless there is a good reason not to, an auditor will usually want to walk through every area of the farm used to house pigs. An audit may require anywhere from one hour to four hours. Set adequate time aside.

Documentation required on the day of the audit:

- Animal Welfare (Pigs) Code of Welfare 2018
- Documentation to confirm the amount of time sows are kept in mating stalls (if used)
- Biosecurity protocol/program developed in consultation with the farm veterinarian
- NZPork needle policy or similar document
- Rodent control program that includes
 - Site map showing all numbered bait stations
 - Baiting register demonstrating activity in each station and when baits are added, or not added
- Fit to Load Guidelines
- Compromised pigs protocol
- Restricted Veterinary Medicines Authority
- Treatment plans and treatment records

Section 1: Farm details

In this section basic information about the farm is collected. Some of this information is self-populated on the assumption that it will not have changed since the previous audit e.g.

Who is the owner and manager and how many years of experience do you/they have?

Where is the farm located – both physical and postal address

How many staff are employed to run the piggery?

Do you consent to photographs of the presentation of the farm being taken?

What type of farm is it e.g. farrow to finish, weaner supplier, finishing, etc?

How many pigs are on farm at the time of audit (breeding sows? Growers?). An exact stocktake is not required but your number should be within $\pm 5\%$

Who do you sell your pigs to (other than replacement breeding stock)?

Where do you source pigs from (other than replacement breeding stock)?

Vet name and contact details

There are then three environment-related questions that must be answered but that do not impact on the outcome of the audit (at this stage). These are:

1. Are stock excluded from waterways?
2. Does the farm have an environmental nutrient budget?
3. Does the farm have a farm environment plan?

Notes: The information required in Section 1 is considered self-explanatory.

Section 2: Animal welfare checklist

In this section of the audit, compliance with each of the Minimum Standards in the Code of Welfare (Pigs) 2018 (<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/1445/direct>) and with the Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018 is assessed, (<http://legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2018/0050/latest/LMS22789.html?src=qs>) as they relate to the care of pigs (Regulations 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 40, 41, 48, 49, 52, 55). This is done through a combination of observation achieved through first-hand inspection of pigs, facilities and records, specific questions and general enquiry. The Regulations are non-negotiable welfare requirements for which penalties (fines) are clearly defined in cases of non-compliance. Questions in the audit cover all of the requirements of the Regulations. Failure to comply with any Code or Regulation requirement will result in a Corrective Action being issued.

Each subsection in the animal welfare checklist is presented below in the sequence they occur in the audit checklist rather than the numerical order of the Minimum Standards. The titles of these subsections are as they appear in the audit checklist. For each subsection, **notes** outlining the audit expectations are described to provide clarity for participants.

Section 2.1 Stockmanship

This section covers three Minimum Standards (1, 13 and 14) and two Regulations (48 and 49).

Minimum Standard No. 1 – Stockmanship

Pigs must be cared for by a sufficient number of personnel, who collectively possess the ability, knowledge and competence necessary to maintain the health and welfare of the animals in accordance with this Code.

Notes: it is expected that an adequate number of staff are employed for the number of pigs farmed.

Minimum Standard No 13 – Handling

- (a) Pigs must be handled at all times in such a way as to minimise the risk of pain, injury or distress to the animals.
- (b) Pigs, including piglets, must not be picked up or suspended by one front leg, ears or tail.
- (c) Handling facilities must be available to deal with all pigs and piglets undergoing routine procedures and for animals that are sick and requiring treatment.
- (d) Stress of handling must be minimised by appropriate design of the facilities, especially entrances and raceways.

Question

How many of the current staff have completed ProHand?

Notes: The requirements here are largely self-explanatory. The completion of ProHand is not a requirement of PigCare™ at present but it is encouraged and does provide supporting evidence that the farm takes stockmanship seriously. A Corrective Action will not be issued if no staff members (or only some staff members) have undertaken ProHand Training.

Minimum Standard No 14 – Moving Pigs and Regulations 48 and 49

- (a) Only the minimal force required must be used when moving pigs.
- (b) Pigs must not be struck or prodded with a goad in the udder, anus, genitals, or eyes.
- (c) Pigs must not be prodded in sensitive areas.
- (d) Electric prodders must not be used except
 - (i) during loading or unloading for transport, on pigs that weigh over 150 kg; or
 - (ii) during loading of a stunning pen at any slaughter premises, on pigs that weigh over 150 kg.
- (e) Whipping must not be used on pigs.

Questions (relating to Regulations)

1. Are electric prodders used on farm?
2. If used, are electric prodders used only during loading/unloading for transport for pigs weighing over 150kg?
3. If used are electric prodders only used on muscled areas of the hindquarters and forequarters and does the animal have sufficient room to move away?
4. Are all animals moved without striking on the udder, anus, genitals or eyes?

Notes: It is hoped that these requirements are self-explanatory. The Regulations specifically impose constraints on the use of prodders (essentially, they have no place on a pig farm) and hitting pigs in sensitive areas such as the eyes and genitals is both unnecessary and unacceptable. If any of the above ‘must nots’ are occurring a Corrective Action will be issued.

Section 2.2 Husbandry and management

This section covers Minimum Standards 2, 3, 4, 15, 16 and 17 and Regulations 30, 40 and 41. It also addresses several on-farm practices such as elective procedures, management of compromised pigs and euthanasia.

Husbandry procedures

Question

1. Which of the following procedures are carried out on the farm and at which time point (age of pigs in days)?
 - tail docking
 - teeth clipping

Notes: These questions essentially are prompts to ensure that the age requirements of Minimum Standard 16 below are complied with.

Minimum Standard No 16 – Elective Husbandry Procedures

- (a) Elective husbandry procedures must only be carried out where they are justifiable to prevent undesirable consequences that could subsequently result in animal suffering.
- (b) Tail docking of pigs that are under seven days of age must be carried out in a way that creates a clean cut and does not tear the tissue.
 - (ba) Tail docking of pigs that are seven days of age or over must be carried out by a veterinarian or a veterinary student under the direct supervision of a veterinarian throughout the procedure. The pig must be given pain relief at the time of the procedure.
 - (bb) Castration must be carried out by a veterinarian or a veterinary student under the direct supervision of a veterinarian throughout the procedure. The pig must be given pain relief at the time of the procedure.
- (c) Clipping or grinding of needle teeth must be carried out before five days of age.
- (d) If nose rings, clips or wires are used they must be placed through the cartilage at the top of the snout or in the tissue separating the nostrils.

Question

1. Is tail docking done in a way that it creates a clean cut and does not tear the tissue?
2. If tail docking of piglets is carried out when they are over 7 days of age, is this done by a vet?
3. If pigs are castrated, is this only done by a veterinarian?

