



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Health and food audits and analysis
F2 - Animals

Grange,
SANTE.F2 [REDACTED]

Subject: Clarifications on request for Action Plans to improve controls on the prevention of tail-biting and avoidance of tail-docking

Dear Member State Representative,

You recently received a letter from the Deputy Director General (DDG) of DG Health and Food Safety on Actions to prevent tail-biting and reduce tail-docking of pigs. The letter requested Member States to prepare concrete Action Plans to improve controls on the prevention of tail-biting and avoidance of tail-docking so that these measures will be in full compliance with the relevant legislative provisions by the end of 2018.

I would like to stress again, that the measures the Commission services expect Member States to take are aimed at ensuring compliance with the basic legal requirements laid down in Directives 98/58/EC and 2008/120/EC. One of these basic legal requirements is that where injuries to tails/ears are recorded and necessitate the need for tail-docking, improvement measures must be undertaken to work towards the avoidance of tail-docking.

During the recent DG SANTE meeting in Ireland (28-30 November 2017) on rearing pigs with intact tails in the EU the discussions showed that participants were not fully clear on what the Commission services were looking for in these Action Plans.

Therefore, I attach below some indications of what the Commission services expect from these plans as a minimum. Action plans should provide clear objectives and deadlines by end January 2018 stating how compliance with the Directive, taking into account the four points in Annex I, will be achieved during 2018.

For your convenience, we are suggesting a template you could use to submit the required Action Plan (Annex IV). It contains the suggested minimum requirements.

Action plans should be submitted no later than 30th January 2018 to: sante-consult-f2@ec.europa.eu.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Enc: Annex I: Minimum requirements for Action Plans
Annex II: Examples of compliance criteria
Annex III: Examples of improvement measures beyond legal minimum requirements
Annex IV: Action Plan Template

1. Drawing up compliance criteria and making them publicly available

Several of the legal requirements of Directives 2008/120/EC and 98/58/EC are related to the environmental and management risk factors for tail-biting as they are mentioned in the Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336. In order to effectively enforce these legal requirements related to environmental and management risk factors for tail-biting, Member States must set clear compliance criteria to enable their inspectors (and the pig-sector) to make a judgement about whether farms and pig production management comply with the existing law

In addition, Article 3 of Directive 98/58/EC requires that owners or keepers take all reasonable steps to ensure the welfare of animals under their care and to ensure that those animals are not caused any unnecessary pain, suffering or injury. Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336, which is underpinned by the requirement in Directive 2008/120/EC that tail-docking is not carried out routinely, provides guidance on the steps which might be taken on a pig farm to ensure that tail docking is not a routine procedure. Article 2(b) of this Recommendation also asks Member States to draw up compliance criteria with the requirements set out in legislation and make them publicly available.

The following table lists certain legal requirements for which compliance criteria are needed. However, this does not preclude the use of others (e.g. assessment of compliance with requirements for age of weaning, daily inspection of animals, mixing of animals) as part of the management of risk factors.

Table 1

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirements: Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC |
|---|--|
| Enrichment material | “permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) |
| Cleanliness | “a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3) |
| Thermal comfort and air quality | “air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10) |
| Health status | "sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1) “sick or injured animals shall be accommodated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 4) "specialised housings (for piglets weaned less than 28 days of age) which are separated from housings where sows are kept" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, C3) |
| Competition for food and space | “unobstructed floor area” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Article 3, 1a). "measures taken to prevent fighting (...) adequate opportunities to escape |

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| | and hide from other pigs" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, D 1, 2) "feeding and watering equipment must be designed constructed and placed so that (...) the harmful effects of competition between the animals are minimised" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 17) "permanent access to a sufficient quantity of fresh water" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 7) |
| Diet | "animals must be fed a wholesome diet appropriate to their age and species and which is fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and satisfy their nutritional needs." (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 14) |
| | Point 8 of Annex I of Chapter I of Directive 2008/120/EC "Neither tail-docking nor reduction of corner teeth must be carried out routinely but only where there is evidence that injuries to sows' teats or to other pigs' ears or tails have occurred. Before carrying out these procedures, other measures shall be taken to prevent tail-biting and other vices, taking into account environment and stocking densities. For this reason, inadequate environmental conditions or management systems must be changed." |

Compliance criteria should be measurable, as far as is possible, and support decision-making on the acceptability of conditions on farm. Such measurable criteria enable inspectors to assess compliance with legal minimum requirements and therefore provide a solid enforcement basis to justify the need for corrective measures or sanctions imposed on farmers.

