European Commission

Production rules Pigs/Porcine animals Technical discussions

COP

26-27
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General approach for pigs

- Conservative approach status quo with the previous rules
- Stocking densities as in Annex IV of Regulation 889/2008
- Minimum surface areas indoors and outdoors based on Annex III of Regulation 889/2008
- All straw systems (FR) to discuss
- Need to take into account changes introduced in the organic reform for the collection of data
- Mutilations clarifications
- Terminology categories of pigs same as in CD 2008/120/EC or as in Annex III of Regulation 889/2008
- Stocking densities (previously Annex IV of Regulation 889/2008)

(DK) the limit on organic nitrogen linked to the total stocking density should be handled at national level

- Comments received from FR, DK, DE, AT, SE, ES, NL, UK
- Clarifications on 1.9.3.2 (d) restriction movement reasons should be specified to prevent different interpretations that might lea to different periods of movement restriction.

Implementing act
Livestock production rules Art 14

Article 14 Livestock production rules

3. The Commission shall, where appropriate, adopt implementing acts regarding Part II of Annex II providing rules on:

(a) The **minimum period** to be complied **with for feeding of sucking animals with maternal milk**, referred to in point 1.4.1(g);

(b) the **stocking density and the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas** that are to be complied with for specific livestock species to ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met in accordance with points 1.6.3, 1.6.4 and 1.7.2.

(c) the **characteristics of and technical requirements for the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas**;

(d) the **characteristics of and technical requirements for buildings and pens for all livestock species** other than bees, to ensure that the developmental, physiological and ethological needs of animals are met in accordance with point 1.7.2;

(e) **requirements for vegetation and the characteristics of protected facilities and open air areas.**

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 55(2).

Minimum period
for feeding of porcine animals with maternal milk
Basis for technical discussions

All suckling porcine animals shall be fed in preference on maternal milk, for a minimum period of 40 days.

(DE, NL, AT) All suckling porcine animals shall be fed in preference on maternal milk. **The minimum suckling period referred to in point 1.4.1 (g) of Part II of Annex II for pigs is 40 days.**

(ES) the term **in preference** is ambiguous and should be eliminated or at least specified.

(AT) how to handle situations where mother sow is dead or seriously ill and no possibility of redistributing the suckling piglets to other sows

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Minimum surface areas indoors and outdoors for porcine animals Basis for technical discussions

The minimum surface areas indoors and outdoors and other characteristics for housing porcine animals shall be as follows:

	Indoors area (net area available to animals)		**Outdoors area (exercise area, excluding pasturage**
	Live weight minimum (kg) or sex	m^2/ head	m^2/ head
Farrowing sows with piglets ~~up to 40 days~~ DE until weaning AT		7,5	2,5 DE 3,5
Fattening porcine animals	Up to 50	0,8	0,6
	Up to 85	1,1	0,8
	Up to 110	1,3	1
	more than 110 (DE, DK, AT)	1,5 (DE, DK, ES)	1,2 (DE, DK)
Piglets DE after weaning AT	AT up to 20 kg DE ~~Over 40 days and~~ up to 30 kg	0,4 0,6	0,4
Brood pigs	Female	2,5 (DE) 4	1,9 (DE) 3
	Male	~~6 if pens used for natural service: 10 m^2/boar~~ DE 10	8,0

Basis for technical discussions: categories of animals

- Consistency of terminology with CD 2008/120/EC: pig, boar, gilt, sow, farrowing sow, dry pregnant sow, piglet, weaner, rearing pig

- (ES) consistency of terminology is needed, especially for terms that affect the introduction of non-organic animals
- (AT) to subsume dry pregnant sows under the category of brood pigs
- (AT) to subsume gilts under the category of fattening porcine animals

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Basis for technical discussions: Indoors area stocking desnsity

- **Net available area or unobstructed floor area as in CD 2008/120/EC Art 3 (1) (a)**

(DE) net available area means inside dimensions, including troughs, exclusive automatic feeders

(NL) net available area includes inside dimensions, including troughs, excluding individual feed boxes

(ES) organic farming must be distinguished precisely by the available areas, we do NOT agree to match these areas to CD 2008/120.

