CRITICAL POINT

Section 7.2

Feed- and Water-Management Systems

REFERENCED IN THIS SECTION:

	Number/ Identifier	Name	Importance
	RECORD		
	R-B	Training Record Water Test Result	Mandatory
	FACT SHEET		
	F-12	Body Condition Scoring	–

SECTION 7.2
FEED- AND WATER-MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

REQUIREMENTS

1. Pigs must have daily access to feed.
2. Pigs must have access to suitable water in sufficient quantity to meet their needs.
3. If a liquid-feeding system is being used, supplemental water must be provided as needed.
4. Measures must be taken when breeding stock become overweight.

RATIONALE

a. Appropriate feed-management strategies are crucial to ensure pigs' varying nutritional needs are met throughout the production process (i.e., reproduction, lactation, maintenance, growth).

b. Clean, palatable water is essential for good animal health and production.

GUIDANCE

a. Feed
   i. Nutritionists can provide specific information on the appropriate types of feed ingredients to include in diets based on availability, price and nutritional value. Measures to satisfy appetite as well as nutritional needs are important for pig welfare.
   ii. If animals are not consuming feed, there is likely an underlying cause, either related to animal health or feed quality, which will impact animal welfare and production.
   iii. Newly weaned pigs have very little body reserves and must get established on nursery feed as quickly as possible. Following weaning, it is important to observe pigs frequently to ensure that all are eating. Piglets that fail to adapt can be provided with alternative feeds (e.g., gruel) in a way that encourages feed consumption (e.g., feed trays).
   iv. An animal is considered overweight when its body condition score is 4 or higher.

b. Water
   i. Testing the water supply twice a year helps ensure that water quality is acceptable.
   ii. A "separate source of water" can be a cycle of fresh water through the liquid-feeding system.
   iii. Water drinkers (equipment) should also be tested regularly to ensure adequate flow rates and to check for leaks to minimize waste.

AUDIT QUESTIONS

Q#	Audit Questions and Interpretation	Verification				
		Compliant	NC-Minor	NC-Major	NC-Critical	N/A
Q7.2.1	Verify that all pigs have daily access to feed.	Full and partial validation: › observation (full validation only) › interview				
	Do all pigs have daily access to feed?	☐	⦸	☐	☐	⦸
Q7.2.2	Verify that all pigs have access to suitable water in sufficient quantity to meet their needs (i.e. there are no signs of dehydration or excessive competition) and the drinkers are accessible to all pigs (e.g. set as the right height).	Full and partial validation: › observation (full validation only) › interview				
	Do pigs have access to suitable water in sufficient quantity to meet their needs?	☐	⦸	☐	☐	⦸
Q7.2.3	Verify that supplemental water is provided as needed if a liquid-feeding system is used.	Full and partial validation: › interview				
	If a liquid-feeding system is being used, is supplemental water provided as needed?	☐	☐	⦸	⦸	☐
Q7.2.4	Verify that measures are taken when breeding stock become overweight.	Full and partial validation: › interview				
	Are measures taken when breeding stock become overweight?	☐	☐	⦸	⦸	☐

N/A = not applicable

LEVELS OF COMPLIANCE – EXAMPLES

COMPLIANT

- All pigs have daily access to feed.
- Water is being provided in sufficient quantity to meet the animals' requirements.
- If a liquid-feeding system is being used, supplemental water is provided, as needed.

MINOR NON-COMPLIANCE Timeline: 60 days

- For liquid-feeding systems, there is no evidence of water being provided separately from the feed (e.g., absence of separate water-delivery system or absence of strategies to provide supplemental water, if needed).

MAJOR NON-COMPLIANCE Timeline: 30 days

- Pigs do not have daily access to feed.
- There are signs of dehydration due to inadequate water provision (poor quality or not enough) and drinkers are not accessible to all pigs.

CRITICAL NON-COMPLIANCE Timeline: 24 hours

- Failure to provide adequate food and water resulting in significant harm or death to the animals.