Compliance criteria can be laid down in national legislation or guidelines/instructions for inspections and should as recommended in Annex II of Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 consist of a combination of animal based and resource based measures.

The fact that Member States may choose different compliance criteria is not in itself problematic in relation to implementation of the Directive. Whilst binding as to the result to be achieved, the Directive leaves some discretion to Member States on the choice of appropriate form and methods of ensuring compliance with these general conditions.

Examples of compliance criteria for several legal requirements related to tail-biting risk factors in some Member States, Switzerland and Norway and are given in Tables 2-6 of Annex II.

2. Ensuring farmer risk assessments are carried out

Farmers have primary responsibility in implementing the legal requirements "to take all reasonable steps to ensure the welfare of animals under their care" as required by Directive 98/58/EC and the specific requirements of Directive 2008/120/EC on the protection of pigs. As part of basic compliance with Point 8 of Annex 1 of Chapter 1 of Directive 2008/120/EC farmers are responsible for:

- Recording/providing evidence of tail/ear injuries
- Changing inadequate environmental conditions or management systems.

In this regard, the risk assessment is a logical intermediate step to be able to effectively evaluate the evidence of tail biting and take meaningful improvement measures in those areas which most likely lead to tail-biting. Therefore the risk assessment is recommended in Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 and can be used to fulfil the farmer's responsibility to comply with Article 3 of Directive 98/58/EC and Point 8 of Annex 1 of Chapter 1 of Directive 2008/120/EC.

The Commission Recommendation and the Commission Staff Working Document together with other risk assessment tools (e.g. SchwIP) outlined during the meeting in Ireland on November 2017 provide additional guidance/methodologies on how to do this.

3. Assessing evidence of tail/ear injuries and changes to environmental conditions and management systems including stocking density

The compliance criteria mentioned above in point 1 describe the minimum legal standards all farms must comply with. Farms that continue tail-docking must in addition provide evidence of tail and ear injuries and take improvement measures to prevent tail-biting.

Even if farms meet the compliance criteria and justify that they still need to tail-dock on a routine basis because of injuries to tails and ears; the requirements of Point 8 of Annex 1 of Chapter 1 of Directive 2008/120/EC still apply. This means that improvement measures will need to be taken to address the deficiencies in the existing management and environmental systems whilst pigs are tail/ear biting and cannot be reared without resorting to tail-docking. Tail-docking is a proxy indicator of management failure. Until such a time as tail-docking is not necessary these specific legal requirements will need to be adhered to and Member States must ensure that farmers " take all reasonable steps" in this regard as required by Directive 98/58/EC.

Member States must therefore provide guidance for inspectors to assess if farmers comply with the provisions on tail-docking as laid down in the second paragraph of point 8 of Chapter I of Annex I of Council Directive 2008/120/EC and the " reasonable steps" which farmers are expected to follow. This means that clear guidelines should be provided regarding the following questions:

- What is sufficient evidence of tail and ear lesions to justify tail-docking and how often should this be assessed and recorded?
- What are sufficient and adequate improvement measures by farmers to change inadequate environmental conditions or managements systems before resorting to tail-docking of pigs, and at what frequency should new/additional measures be undertaken?

Improvement measures can be considered sufficient and adequate when they take into account best practice examples of environmental conditions and management systems which will assist the move towards avoidance of routine tail-docking.

As mentioned above guidelines should enable inspectors to consistently assess if sufficient and adequate improvement measures have been taken by farmers. To reiterate, in order to comply with point 8 of Chapter I of Annex I of Council Directive 2008/120/EC improvement measures must therefore relate to best practices for the rearing of pigs with intact tails and not to legal minimum requirements.

This entails the development or adoption (from other sources) of measurable criteria (in addition to or going beyond the compliance criteria for minimum legal requirements mentioned under point 1 above) to enable inspectors to properly assess progress with regard to risk factors (including but not only those listed in Commission Recommendation 2016/336). For further clarification practical examples are given in Annex III.

4. Reviewing the provision of veterinary statements and quality assurance standards on the need to tail-dock

Commission services have noted during audits and from general feedback from Member States' stakeholders that the requirements to assess legislative compliance with Point 8 of Annex 1 of Chapter 1 of Directive 2008/120/EC are, in some cases, being delegated to private practitioners, or quality assurance standard assessors, instead of being carried out by Competent Authorities. Ensuring compliance with Directive 2008/120/EC is clearly defined as the responsibility of the Competent Authorities in Articles 3, 4, 6 and 8.

In addition, the provision of veterinary statements on the need to tail-dock is not always carried out according to the spirit of the Twelve Principles of Certification of the FVE¹.