Notes: These questions relate to Regulation 52 on tail docking and 55 on castration. The auditor generally will inspect the equipment used to dock tails during the farm walk to confirm that it is suitable and clean and check the tails of a sample of recently docked piglets. In the unlikely event that pigs are castrated, the auditor may request to see veterinary invoices to verify these are performed by a veterinarian. Staff may be fined \$5,000 and the farm \$25,000

for breaching Regulation 55. Similar fines are in place for docking tails after 7 days of age. Obviously, a breach of the above will result in a Corrective Action.

Management of compromised pigs and/or sick pigs

Questions:

1. Does the farm have a documented procedure for identifying and handling compromised pigs?
2. Are there adequate warm and dry comfortable recovery pens?
3. Are pigs that could not otherwise cope in an ordinary pen removed to a recovery pen?
4. Are compromised or sick pigs treated according to the farm treatment plan?
5. Are appropriate treatment records for sick and compromised pigs available for audit?
6. Is there a robust system for identifying treated or compromised pigs?
7. What criteria are used to decide whether to euthanise an animal and are they appropriate?

Notes: The requirement for a compromised pig protocol was introduced by the NZPIB to protect the welfare of affected pigs and farmers. For instance, if a pig is detected on farm with a broken leg and this has been ignored. This is totally unacceptable. If, on the other hand, the pig has been isolated in a recovery pen, is not showing signs of undue pain and it is being monitored to ensure it is mobile enough to eat and drink regularly, this is acceptable. Without a protocol and documentation, the history of such a pig is subject to speculation. The auditor will expect to be able to be shown a documented procedure that details the actions to be taken whenever a compromised pig is identified e.g. destroyed or moved to a recovery/sick pen, monitoring regime, decision criteria etc. If a documented procedure cannot be provided a Corrective Action will be issued. Not all compromised pigs will require medical treatment, however treatment records are required to be kept for all pigs over 10-weeks of age. These records should include the date, drug, dose and pig. You are not expected to keep records of routine preventative treatments such as vaccinations other than for your own information. Question 6 asks if there is a robust system for identifying treated pigs. The purpose of this question is to ensure that you have a fail-safe system that will ensure you do not load a pig during the withholding period associated with any treatment (it's there for your protection!!). Consequently, spray (marker) paint may be suitable for a pig that is still several weeks from market but not for a more marketable animal. Similarly, if the pig is in a separate pen where it is clearly distinguishable from potential market pigs, a range of identification techniques may be appropriate. The most robust system is to place a button tag in the pig's ear on which the date of treatment and some identifier of the product used is recorded e.g. 13/6 and a P (say) for penicillin. The management of compromised and/or sick pigs will be scored out of 10 and this score transferred to the Presentation Score Card. If the score is less than 5/10 a Corrective Action will be issued.

Euthanasia

Questions

1. Describe how you euthanise each class of pigs on your farm i.e.
 - pigs under 20kg
 - pigs 20 to 100kg
 - sows
 - boars
2. Are these practices acceptable?
3. Does the farm have appropriate equipment and trained staff appropriate equipment and trained staff available to ensure that euthanasia of compromised pigs can be carried out at all times?

Minimum Standard No 19 – Emergency Humane Destruction

- (a) When pigs have to be killed it must be done by persons competent in the handling and killing of pigs and death must be confirmed by inspection of the animal.
- (b) When a pig needs to be killed it must be handled, restrained and killed in such a manner as to minimise unnecessary pain and distress prior to death.
- (c) Pigs must be rapidly rendered insensible and remain in that state, until death.
- (d) Animals rendered insensible by a blow or shot to the brain must be bled out immediately to ensure death occurs before recovery from stunning.

Notes: The auditor will require information on the methods used to destroy animals on farm. This may include inspection of the equipment used and who uses it e.g. who on the farm has a firearms license? It is expected that there is always access to a person who is approved to put down pigs on the farm as well as access to the required equipment. Consequently, back-up plans are required to enable euthanasia of pigs suffering unreasonable pain and distress should the person(s) normally responsible for this job be unavailable. Similarly, if sows are destroyed by a shot from a shotgun and then bled, but the gun is locked up in the owner's house, is there access to the gun if the owner is not at home? Staff charged with this duty are expected to be able to describe how they determine that death has occurred. To ensure that death has occurred the Code demands (19d) that bleeding of the pig **must** always follow stunning. If any of the above is considered to be inadequate or unacceptable a Corrective Action will be issued.

Section 2.3 Weaners

Questions

1. What is the age of pigs when weaned (from X to Y)
2. Are the weaner facilities appropriate for newly weaned pigs?
3. Is the nutrition appropriate for newly weaned pigs?

Minimum Standard No 15 – Weaning

Weaning must be managed in a way that avoids undue stress on the sow and piglets and minimises negative impacts on their health and welfare.

Notes: The auditor will inspect the weaner facilities and consider the appropriability of things such as temperature, air quality, state of flooring and the adequacy of feeder and drinker access. These features are again revisited in later parts of the audit under Minimum Standards on feed, water, temperature, ventilation and housing. This repetition reflects redundancy within the Code. The auditor will usually ask for a description of the weaning process. If either the facilities or nutrition is not appropriate for newly weaned pigs a Corrective Action will be issued.

Section 2.4 Load Out

This section covers Minimum Standard 17 and Regulation 30 which is about preventing injury during transport, Regulation 40 that restricts the transport of lame pigs, and Regulation 41 that restricts the transport of pregnant animals.

Questions

1. Does the farm follow the NZPork Fit to Load Guidelines?
2. Can farm staff articulate what types of farm animals are not suitable to load for slaughter?
3. Are acceptable criteria used to decide if an animal is fit for transport?
4. Are lame pigs only transported with a vet certificate (unless for treatment)
5. Do lame pigs transported for treatment ever travel more than 20 kms?
6. There is no transportation of sows in late stages of pregnancy.

Minimum Standard No 17 – Pre-transport Selection

- (a) Pigs must be inspected prior to transport to ensure all are fit to be transported.
- (b) All pigs must be fit enough to withstand the journey without suffering unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.
 - (ba) Lame pigs must not be selected for transport, except as allowed by regulation 40 of the Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018.
- (c) Sows likely to give birth during the journey must not be selected for transport.

Notes: It is expected that all staff involved in the loading of pigs for transport are familiar with what is acceptable and what is not e.g. pigs must be weight bearing on four feet, and that they are able to describe the judgement calls they may make. The owner and manager should also be familiar with the regulations around transport. Some of the questions may seem superfluous, but they do address the requirements e.g. the answer questions 1, 2 and 3 may indicate that the farm simply does not transport lame pigs rendering question 4 unnecessary. The auditor will usually ask questions to determine if staff are familiar with the 'Fit to Load' Guidelines'. The auditor will also inspect the loadout race to ensure that it is suitable e.g. no sharp projections. If any of the above is an unacceptable standard a corrective action will be issued.

