

H2 - Daily management of finishers



Management

1. Inspect the finishers minimum **once a day** - also during weekends.
2. Check the climate in the facility.
3. Check troughs / feeders.
4. Inspect the pigs when they are active.
5. Make all pigs stand up - throw some straw or use a ratter / paddle.
6. Check for pigs showing signs of disease or acting abnormal.
7. Spray mark pigs with abnormal behaviour.
8. Decide whether to treat the pigs and/or move them to a hospital pen.
9. Check rooting and enrichment materials.



Be aware of

- Pigs that do not get up quickly.
- Pigs that are lame.
- Pigs that heavy-breathing - look at the flank.
- Pigs with tail bites or pigs biting tails.
- Pigs that are not thriving.
- Pigs that do not eat.
- Restless pigs walking around when other pigs are resting.

Additional comments - Daily management of finishers

1. Inspect the pigs minimum once a day - also on weekends.
To be able to evaluate behaviour and health, take the time necessary to make these observations.
On farms with liquid feeding, inspect the pigs during feeding.
Check and clean feed and water supplies if necessary.
2. Take a look at the section through a window, if possible, to see how the pigs act when all is calm. Quietly, walk in, and observe how the pigs lie in the pens.
Also see Fact Sheets on behaviour and climate, for instance H3, H24, H27, H28 and H29
4. The best time to inspect the pigs is between 8 and 10 or 15 and 17 o'clock when they are naturally active.
If the pigs are fed restrictively, it is easy to inspect them during feeding.
If the pigs are fed ad lib, make all the pigs stand up to locate the ones that do not thrive.
5. Once a day, make all the pigs stand up to check on them.
Dry feeding: Supply a handful of, for instance, straw, as that will catch their interest. A paddle with a rattler is also a good tool for making pigs stand up.
Liquid feeding (restrictive feeding): Inspect the pigs approx. 30 minutes after feeding when they have just about finished eating. Pigs with leg injuries and respiratory disorders will often lie down before all the feed has been eaten.
6. Look at the group - are some of the pigs behaving differently? Are there signs of disease?
8. **Moving pigs to a hospital pen / relief pen:** Immediately move sick pigs from the pen to a hospital pen. Treat the pigs in accordance with instructions from the herd vet.