It is the Commission services' opinion that veterinary statements, or quality assurance requirements, relating to the need for tail-docking do not always help competent authorities to ensure that the requirements relating to avoidance of routine tail-docking are implemented correctly.

It would seem timely that whilst Member States are being requested to put in place Action Plans to improve enforcement of Directive 2008/120/EC that they consider the use of statements supplied by non-Competent Authority bodies and how these interact and influence their own official controls.

If veterinary statements or adherence to quality standard requirements are to be retained as part of the documentation supporting a Competent Authority assessment of the need to tail-dock they should provide all the necessary evidence with regard to evidence of tail and ear biting and individual farm risk assessment and improvement measures (taken in the past and planned for the future). Notwithstanding this, it is worth restating that ensuring compliance with Directive 2008/120/EC is clearly defined as the responsibility of the Competent Authorities in Articles 3, 4, 6 and 8.

¹ http://fve.org/news/position_papers/veterinary_profession/fve_98_053_certif_principles_en.pdf


Examples of compliance criteria for several legal requirements related to tail-biting risk factors in some Members States, Switzerland and Norway

This Annex gives, in Tables 2-5, examples of how some Member States Switzerland and Norway have set compliance criteria and guidance to inform their pig producers, and enable their inspectors, to know what is suitable to meet these (or comparable) legislative requirements.

Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 (in its Article 2(b) asks Member States to draw up compliance criteria with the requirements set out in legislation (i.e. not only the parameters below) and make them publicly available.


This document aims to assist Member States in this process by providing examples of possible compliance criteria they could utilise or that could assist them in developing their own. Please note that the compliance criteria mentioned below are merely a compilation taken from national legislation as well as guidance documents from the respective countries.

Table 2

| Parameter (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336) | Legal requirements Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC | FINLAND  |
|---|---|---|
| ENRICHMENT MATERIAL | “permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) | Following criteria are evaluated: Type of material used, the amount of material, whether it is constantly available and how often it is added. For example, for materials like straw, hay, wood, sawdust, peat, the amount should be sufficient for pigs to be able to form boulders/heaps. If it is not possible (e. g. because of the blockage of the manure removal system), the pigs should have continuous access to a variety of objects (balls, wood, natural rope, chains, etc.) which should be varied as often as possible. In addition to these objects other materials like hay, newspapers, etc. should be offered at least twice a day for pigs to satisfy pig chewing and rooting needs. |
| CLEANLINESS | “a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3) | At least two-thirds of the floor area for slaughter piglets, fattening pigs and breeding pigs shall be on a solid base or such a floor level, slatted floor or other perforated floor, for which the drainage portions represent a maximum of 10% of the area. There is a prohibition on fully slatted floors for all buildings by 2027. All new and renovated buildings from 2012 must comply with these requirements. |
| HEALTH STATUS | "sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1) “sick or injured animals shall be accommodated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 4) | Available space reserved for hospital or separation pens must account for at least 5% of the total space requirement for the total number of animals kept in pig holdings. The design and facilities of the hospital pen must be appropriate and the increased need for heat, softening or bed caused by illnesses or injuries should be taken into account. There is a separate guide to the treatment and euthanasia of sick and injured pigs. |


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| | "specialised housings (for piglets weaned less than 28 days of age) which are separated from housings where sows are kept" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, C3) | |
| COMPETITION FOR FOOD AND SPACE | <p>"unobstructed floor area" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Article 3, 1a).</p> <p>"measures taken to prevent fighting (...) adequate opportunities to escape and hide from other pigs" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, D 1, 2)</p> <p>"feeding and watering equipment must be designed constructed and placed so that (...) the harmful effects of competition between the animals are minimised" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 17)</p> <p>"permanent access to a sufficient quantity of fresh water" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 7)</p> | <p>Minimum requirements for unobstructed flooring for slaughtered piglets, fattening pigs and breeding pigs per pig.</p> <p>Pig weight (kg) Floor area (m² / animal)</p> <p>< 10 kg: 0.15 m²</p> <p>10-95 kg: 0.17 + (weight kg / 130)</p> <p>95-107 kg: 0,90 m²</p> <p>107-130 kg: 1,00 m²</p> <p>>130 kg 1.20 m²</p> <p>The unobstructed floor area must allow the animal to stand and move unhindered. Floor surfaces where feeders, or other structures prevent the use of floor space below are not included in the floor area but are deducted from the available area.</p> <p>The minimum requirements for the length of the feeding trough (cm / pig) are laid down in national legislation: Length of feeding tray for pigs per pig</p> <p>Pig weight (kg) Feeding edge length at least (cm / animal)</p> <p><25 kg: 15 cm</p> <p>25 – 50 kg: 25 cm</p> <p>> 50 kg: 30 cm</p> <p>The number of drinkers is not provided for in basic legislation, but the inspection assesses, on a case-by-case basis, whether water is constantly / adequately available. Legislation on construction has minimum requirements for water supply and the number of drinking places (see below) and the number of feeding spaces.</p> <p><u>Water Provision</u></p> <p>If premises are being renovated and construction subsidies are being sought, legislation (Ministerial decree) on the number of drinkers per pen applies as follows: In a yard or in a group of pigs, there should be one drinking space or nipple per 10 pigs and at least two drinking points for each group. The suckling piglets in the farrowing unit must have one nipple drinker or bowl for every twenty piglets.</p> |