Section 2.5 Rodent control

Rodent control, and more importantly the management of anticoagulant rodenticides necessary to effectively achieve this control, is of critical importance. Such is this importance that rodent control and rodenticide management account for 40 points in the Presentation Score Card.

Questions

1. Does the farm have a documented rodent control program?
2. Is the program multi-layered?
3. Are anticoagulant (so-called K-baits) baits used?
4. Is there a map of the farm showing the location of bait stations?
5. Is the number of control points adequate for the size of the farm?
6. Is a control point service diary kept and maintained that details when stations were serviced and where bait was replaced?

Notes: These series of questions relate to aspects of the farms rodent control program that can be audited from the office. A farm that does not have a rodent control program in place will be issued with a Corrective Action. The quality of the program will be assessed on the standard of documentation, the comprehensiveness of the program, the number of control points, the frequency with which they are serviced and so on. A score out of 20 is also carried over to the Presentation Score Card and if this is less than 10/20 a Corrective Action is also issued. The minimum documentation required is a map of the farm area used to intensively house pigs and the location of the control points (bait stations or traps) and the service diary/baiting register that records when traps were serviced, the activity at the station i.e. bait chewed or disappeared, and where bait was added. A multi-layered program includes a perimeter of control points (realistically only bait stations with anticoagulant bait), control points around the outside of buildings (usually bait stations along the sides of sheds) and control points within sheds (bait-stations with either anticoagulant or vitamin D baits or traps). The number of control points is important for the program to be effective. There should be at least 20 around the farm's perimeter and one for every 50 m of pig building perimeter. Obviously, the expectation for perimeter baiting is very different for intensive and extensive (outdoor) units. The number of control points within sheds will depend on the nature of the shed e.g. it is not expected that there are any control points in an ecobarn-type shed were the barn forms one pen. The frequency with which control points are serviced should be at least once a month once the program is well established although more frequent servicing is recommended especially of control points where replacement bait is required consistently and during risky times of the year e.g. autumn. If traps are used for indoor control, these should be checked at least twice a week.

Section 2.6 Exclusion of bovine tuberculosis

Questions

1. The farm has a documented biosecurity programme that was formulated by management in consultation with its veterinarian (i.e. that adequately manages potential crossover points e.g. people, vehicles and other equipment)
2. The farm follows its own biosecurity programme
3. The farm has a defined perimeter
4. The perimeter is sufficient to exclude non-farmed livestock (e.g. feral pigs, deer and cattle) from areas used to house pigs
 - (4a) The area within the perimeter is inspected daily to confirm freedom from non-farmed livestock; AND
 - (4b) If non-farmed livestock are observed within the perimeter, steps are taken to remove them as soon as possible
5. The farm has a possum control or exclusion programme (e.g. a trapping programme)
6. Where pigs are brought onto the farm e.g. as replacements or weaners, the pigs are all sourced from other PigCare™ farms
7. (If yes to above): the trucks that are used to move pigs onto the farm are cleaned before pigs are loaded
8. Measures are taken to limit the exposure of pig feed to faeces e.g. covered feeders, when necessary and achievable

Notes: The above are questions the auditor must answer rather than ask. A biosecurity program is required (answer to Q1 must be yes) that details the farms policy on relevant issues such as the source (or not) of stock, staff, visitors, clothing, equipment and vehicle access. It doesn't have to be a huge document – perhaps as few as one or two pages, but it needs to be clear and achievable. It is also hoped that it focuses on the real risks but even more importantly that it is followed (answer to Q2 must be yes). If the program requires that visitors must contact the owner or manager before exiting their vehicle, must sign a declaration on arrival, and must change into overalls and boots provided by the farm before entering the perimeter, the auditor will expect to have been scrutinized against these requirements. The perimeter needs to be defined. Usually this will be obvious e.g. fence line which the auditor will observe first-hand. As it is appreciated that it is not possible or at least practical to install and maintain a possum or deer proof fence around many farms, the farm needs to be able to demonstrate that it has systems in place to manage the risks of these animals entering the perimeter, thus questions 4(a) and (b). Possums as pests are singled out, as your ability to proof your farm of these is probably impossible. The expectation, therefore, is that there is a system in place that provides some confidence that the farm is free of possums that is not dependent on the auditor's observations or reassurances by the farmer. Simply stating the opinion that "we don't have any possums" is inadequate. However, if the farm sets traps for possums intermittently to confirm freedom and consistently fails to trap any, the above opinion has some validity.

Section 2.7 Hunger and thirst

Minimum Standard No 2 – Feed

- (a) All pigs must receive adequate quantities of food and nutrients each day to enable each pig to: maintain good health; meet its physiological demands; and void metabolic and nutritional disorders.
- (b) Feed must be provided in such a way as to prevent undue competition and injury.
- (c) When the body condition of any pig falls to 2 or below (on a scale of 1–5) immediate remedial action must be taken to resolve the issue.

Notes: The auditor will assess compliance with Minimum Standard 2 for each category of pigs (weaners, sows etc.) on the farm separately, using information acquired during the audit through enquires and observations regarding the feeding of pigs. By and large this will revolve around an assessment of the body condition and general health of the pigs of all ages, feed in feeders, feeder space, feed frequency and discussion with the manager. The farm is expected to have a contingency plan in place should there be an interruption to the feed supply e.g. earthquake.

Minimum Standard No 4 – Water

An adequate daily supply of water that is palatable, not harmful to health and at a temperature that does not inhibit drinking must be accessible to all pigs, at all times.

Notes: the auditor will look at the availability, accessibility and quality of water. Consideration will be given to the number of drinkers in pens with multiple pigs, the height of the drinkers and water flow rate. Usually a random sample of drinkers will be checked for their flow. While the drinker need not necessarily deliver 2L per minute, a reasonable flow is expected. The number of drinkers required varies with both drinker type and group size. Clearly a group of 10 pigs requires one drinker and 25 pigs require two drinkers but 100 pigs do not require 10 drinkers. Similarly, the requirement for drinkers where pigs are liquid fed is very different to those dry fed. The farm is expected to have a contingency plan in place should there be an interruption to water supply (earthquake) or water flow (power outage). You may be asked if the farm has a generator.