(AT) boars with regard to existing provisions the net available area should be used

- **Fattening pigs >110 kg indoors area see Annex III Reg 889/2008**

- **Indoors areas requirement for boars** identical in Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I Chapter II or larger

Basis for technical discussions: all straw systems

- **« All straw » systems** :
- different ratios between indoors and outdoors minimum surface areas but same overall surface (FR)
- (DE) minimum outdoor area shall not be reduced. Indoor area can be reduced when outdoor area is expanded accordingly. (FR)
- Covered open-air areas, outdoor climate (FR).
- (DE) in the outdoor area animals shall be exposed to weather conditions.
- (NL) an enlargement of the indoors area with a simultaneous reduction of the outdoors area would lead to increase excrement and urination in the indoors area, combined with corresponding burden of the air. Furthermore, it would prevent pigs to live in open air areas. Moreover, straw bedding could possibly lead to AH problems (Salmonella) as pigs lie on scalding straw.

Basis for technical discussions: all straw systems

- **« All straw » systems** :

- *(AT) FR-Proposal "all straw systems": Straw-littered areas, both indoors and outdoors, are welcome from a technical point of view and are standard in AT (especially in new buildings, such systems are implemented without elements of slatted construction and with litter). The currently valid EU organic regulations already require sufficient litter and substrates for rooting. Open air areas guarantee outdoor climate and light stimuli as well as the intake of fresh air and are better accepted by the animals when designed in a speciesappropriate way to pass urine and excrement, so that indoors areas remain dry and clean. Due to the specific behaviour of pigs to create excretion areas, an enlargement of the indoors area with a simultaneous reduction of the outdoors area would lead to increased excrement and urination in the indoors area, combined with a corresponding burden of the air. Due to climatic conditions (e.g. heavy rainfall, snow), a predominant roofing is recommended which on the one hand meets the speciesrelated needs for external climate and air stimuli and on the other hand impedes weather-related pollution.*

Characteristics of and technical requirements for the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas

- *(FR) interpretation required on articulation between AII PII 1.6.8 « cages, boxes and flat decks to raise livestock shall not be used for any livestock species » and AII PII 1.9.3.2 (b) « the housing shall be provided with a comfortable, clean and dry laying or rest area of sufficient size, consisting of a solid construction which is not slatted ».*

Characteristics of and technical requirements for the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas

- *(DK) requirements needed on shelters and on access to regulation of body temperature*

Characteristics of and technical requirements for the minimum surface for indoor and outdoor areas

- *(DE) at least half of the indoor surface area and at least half of the outdoor surface area referred to in Article 14(3)(c) shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or of grid construction.*
- *(DK, NL) current requirements of Art 11(2) of Reg 889/2008 should be copied saying « at least half of the indoor surface area as specified in Annex III shall be solid, that is, not of slatted or grid construction. »*
- *(AT) either add in the table under « indoors area » that half of the indoors area must be of solid construction or define the extent of the laying/rest area*

Characteristics of and technical requirements for buildings and pens

- *(DE) for suckling piglets and weaned piglets up to 30 kg protected farrow nests allowing to generate a suitable microclimate shall be available for free access.*
- *(SE) clarifications required on AII PII 1.6.10 oragnic livestock may not be reared in a pen on very wet or marshy soil.*

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Transitional period

- *(DE) For changes with regard to the current provisions which require structural measures a transitional period of 20 years from the beginning of the application of Reg.(EU) 2018/848 is necessary for livestock production holdings with existing buildings, constructed before the beginning of the application of Reg.(EU) 2018/848 and in so far as these livestock buildings comply with former provisions (Reg.(EC) No 834/2007 and Reg.(EC) No 889/2008)*

