


## Section 7.4

# Environmental Comfort and Lighting

---

### REFERENCED IN THIS SECTION:

Number/ Identifier	Name	Importance
 <b>RECORD</b>		
R-O	Observation Record	Highly recommended

---

## SECTION 7.4

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMFORT AND LIGHTING

### REQUIREMENTS

1. All pigs must be provided with a comfortable environment that includes
  - a. a temperature that is suitably controlled at all stages of production
  - b. ventilation that is adequately controlled at all stages of production, and
  - c. an adequate amount of lighting at all stages of production.

### RATIONALE

- a. Suitable temperature, adequate ventilation and lighting are all critical for pigs' health, welfare and comfort.
- b. Continuous lighting, particularly very bright lighting, as well as continuously dark conditions, have a negative effect on pig welfare.

---

### GUIDANCE

- a. It is recommended that you record any observation that would indicate an issue with the temperature, ventilation or lighting in Observation Record (R-O), especially if the issue could impact the pigs' welfare.
- b. It is recommended that you develop an action plan for the control of temperature and ventilation in extreme weather conditions.
- c. **Temperature:**
  - i. The effective temperature, i.e., the temperature that the pigs feel, depends on many factors such as air temperature, air flow, humidity, flooring material, bedding, dryness of the floor, size of the pigs, group size, feed type and intake, and health status.
  - ii. The temperature at pig level may differ by several degrees from the temperature measured at higher levels.
- d. **Ventilation:**
  - i. Adequate ventilation will help minimize unpleasant and harmful gases, minimize dust, and control barn humidity.
  - ii. Gases of concern in swine facilities are ammonia, hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide and methane.
  - iii. It is recommended that the ammonia level be measured and a target level set at below 25 ppm. Causes for high ammonia levels include insufficient ventilation, dirty floors, and practices that release ammonia from the pit.
- e. **Lighting:**
  - i. When awake, pigs prefer a lit environment, but prefer to sleep in the dark.
  - ii. Piglets and weanling pigs may benefit from additional hours of light in order to find their food.

## ? AUDIT QUESTIONS

Q.#	Audit Questions and Interpretations	Verification			
		Compliant	NC-Minor	NC-Major	N/A
Q7.4.1	Verify that the temperature is suitable and ventilation is being adequately controlled for the pigs at all stages of production. If pigs have access to the outdoors, go to section 10.2 to complete this question.	<b>Full and partial validation:</b> > observation (full validation only)			
	<b>a. Is the temperature suitably controlled at all stages of production?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>b. Is the ventilation adequately controlled at all stages of production?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Verify that an adequate amount of lighting is being provided to the pigs at all stages of production.  <b>Code of Practice requirements:</b> Lighting that is bright enough for someone to inspect the pigs and read documents must be provided to the pigs for a minimum of eight hours per day.  Darkness, or access to a darkened area, must be provided to the pigs for at least six consecutive hours per day (with the exception of heating devices in farrowing areas, and the first 48 hours for newly weaned pigs, and natural lighting in geographic areas where darkness lasts less than six hours).	<b>Full validation:</b> > observation > interview			
<b>c. Is an adequate amount of lighting provided at all stages of production?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

N/A = not applicable.



## LEVELS OF COMPLIANCE – EXAMPLES

### COMPLIANT

- › Interview questions were answered sufficiently to indicate compliance with the requirements.
- › Pigs appear to be relatively comfortable with the ventilation and temperature.
- › Lighting at all stages of production, when on, is bright enough to inspect the pigs and read written documents.

### MINOR NON-COMPLIANCE **Timeline: 12 months**

- › Interview questions were not answered sufficiently enough to indicate compliance with the requirements.
- › Pigs are not provided with adequate lighting for at least eight hours per day and with dark conditions for at least six hours per day.
- › Lighting, when on, is not bright enough to inspect pigs or read written documents.

### MAJOR NON-COMPLIANCE – Not applicable