Minimum Standard No 3 – Feed: New-born Piglets

- (a) All piglets must receive colostrum or an appropriate substitute as soon as possible after birth, and within 24 hours.
- (b) If piglets are not being fed adequately by the sow, they must be fostered, hand-reared or killed humanely.
- (c) Fostering must be carefully managed to ensure that the nurse sow accepts and is able to feed all of the piglets.

Notes: Auditors do not expect you to be able to measure how much colostrum each piglet gets and generally practices in this area can be adequately assessed by observing sucking pigs. The auditor will walk through the farrowing rooms on indoor farms and through a sample of lactating paddocks on outdoor farms to make this assessment. Enquiries will be made regarding fostering practices during the audit. It is expected that all farmers foster piglets to ensure that each has a working teat to suckle.

Section 2.8 Physical environment

Minimum Standard No 7 – Temperature

- (a) Newborn piglets must be housed at temperatures that will assist them to reach and maintain normal body temperatures.
- (b) Heating devices (e.g. infrared lamps, heat pads) must be securely fixed and protected from interference by the sow and piglets.
- (c) Ventilation control or other measures must ensure housed pigs do not become overheated or cold stressed.

Notes: The auditor will determine whether the temperature in enclosed buildings is adequate for the animal's requirements for each category of stock (e.g. weaners, sows). Assessment will focus on the pig's behavior. For instance, if piglets are huddling in a corner the temperature is likely to be too low. On an outdoor farm, obviously the ambient temperature is what it is, but here such things as the straw levels within farrowing huts in winter will be considered and the availability of shade or wallows in summer.

Minimum Standard No 8 – Air Quality

- (a) Adequate ventilation must be provided in order to prevent the build-up of dust, and gases such as ammonia, to levels that are harmful to pigs.
- (b) Immediate and appropriate action must be taken to reduce ammonia levels if they exceed 25 ppm at pig level.

Notes: The auditor will determine whether the air quality in buildings, sheds and other structures used to house pigs is adequate for the animal's requirements for each category of stock (e.g. weaners, sows). At no time should breathing be uncomfortable. The ability to ventilate the sheds will be considered. For instance, it is expected that all fans are operational in fully enclosed sheds.

Minimum Standard No 6 – Housing and Equipment and Regulations 24 and 25

- (a) Housing systems must be designed, constructed and maintained in a manner that provides suitable (comfortable) temperatures, fresh air, and hygienic conditions.
- (b) All group housed pigs must be able to stand, move about and lie down without undue interference with each other in a space that provides for separation of dunging, lying and eating areas.
- (c) The minimum unobstructed lying space allowance for grower pigs must be in accordance with the following formula: $\text{Area (m}^2\text{) per pig} = 0.03 \times \text{liveweight}^{0.67}\text{(kg)}$.
 - (ca) Pigs must have access, at all times, to shelter that is adequately ventilated and provides protection from extremes of heat and cold.
 - (cb) Pigs must have access, at all times that they are not in farrowing crates or stalls, to a dry area that is large enough to allow the pigs to stand up, turn around, and lie down in a natural position.
 - (cc) Faeces or urine must not be allowed to accumulate in any area in which the pig is kept to an extent that may pose a threat to the health or welfare of the pigs.
- (d) Inspection of all pigs must be possible.
- (e) The risk of injury, disease or stress for pigs must be minimised by appropriate design, construction and maintenance of housing and equipment.
- (f) Pigs must be provided with natural or artificial light of appropriate intensity for a minimum of nine hours each day.
- (g) All mechanical equipment used in pig production must be maintained in good working order.
- (h) Alternative means of temperature regulation, ventilation, feeding and watering of stock must be available in case of power or computer failure or mechanical breakdown.
- (i) Systems must be designed to minimise the impact of flooding in the event that water pipes or fittings burst.
- (j) Appropriate fire prevention measures and a fire emergency plan that includes feed milling areas adjacent to pig housing, must be in place.

Questions

1. Is the minimum lying space requirement for growing pigs being met as per Regulation 25?
2. Do pigs have access at all times to a ventilated shelter that provides protection from extremes of hot and cold?
3. Do pigs have access at all times (when not in a farrowing crate or a stall) to a dry area that is large enough for the pigs to stand up, turn around, and lie down in a natural position as per Regulation 24?
4. Has the farmer taken reasonable measures to prevent faeces or urine from accumulating in any area in which pigs are kept?

Notes: The auditor will rate compliance with this Minimum Standard and Regulations for each category of stock (e.g. weaner, sows) as OK or not OK based on an assessment of the farm against the above. Space: the auditor will determine whether the space allowance requirements (6c) are met in all areas of the farm. This may involve measuring the available floor space, counting the pigs and determining their weight if this is considered marginal. The area within a pen that is taken up by the feeder or trough is not part of this available area. An inadequate space allowance is a breach of Regulation 25 introduced in 2018. Consequently, a Corrective Action will be issued that requires immediate remedy if this is below the minimum. This is not a matter for which the auditor has discretion. Dry floor area: a portion of the floor area that is sufficient for all pigs in the pen to lie must be 'dry'. Obviously 'dry' is more subjective than the very objective measure of space. 'Dry' in PigCare™ does not mean that the floor cannot be wet, but it certainly cannot be covered in water (ponding). In practice, in most systems this means that if there is ponding, even of only a few millimeters thick, over more than a third of the pen floor, a Corrective Action is likely to be issued. Obviously if the pen is very large and only 20% of the floor area is required for pigs to lie down, ponding over more than a third of the floor would be acceptable. It is also under this Minimum standard (6) that you may be issued with a Corrective Action for dirty pens (6a, b, cc), as well as scored down in the Presentation Score Card. Hazards: the housing must also be safe and free of hazards on or in which a pig may injure itself (6e). This includes broken slats that pose a hazard for foot and leg damage (6e), rough floors, broken fans (6g), doors and so on. Nails poking into the pens, sharp right angles protruding into the pen (e.g. corners of corrugated iron), rods from broken pen divisions. Light: there needs to be enough light to enable the inspection of all pigs for sheds (6d and f). The following requirements are more fully covered in the next section (Emergency and Contingency Systems), but the expectations

are that for fully enclosed sheds there is an alarm system that notifies staff of a power outages and other failures and that there is a plan in place to ensure that ventilation is adequate at such times (6h) – even if this is simply to open vents and affix the door open. Flooding: should a water pipe burst, would your shed get flooded (6i)? Fire: fire prevention measures are required. Auditors expect to see at least one fire extinguisher in any building that has many rooms or pens and you should be able to provide documentation of your operating instructions in case of a fire. It is possible for several Corrective Actions to be issued under this part of the audit if non-compliances are identified.