Data to be collected by MS for porcine animals According to Article 26(2)(b)

- MS **to have** in place systems to allow operators to make public on a voluntary basis and free of charge information for:
- **Organic porcine animals of less than 35 kg**
- **Organic adult porcine male animals**
- **Organic adult porcine nulliparous female animals**

- Names and contact details of operators
- Number of available animals categorised by sex
- Species of animals, if relevant breeds and strains available
- Races of the animals
- ~~Age of the animals~~ (AT) date of birth more suitable in practice
- Any other relevant information
- (AT)For animal species or categories with national organic availability (e.g. in AT gilts and breeding piglets), it should be possible, in the interests of a sustainable public administration in the member states, not to set up systems for the publication of information in accordance with Article 26.

Data to be collected by MS for porcine animals According to Article 26(3)

- MS **may set up** systems to allow operators to make public on a voluntary basis and free of charge information for:
- **Breeds and strains of porcine animals adapted to organic production**
- Names and contact details of operators
- (UK) Regarding data to be collected by MS for porcine animals according to Article 26(2)(b): suggest that this can take the form of online notice board, such as the examples below that are run by two UK CBs:

https://www.soilassociation.org/farmers-growers/market-information/organicmarketplace/

http://ofgorganic.org/classifieds/for-sale/

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Data to be collected by MS for porcine animals According to Article 26(3)

- MS **may set up** systems to allow operators to make public on a voluntary basis and free of charge information for:
- **Breeds and strains of porcine animals adapted to organic production**
- Names and contact details of operators

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Transmission of information by MS to the COM and other MS Article 53(6)

By 30 June of each year, Member States **shall make available** to the Commission and to the other Member States:

(a) **information provided** in the database referred to in Article 26(1) and **in the systems referred to in Article 26(2) and, if relevant, in the systems referred to in Article 26(3);**

(b) information on the **derogations** granted in accordance with point 1.8.5 of Part I of Annex II and points 1.3.4.3 and 1.3.4.4 of Part II of Annex II **(non-organic porcine animals <35kg, adult male and nulliparous female porcine animals);** and

(c) information on the **availability on the Union market of organic protein feed for** poultry and **porcine animals** and on the **authorisations granted** in accordance with points **1.9.3.1(c)** and 1.9.4.2(c) of Part II of Annex II.

(DK) It will be difficult for MS to assess the availability of organic protein feed as we have not got any tool to supervise this question (as a database for instance). As an alternative, it might be an idea to deliver data on "the use of non-organic protein feed". This would be more in line with the evaluation of derogations for plants and animals, and could give a good picture of the protein feed situation.

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Implementing Act Article 26(7)
Collection of data concerning the availability on the market of organic animals

Article 26 (7)

The Commission **may** adopt **implementing acts** providing:

(a) technical details for establishing and maintaining the databases referred to in paragraph 1 and the systems referred to in paragraph 2;

(b) specifications as regards the collection of information referred to in paragraph 1 and 2;

(c) specifications as regards the arrangements for participation in the databases referred to in paragraph 1 and in the systems referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3; and

(d) details as regards the information to be provided by Member States in accordance with Article 53(6).

Implementing Act Article 26(7)
Collection of data concerning the availability on the market of organic animals and protein feed
Basis for technical discussions

- IA different options but the same general approach

OFIS, COM to have dedicated website with link to MS systems

Example from COM website on seeds database

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/eu-policy/eu-rules-on-production/seeds-database_en

- Inputs from MS with current systems/databases needed to fix these details
- FIBL presentation
- AT, UK flexible approach is welcome

ORGANIC SEED DATABASES

A fundamental principle in organic farming is the use of seeds produced organically. The member states maintain an online database in order to facilitate the acquisition of such seeds. Suppliers can enter organically produced seeds and seed potatoes that are available for purchase in this list.

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Nordic countries
- Several countries

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