



SOP 7.6 CARE OF SICK AND INJURED PIGS

★ CRITICAL CONTROL POINT

This standard operating procedure (SOP) can be used as a template.
If you develop your own version, all required elements must be included.

PID#:

Site manager: Person in charge:

IDENTIFICATION OF VETERINARIAN

This plan for the care of sick and injured pigs was developed in consultation with a licensed veterinarian with whom a veterinarian–client–patient relationship has been established.

Name of veterinarian:

PROTOCOL

Designated personnel must follow this protocol every time pigs are observed.	Applied On-Farm	Importance
1. The site manager must ensure the person in charge of this protocol has been adequately trained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory
2. Daily observation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory
a. Monitor all pigs at least daily for signs of sickness, injuries and behavioural vices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Management of behavioural problems (vices)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Highly recommended
a. If behavioural vices (such as tail biting, belly nosing, sucking, aggression and fighting) are detected, promptly investigate the potential causes of the problem.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Some of the factors to look into in the event of a behavioural vice include:	<input type="checkbox"/>	
i. Environmental:		
» temperature		
» ventilation		
ii. Feed/water-related:	<input type="checkbox"/>	
» nutrient deficiency		
» other:		
iii. Management-related:		
» mixing practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	
» other:		
iv. Health-related:		
» disease outbreak		
» other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	
c. Take action to deal with the specific issue, especially for those pigs directly affected.		

Designated personnel must follow this protocol every time pigs are observed.	Applied On-Farm	Importance
4. Treatment and monitoring a. Treat sick or injured pigs according to their condition.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. If necessary, segregate sick or injured pigs to prevent worsening their condition. i. Segregation method: _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory
ii. Some conditions that may require pigs to be segregated include: » moderate-to-severe lameness » <i>other:</i> _____ » <i>other:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Highly recommended
c. Increase feed ration for thin animals. d. Perform medication treatments according to your Medications and Vaccine Usage Plan. e. Record medication treatments in the Treatment Record. f. Monitor sick or injured pigs at least daily or more frequently, if appropriate for their condition. i. <i>Frequency of monitoring sick pens:</i> _____ g. Record mortalities on the Mortality Record (R-M).	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Timely euthanasia a. Identify when it is time to euthanize a pig (refer to Euthanasia Decision Tree fact sheet): i. A pig must be euthanized when it is in severe pain/suffering that is not immediately treatable, or is sick, injured, in pain or suffering and any of the following are true: » it is unlikely to recover » its condition is untreatable » it has been treated and its condition is worsening » it has not responded to treatment within _____ days » it is unfit for immediate transport (i.e., transport within _____ days) b. When the decision has been made to euthanize a pig, euthanize it immediately (within minutes) according to your Euthanasia SOP (SOP 7.10).	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory

Designated personnel must follow this protocol every time pigs are observed.	Applied On-Farm	Importance
<p>6. Consultation with herd veterinarian</p> <p>a. Contact your herd veterinarian if you have concerns about the number of sick or injured pigs, or when pigs are not responding to treatment protocols.</p> <p>b. Advise the herd veterinarian if a reportable disease is suspected.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory
<p><i>Other good production practices:</i></p> <hr/> <hr/>		

RECORDS

Name of Record		Importance
R-P	Medication and Vaccine Usage Plan	Mandatory
R-T	Treatment Record	
R-M	Mortality Record	
R-O	Observation Record	Highly recommended