Emergency and Backup Systems

Every farm must have completed the emergency backup systems checklist. This checklist serves as a self-audit tool that is intended to ensure farmers meet their obligations and that they are prepared for unforeseen events. The checklist covers those events that are under the farmers direct control and therefore those for which they are responsible e.g., the supply of water and artificial ventilation (if required). It does not cover contingencies that may be required were events that that might be considered ‘acts of God’ to occur e.g., earthquakes, flooding. Nevertheless, PigCare participants are encouraged to consider how they might meet the essential needs of their pigs (food, water) at such times. *The checklist is included at the end of this document.*

A review of the systems that are in place will be conducted at the time of audit. The auditor will consider what systems are necessary, whether those that are necessary are in place, and that they work e.g., does the generator start when required? All farmers are expected to have completed the checklist prior to their annual audit and evidence of this will be sought at the time of audit.

At the audit the farm will be assessed against the following prompts:

1. Has the emergency backup systems checklist been completed? Yes/No
2. Are there facilities that are dependent on mechanical ventilation? Yes/No.

If the response is yes to the above questions, then the following will be assessed:

- a) Does every defined air-space dependent on mechanical ventilation have its own alarm system? Y/N
- b) Are an adequate number of persons alerted by the alarm system? Y/N
- c) Is the anticipated response time adequate? Y/N
- d) Are the backup ventilation systems adequate? Y/N
- e) Is there a documented record of annual staff training on the emergency procedures and protocols? Y/N
- f) Was the system(s) tested at audit? Y/N

If the response(s) to Q 2a – e is No, then a corrective action(s) will be issued.

3. Is there a backup water supply in case of power failure? Yes/No

If the response to Q 3 is No, then a corrective action is issued. If the response is Yes, then the following will be assessed:

- a) Was the backup water supply considered adequate? Y/N *If No, a corrective action is issued.*
- b) Was the system(s) tested or checked at audit? Y/N

4. Are the backup systems dependent on a secondary power supply? Y/N

If the response is Yes to the above question, then:

- a) Did the secondary power supply activate when tested? Y/N

If the response to 4a is No, then a corrective action is issued.

In addition to the checklist, as prompts 2f and 3b above suggest, the auditor may require that the system(s) be tested during the audit to confirm that it functions in the manner intended e.g., the auditor may request that the power be shut off to test that the alarm systems are triggered, and that notification of this is received by relevant staff or that staff start the generator (or both).

An alarm system must be connected to a phone app (or similar) that will alert the persons in charge of a failure in any dependent room. It is important that individual rooms are alarmed as failure may be due to an individual fan or controller dying rather than loss of power to the whole farm. The planned response to the alert will also be assessed i.e., normally a response will require someone visiting the farm to start a generator or to fix doors open. In such a

scenario, is the response time suitable? If the response relies on a generator starting automatically, that the generator does so is likely to be tested. Records of routine servicing and testing should be kept.

Where facilities are dependent on artificial ventilation and the response is dependent on a person attending to the problem on farm e.g. in the absence of magnetic drop-outs or some similar system that will create openings for air flow, a response time of less than an hour will be expected. Farms would be expected to be able to respond to an interruption in water flow within six hours.

Depending on the nature of the facilities and the anticipated nature of the response:

- a second and independently wired or powered (e.g., battery operated) temperature monitoring system may be required that will trigger an alert to those persons in charge;
- magnetic dropouts may be required that open doors and vents that are large enough and positioned such that the rooms would naturally ventilate adequately.
- a secondary fan with a separate controller that is set to switch on in the case of temperatures exceeding a set point may be necessary.

Minimum Standard No 10 – Managing interactions between sows and piglets and Regulation 26 – Farrowing crate requirements

- (a) Accommodation for farrowing and lactating sows must be of suitable design and sufficient size to allow the sow to lie down at full length and without leg restriction.
- (b) Support, such as barriers or sloping walls to lean against, must be provided for the sow as she lies down, and she must be able to rise and stand comfortably without undue risk of injury to her litter.
- (c) When in a farrowing crate, the sow must be able to avoid all of the following: touching both sides of the crate simultaneously, touching the front and the back of the crate simultaneously, and touching the top of the crate when standing.
- (d) The farrowing system must provide an area to which the piglets can retreat when the sow moves.
- (e) If sows are to be confined in farrowing crates before farrowing, it must be for no more than five days.
- (f) If sows are to be confined in farrowing crates for lactation, it must be for no more than four weeks after farrowing.
- (g) Notwithstanding (f), nurse sows may be retained in a farrowing crate for a further week for fostering purposes. This is conditional on no more than 5% of sows in any herd at any one time being retained as nurse sows.
- (h) Sows, in any farrowing system constructed after 3 December 2010, must be provided with material that can be manipulated until farrowing.

Questions

1. When in a farrowing crate, sows must be able to avoid touching both sides of the crate simultaneously. Is this complied with?
2. When in a farrowing crate sows must be able to avoid touching the front and back of the crate simultaneously. Is this complied with?
3. When in a farrowing crate sows must not touch the top of the crate when standing. Is this complied with?

Notes: This is largely self-evident. Farrowing crates must be big enough for the sow they hold.

Minimum Standard No 11 – Managing Dry Sows and Regulation 27

- (a) Pigs must not be confined to stalls unless—
 - i) the confinement is for the purpose of mating; and
 - ii) the confinement is for no more than 7 days per reproductive cycle; and
 - iii) the pigs are released from the stalls as soon as practicable after mating.
- (b) Where sows and gilts are group housed, they must be managed to minimise the effects of aggression.
- (c) Where sows and gilts are housed in stalls for the purpose of mating, they must be able to stand in their natural stance without contact with any side of the stall and be able to lie comfortably on their sides without disturbing neighbouring sows or gilts.
- (d) Sows and gilts that are in stalls for the purpose of mating must have a dry, smooth, non-slip sleeping area.

- (e) If individually confined in a pen, sows and gilts must have sufficient space so that they can stand up, turn around without touching the walls, and lie comfortably in a natural position, and must be provided with separate dunging, lying and eating areas.
- (f) Individual pigs that are not coping well must be provided with alternative management.
- (g) Pigs must not be restrained by tethering.

Questions

1. Are mating stalls used?
2. How many mating stalls are on the farm?
3. Are sows confined to a stall for the sole purpose of mating?
4. Sows and gilts confined in a stall for mating purposes must be housed for no more than 7 days per reproductive cycle and released from stalls as soon as practicable after mating. Is this complied with?
5. Is the pig released from the stall as soon as practicable after mating?
6. Is there documentation on-farm to confirm that sows spend no more than seven days in a mating stall?

