

Section 2.1

Barn Maintenance

REFERENCED IN THIS SECTION:

Number/ Identifier	Name	Importance
 RECORD		
R-E	Inspection Checklist	Highly recommended

SECTION 2.1

BARN MAINTENANCE

REQUIREMENTS

1. The barns used to house pigs must be free of obvious deterioration.
2. The barns' environmental control systems must be adequately maintained.
3. Pigs must not have access to treated wood (where pigs have the opportunity to chew on it), including pressure-treated wood (e.g., treated with pentachlorophenol, chromated copper arsenate or other wood-preserving agents) in their housing system.

RATIONALE

- a. Maintenance of the barns is essential to avoid introducing harmful pests or pathogens.
- b. Ventilation, heating and cooling systems are crucial to control the level of humidity in the barn. Humidity is the most important factor that impacts the survival of microorganisms. Therefore, maintaining an adequate humidity level is essential for food safety. Low humidity level will allow the barns to dry completely in situations where it is advantageous to do so from a health perspective, such as between batches and in the farrowing rooms.
- c. When ingested by pigs, the chemicals used to preserve treated wood will remain in their fat, which can result in residue in the meat.
- d. The barns' design and building materials (e.g., sharp materials, nails) are both crucial factors in facilitating sanitation, preventing injuries to the pigs and ensuring the safety of the meat that will be produced.
- e. It is good management practice to keep electrical panels, generators and transformers at least three feet away from flammable materials.

GUIDANCE

- a. A hygrometer could be used to verify and record the barn's humidity level.
- b. A chute made of treated wood is acceptable, since pigs are not exposed for a significant period of time; however, it is not recommended. The wood should be treated with products approved for such use in Canada, not with homemade oil-derived products.
- c. Wood is difficult to clean and disinfect, and it can increase the risk of cross-contamination.

AUDIT QUESTIONS

Q#	Audit Questions and Interpretations	Verification			
		Compliant	NC-Minor	NC-Major	N/A
Q2.1.1	<p>Verify that the barns used to house pigs are free of obvious deterioration that could give the pigs access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. other chemical hazards b. biological hazards. <p>Verify the barn's exterior walls are free from obvious deterioration, which could give access to pests.</p> <p>If pigs have access to the outdoor, go to section 10.2 to complete this question.</p>	<p>Full Validation:</p> <p>➤ observation</p>			
	<p>Are the barns that are used to house pigs free of obvious deterioration that could interfere with the production of safe pork?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Q2.1.2	<p>Verify that the ventilation, heating and cooling systems are maintained adequately by ensuring the following measures are in place to control temperature and humidity in the barn(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. fans and heaters are working b. air intakes are clear. 	<p>Full Validation:</p> <p>➤ observation</p>			
	<p>Are the ventilation, heating and cooling systems maintained adequately?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q2.1.3	<p>Verify that pigs do not have access to treated wood, including pressure-treated wood (e.g., treated with pentachlorophenols (PCPs), chromated copper arsenate or other wood-preserving agents) in their housing system or any other area accessible to pigs (i.e., where they could chew on it).</p> <p>Treated wood chutes are acceptable, as pig are not exposed for a significant period of time.</p> <p>If pigs have access to the outdoor, go to section 10.2 to complete this question.</p>	<p>Full and Partial Validation:</p> <p>➤ observation (full validation only)</p>			
	<p>Are the housing system or other areas accessible to pigs free from any treated wood?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

N/A = not applicable



LEVELS OF COMPLIANCE – EXAMPLES

COMPLIANT

- › The building is free of obvious deterioration that could interfere with the production of safe pork.
- › Environmental controls are well maintained.
- › Pigs do not have access to treated wood in their housing system.

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

- › Environmental controls are not maintained adequately.

MAJOR NON-COMPLIANCE **Timeline: 60 days**

- › Obvious signs of deterioration are present which give the pigs access to chemical or biological hazards.
- › Pigs have access to treated wood in their housing system.