Notes: Stalls must be large enough to house the sow that is in them and be ‘comfortable’ i.e. no puddles on the floor, floor not too rough etc. (11c). The questions relate to Regulation 27 that prohibits the use of stalls for anything other than mating. The longest you are allowed to keep a sow in a stall for is for 7 days although it is expected that if they don’t need to be in the stall for this long, they are moved before 7 days has elapsed. Of course – how can one tell? For this reason, Regulation 27 states that “The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig that is confined to a stall must keep records that document compliance”. This need only be a simple recording system that enables the auditor to rapidly determine that the sows in the mating stalls at the time of the audit were not in the stalls more than seven days ago. A simple sheet of paper with each stall’s number (you need to number your stalls) occupying a column and the dates that the sows were brought into the stalls is all that is required.

Minimum Standard No 12 – Managing Boars

- (a) Boars must be provided with sufficient space so that they can stand up, turn around and lie comfortably in a natural position, and that provides for separation of dunging, lying and eating areas.
- (b) Boars must not be tethered or kept in stalls.

Notes: This is self-explanatory and will either get an OK or not OK.

Minimum Standard No 5 – Shelter for Pigs Outdoors

- (a) Pigs must have access, at all times, to shelter that is adequately ventilated and provides protection from extremes of heat and cold.
- (b) Pigs must have access, at all times when they are not in farrowing crates or stalls outdoors, to a dry area that is large enough to allow the pigs to stand up, turn around, and lie down in a natural position.
- (c) Faeces or urine must not be allowed to accumulate in any area in which the pig is kept to an extent that may pose a threat to the health or welfare of the pigs.

Notes: The suitability of the shelter provided for each category of stock is rated OK or not OK, with the latter attracting a Corrective Action. Pigs kept outdoors must have access to a purpose-built shelter(s) that is big enough for all the pigs in the area (paddock) to lie comfortably within the shelter(s) at the same time. The shelter must be dry and provide shelter from through winds. In winter, these shelters would be expected to have some form of bedding.

Minimum Standard No 9 – Behaviour

Pigs must be managed in a manner that provides them sufficient opportunities to express and satisfy their normal behaviours. These include, but are not limited to, feeding, drinking, sleeping, dunging and urination, vocalisation, thermoregulation, and social contact.

Notes: The auditor will rate the behavior of each category of stock (e.g. weaners, growers, dry sows, lactating sows, boars) as Ok or not OK. This Minimum Standard is somewhat subjective. The auditor will make a judgement by assessing both the behavior of the pigs and their environment. For instance, pigs that are unusually fearful of people would be cause for alarm. The presence of vices (flank biting, tail biting, ear biting) is a sign of discontent even though it is often completely out of the farmer's power to prevent. If the vices are evident, evidence of efforts to address the problem would be expected e.g. are there chains dangling in the pen? Rocks? Tyres? Porcichews?

Section 2.9: Health, injury and disease

Minimum Standard No 18 – Management of Health and Injury

- (a) The owner or person in charge must check pigs at least once each day for signs of ill-health or injury and must undertake timely preventative or remedial action as appropriate.
- (b) Those responsible for the care of pigs must be competent at recognising the signs of good health, ill health, or injury and must consult a veterinarian as appropriate.
- (c) Medication must only be used in accordance with registration conditions, and the manufacturer's instructions or professional advice.
- (d) Piglets must receive sufficient iron to prevent anaemia.
- (e) Contaminated bedding, faeces and urine must not accumulate to the extent that they pose a threat to the health and welfare of pigs.

Notes: All pigs must be inspected at least once each day. During the walk of the farm the auditor will observe the health and wellbeing of the pigs by looking for signs consistent with disease such as diarrhea, excessive coughing, lameness, body condition, and presence of wounds etc. A rating (OK or not OK) will be given for each category of pig on the farm. Any pig with a serious injury would be expected to be in a recovery pen. The auditor will expect to be shown the recovery pen(s) at which time the recording system and other matters related to the management of compromised pigs will be reviewed and what is being done compared to what is supposed to be done according to the farms documented protocol.

Restricted Veterinary Medicines

Questions

1. Do the treatment records, current Treatment Plan, stock on hand and an interview with the farm staff indicate that the farm uses any fluoroquinolones or 3rd & 4th generation cephalosporins?
2. Is there an up to date RVM authority?

Notes: The first question relates to the classes of antibiotics that the industry has voluntarily chosen not to use. The auditor will ask to see the 'RVM' authority. This is the document provided by your veterinarian that details the products you have been authorized by them to hold on your farm in anticipation of a need. The RVM authority should include all the restricted veterinary medicines present on the farm and have identified at least one need for each product. Products should be used in accordance with the RVM authority (product choice, dose rate, withholding period). The auditor may ask to examine the drug cupboard or fridge and check the products against the RVM authority and for their expiry date.

Needle management

Questions

1. Does the farm have needle management guidelines and do these comply with those of NZPork?
2. Do the guidelines provide guidance on where to inject pigs, needle size, needle replacement, needle disposal and the procedure to be followed should a needle break and remain in the pig?

Notes: This series of questions seeks to ensure that you think about the use of needles on your farm. Essentially, the auditor will want to know that you know pigs should be injected reasonably high up on the neck, and that you need to use clean and sharp needles, which is ensured by changing the needles sufficiently often. Of critical importance,

however, is what you do when a needle breaks in a pig. It is for this reason that you are expected to have a documented policy on this matter, be it something you have developed yourself or picked up from NZPork.

Section 3: Presentation Score Card

The Presentation Score Card is split into three parts: facilities, housekeeping and welfare. Within each part there are a number of criteria that are assessed and a score given. If the score for any individual criterion is less than 50%, a Corrective Action is automatically generated. In addition, if the overall score is below 80%, a Corrective Action is issued to improve the overall score even if no individual criterion is below 50%. Take note of the scores available for each criterion. These reflect the relative importance ascribed to each, as well as providing guidance on where to focus your efforts. Keeping weeds under control will have a greater impact on the final score than replacing rusty roof iron (ideally you would be able to do both). Remember that this section of the audit is about perception and public approval. PigCare™ is about providing an assurance to consumers of pork and this goes beyond welfare. A good way of understanding the score you may receive for any criterion is to ask yourself “how would this look on TV” and “would a consumer feel good knowing their pork came from such an environment”. Don’t ask yourself “what has rubbish between buildings got to do with pig welfare”. That is only one aspect of wholesomeness.

FACILITIES			
<p>Notes: This section scores the state of the facilities. It goes without saying that a piggery that is 60 years old will probably score less in this section than a new piggery. For this reason, this section contributes the least to the overall score. It nevertheless provides valuable information. For instance, if a farm does not score highly in Facilities but scores highly in Housekeeping, this would suggest that although it is an old piggery it is well looked after.</p>			
<u>Presentation criteria</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>%</u>
<p>Perimeter fence and locking gates, signage discouraging entry, the driveway is gravelled or sealed and the parking area is well maintained with no mud or holes.</p> <p>Notes: This is largely self-evident. The entry to the farm gives the first impression and as such can significantly influence the perception of the farm.</p>		10	
<p>Rate appearance of roofs of pig sheds. Building gutters should be visibly clear of grass and obstructions.</p> <p>Notes: This is largely self-evident. Only new roofs would score 5/5. For the most part it reflects maintenance although grass growing in and blocking gutters is evidence of poor housekeeping. Auditors are not going to climb onto roofs and inspect them, although often the state of the roof is readily assessed from inside the shed. The state of roofs that are visible from ground have a significant impact on the overall impression of the farm.</p>		5	
<p>Rate appearance of walls of pig sheds.</p> <p>Notes: Here the auditor is looking at the state of the walls – do they have holes in them, broken cladding etc. The walls of a new building would score 5/5.</p>		5	
<p>Rate appearance of windows and doors of pig sheds.</p> <p>Notes: The auditor will consider things such as whether doors and windows are intact. While clean windows reflect housekeeping, dirty windows nevertheless detract from the appearance of the shed.</p>		5	
<p>Rate appearance of outdoor mating and farrowing huts.</p> <p>Notes: Self-explanatory. For indoor farms this 15-points is deleted from the denominator.</p>		15	
<p>Rate the state of repair of the pen divisions and walls.</p> <p>Notes: Pen divisions are expected to be intact. Where there are holes in divisions that enable pigs to move freely into an adjacent pen this is unacceptable and you may well get less than 50%. Broken pen divisions will also often present a hazard to the pigs and a CA may already have been issued under Minimum Standard 6.</p>		5	
<p>Rate the extent of ground grass cover in outdoor paddocks.</p> <p>Notes: Grass cover is very important to nutrient management of outdoor pigs. To get 15/15 all paddocks would need to be fully grassed. Auditors make an allowance for the time of year when scoring ground cover. For indoor farms, this 15-points is deleted from the denominator.</p>		15	

<p>Rate the ability of the facilities to provide a comfortable dry lying area.</p> <p>Notes: This criterion is given the most weight as it is considered the most important. It is a requirement in Regulation 24 that there must be enough dry area for all the pigs in the pen to lie on comfortably. A Corrective Action may have already been issued if there are pens in which there is excessive ponding/inadequate dry area for the pens affected. Often on pig farms where there are some pens that are too wet, these are in one particular building with all other areas of the farm meeting or exceeding the required standard i.e. the farm may still get a score of 15/20 for this criterion despite receiving a Corrective Action.</p>				20
<p>HOUSEKEEPING</p> <p>Notes: This part of the Presentation Score Card relates to aspects of the farm that are deemed to be related to housekeeping. How you look after your farm has a huge influence on how well outsiders assume you look after your pigs. As such, it is the area in which you can have the most influence on how your farm is perceived. It is also the area in which you can most rapidly and easy improve this perception – and your score card result. For instance, to rebuild a shed to improve the facilities will take money and probably consent such that it may not even be realistic. On the other hand, keeping the vegetation in check between your sheds only takes a little time. Thus, to let the vegetation between your sheds ‘go bush’ is unacceptable.</p>				
<p><u>Presentation criteria</u></p>				Score
<p>Rate grass / lawn control and presentation. Appearance of trees and hedges – not excessively untidy or encroaching on the buildings. Control of weeds and other vegetation within the piggery grounds.</p> <p>Notes: A lawnmower can have a huge influence on the perceived welfare of your pigs! To achieve a very high score everything would have to be close to perfect e.g. recently mown lawns, trimmed hedges and no vegetation growing up the sides of buildings (this provides a safe haven for rodents).</p>				20
<p>The manure drains and sumps show no indication of overflows.</p> <p>Notes: Drains and sumps should be maintained in working order.</p>				5
<p>Rate the pig food preparation and storage - tidy and organised with no sign of decaying matter.</p> <p>Notes: This criterion largely relates to the feed mill where feed is compounded on farm. To receive 20/20 the feed mill would have to be spotless (no cobwebs, floors swept, no build of dust, bags of product stacked neatly etc). There also should be no feed spillage under silos. The auditor may reduce the denominator on a farm without a feed mill to reflect the lower amount of area to keep kept tidy. Spilled feed attracts rodents.</p>				20
<p>Unused equipment and materials are collected, stacked tidily. Rubbish has been collected for disposal or destruction.</p> <p>Notes: Junk makes a place look like a junkyard. Much of what is observed lying around many piggeries is material that is broken or exhausted. Such material should be disposed of. Where material is to be stored for a possible later use, this should be stacked neatly and well away from the buildings used to house pigs. Unused equipment and materials provide niches for rodents whether stacked or not.</p>				20
<p>Rate the management, handling and disposal of dead pigs, stillbirths etc.</p> <p>Notes: It is expected that dead pigs are appropriately removed taken to the disposal area on the day they die. The auditor will generally ask to see the disposal area e.g. offal hole, compost pit. Such areas should be covered where possible and well endowed with bait stations or traps to keep them rodent free.</p>				15
<p>The presentation of the staff room and facilities are consistent with a food producing business.</p> <p>Note: A staff room into which staff move without removing their on-farm footwear will not score 5/5.</p>				5

<p>Rate fly control on the farm. Note: It is well recognised that flies are a problem on pig farms during summer months and on some farms or in some buildings all year round. You will be scored down and perhaps receive a Corrective Action (score less than 4) if there are a lot of flies even if you are attempting to control them, as they remain a bad look and this score must reflect this i.e., they don't "present" well. However, a fly problem and no control would attract of score close to 0. In winter if no flies are present the rating is commonly deleted from the denominator to avoid skewing of the score.</p>		10	
<p>Rate the farm's rodent control program as determined in the checklist</p>		20	
<p>Rate the management, placement and security of anticoagulant bait Notes: It is absolutely critical that pigs do not have direct exposure to bait. Such exposure can occur if baits are positioned in places where pigs may gain access, albeit unintentionally, even if the baits are secured (e.g. nailed to a board in an empty pen), if baits are not secured and rats move them to places to which pigs may gain access, or if baits are placed above pens and bits of bait fall into the pen as they are eaten by rodents. Thus, it is expected that all anticoagulant bait used within pig buildings is properly secured, ideally in bait stations and that the bait stations themselves are not accessible to pigs. Any opportunities for primary exposure (pig consuming bait) will always result in a Corrective Action being issued. If you do not believe you can achieve this, do not use anticoagulant baits inside.</p>		10	
<p>Rate the effectiveness of the rodent control program Notes: The auditor will look for evidence of rodent activity when inspecting pig buildings. If 10 live rodents are observed, don't expect a score higher than 0 (which will initiate a Corrective Action). Other evidence will include droppings, dead rodents, gnawing etc.</p>		10	
<p>Farm has a documented protocol for managing compromised pigs and follows it. Notes: This score is carried over from the checklist.</p>		10	
<p>Rate the hygiene of the pig pens and facilities. Notes: Another big contributor to the overall score. Regulation 24 states that faeces or urine must not accumulate in any area in which the pig is kept to an extent that may pose a threat to the health or welfare of the pig. While it may be hard to determine when the health of welfare of the pig is threatened its not hard to manage the accumulation by hosing out pens or replenishing bedding. We see it mostly in pens with solid concrete floors and often this only affects a part of the piggery.</p>		20	
<p>Rate the standard of the ceiling and internal maintenance e.g. cobwebs. Notes: Along with cobwebs, another common problem is old and torn building paper. When hanging from the ceiling it serves none of its intended purpose and should be removed.</p>		5	
<p>Rate the extent to which paddocks are free of hazards and litter. Notes: Self explanatory.</p>		15	
WELFARE			
Presentation criteria		Score	Max
<p>Standard of bedding maintenance in deep litter pens and evidence that this is always managed appropriately. Notes: Bedding in deep litter systems needs to be refreshed sufficiently frequently either by adding fresh bedding on top of existing bedding, turning the bedding or replacing the bedding. Auditors can usually tell if this has just been done for the audit e.g. sows with black lower legs standing in what appears to be fresh superficial layer of bedding. The significant score reflects the importance of not letting deep litter pens turn into bogs which are a very bad look inconsistent with expected housing conditions. If a farm has no deep litter housing, this 30-points is deleted from the denominator. It should be noted that if you</p>		30	

<p>have only a small portion of pigs on deep litter but this bedding is badly managed, this can have a significant impact on your final overall score. So keep it fresh.</p>			
<p>Rate air quality on the farm. Notes: Air quality directly impacts on the health of pigs and staff. While already addressed in Minimum standard 8, it too has a high score that reflects its importance.</p>		20	
<p>Availability of clean and dry lying area in pens. Notes: The provision of a dry lying area is a criterion in the facilities section and a clean lying area is a criterion in housekeeping. When combined with this criterion a total of 60 points is on offer (close to 20% of the overall score). It is worth investing in this area.</p>		20	
<p>Condition of floor... not too rough, not too slippery. Notes: In older sheds with concrete floors, the finer cement fraction is often eroded away leaving behind sharp rough aggregate, especially where milk waste is fed. Farms with such floors need to have an ongoing resurfacing program to ensure they are not hit with a Corrective Action that may require multiple pens to be resurfaced at once.</p>		20	
<p>Rate the stocking density of the farm. Notes: All farms must comply with the minimum space allowances in all areas. Any area that fails to provide this will be issued with a Corrective Action. A score of 20 is not given simply because a farm does not breach the Code requirements, but rather if the space allowance is generous across the farm – say 20% above the minimum.</p>		20	
<p>Rate general condition of stock. Notes: This criterion is a general overall impression of stock condition across the farm. It is amongst sows that poor condition is most commonly encountered. The auditors not only look at average sow condition, which should be above 2.5, but also at the number of sows that are in poor condition and especially any that are below a BCS of 2.0 for which immediate remedial action is required.</p>		25	
<p>Rate the prevalence of lesions (shoulder sores, tail bites, clubfeet etc.). Notes: While the prevalence of the types of lesions may be low as a proportion of the whole herd, we all know that these pigs provide ideal camera fodder and are likely to be the only pigs to be shown on the little screen. It is in your interests to minimise the number of affected pigs and to manage those that occur appropriately. If the decision has been made to cull a sow with particularly ugly shoulder sores, do it today not next week.</p>		20	
<p>Rate access of pigs to wallows or other cooling mechanisms in outdoor farming systems. Notes: Sows outdoors need some way of staying cool on certain days of the year. Traditionally the provision of wallows has been the answer although there is now an awareness that these may be hotspots for nutrient leaching. If outdoor sows are not provided with wallows they should be provided with shade. The obligatory shelter may not be enough on its own as only so many can lie in the shade of the hut. For indoor herds, this 15-points is deleted from the denominator.</p>		15	

INTERNAL AUDIT CHECKLIST: EMERGENCY BACKUP SYSTEMS

For farmers to complete prior to the annual PigCare™ audit and have available for the auditor to check.

Does the farm have rooms that will not naturally ventilate in case of power or equipment failure? If so:	Please  or 			Date
	N/A	No	Yes	
Has the farm worked through how their systems will safeguard animal welfare in the face of failure of individual system components for mechanical ventilation including power, circuit breakers, controllers, fans, sensors, air inlets etc.?				
Have dial out / remote monitoring systems for power or component failure been tested?				
Have independently wired high temperature alarm systems been tested for every room (if applicable)?				
Does the farm have a robust system of re-setting high temperature alarms in different rooms with different setpoints and different external temperatures?				
Does a service log confirm that the generator has been serviced and the battery is recent enough?				
Does a service log confirm that the generator has been tested at least every month?				
Is the generator adequately fueled?				
Is the generator's fuel fresh and stabilised?				
Is there a dropout in every room that requires one as contingency to the above 8 points?				
Has every dropout been tested?				
Has the farm worked through how their systems will safeguard animal welfare in the face of failure of INDIVIDUAL water system components including power, circuit breaker, pump, water supply etc.				
Is there a backup water supply in the event of power or pump failure?				
Is there adequate water storage capacity?				
Is there a backup water pump and generator (where required)?				
Is there means of alerting staff if a water pumping system has stopped (e.g. tank level indicator)?				
Has every room/shelter or pen type been inspected to confirm it would not flood in case of a large water leak e.g. pipe bursting?				
Has the appropriate action for addressing a broken, retained, or lost needle situation been discussed with all farm staff?				
Is the state of repair/functionality of emergency humane slaughter equipment checked, cleaned and lubricated regularly?				
Has the farm completed a fire drill with a hypothetical situation discussed with the staff?				
Is the number and currency of fire extinguishers adequate?				
Is there an operational siren for fire or another emergency?				
Is there a vital equipment checklist to promptly identify at risk items or equipment that needs to be investigated or repaired e.g. fans, air inlets, flooring support systems?				
Are outdoor huts adequately anchored in the event of high wind situations?				
Has the farm trained all relevant staff in operation of the above requirements, where applicable?				

I confirm that the above requirements have been checked prior to the annual PigCare™ audit:

NAME (print): _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____