Table 3

| Parameter (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336) | Legal requirements Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC | DENMARK  |
|---|--|--|
| ENRICHMENT MATERIAL | "permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities" (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) | <p>Enrichment materials must be rootable.</p> <p>Assessment is done on the basis of the DFVA guidelines that provide elaborate guidance on suitable materials, distribution and quantity. The guidelines include a table of suitable enrichment and rooting materials, numbers of objects (wooden logs, ropes) to be provided to a certain number of pigs and instructions on how enrichment materials must be</p> |

| | | |
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| | | distributed in the pen. Materials must be natural, chains and plastic toys are not considered to be suitable enrichment materials. Bedding is required for pregnant sows and gilts in groups. |
| CLEANLINESS | “a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3) | Part of the floor must be solid or drained (no more than 10% openings) In pens for weaners, breeding and slaughter pigs at least 1/3 of the unobstructed available floor area must be solid or drained or a combination thereof In pens only used for weaners at least ½ of the unobstructed floor area must be solid or drained or a combination thereof |
| THERMAL COMFORT AND AIR QUALITY | “air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10) | Pens for weaners above 20 kg, breeding stock and finishers must have a sprinkling system or similar devices for regulating the animals' body temperature. For gilts, dry sows and pregnant sows kept in groups a misting system must be installed, by which their body temperature can be regulated |
| HEALTH STATUS | "sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1) "sick or injured animals shall be accommodated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 4) "specialised housings (for piglets weaned less than 28 days of age) which are separated from housings where sows are kept" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, C3) | On all pig farms, a sufficient number of hospital pens must be available and you must as a minimum always have one hospital pen ready for use The design of the hospital pen must fulfil the below criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft bed in 2/3 of the minimum area. The soft bed may be constituted by a soft rubber mat or sufficient amounts of straw to prevent direct contact between the animal and the floor; • All hospital pens must have a heat source and a cooling facility; • There must be no draught in the pen; • Stocking density in hospital pens should be about half of normal stocking density. Guidelines for inspectors provide elaborate guidance on sick and injured animals, including which pigs are required to be in a hospital pen |


Table 4

| Parameter (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336) | Legal requirements Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC | SWEDEN  |
|---|--|---|
| ENRICHMENT MATERIAL | “permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) | Litter must have correct qualities and be given in such quantities that the pigs' behavioural needs and comfort needs are satisfied. Litter for pigs should contain material that the pigs can root in, examine and chew. When rearing in conventional farrowing crates, litter should also provide a protective bed for sows and piglets during the piglets' first week of life. During the week before farrowing, sows and gilts must have access to litter that enables them to carry out nest-building behaviour. The manure removal system in housing sections with conventional farrowing crates should be adapted for handling large quantities of litter. For vacuum manure removal systems, the manure pipe diameter must be at least 300 mm. In addition, the system must be designed and managed to prevent air flowing into the |

| | | housing via the manure removal system. | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|--|---|
| CLEANLINESS | “a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3) | Resting areas must be kept clean and dry and adapted to the animal species and housing climate (thermal comfort). During the cold season, resting surfaces in housing with a climate similar to outdoors should be provided with a bed of straw or other protective material suitable for animals. Pigs must have access to space with different sections that allow them to lie, eat and defecate. The resting space may not have manure draining floors. | | | | | | | | | |
| THERMAL COMFORT AND AIR QUALITY | “air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10) | In thermally insulated housing, relative air humidity during the winter may not exceed 80% apart from in exceptional circumstances unless the housing temperature is below 10 °C. In such cases the numerical sum of the housing temperature and the relative humidity must not exceed 90. In non-insulated housing, relative humidity may not exceed the relative humidity of outdoor air by more than 10 percentage points, apart from in exceptional circumstances. Animals in housing may only occasionally be exposed to air pollution that exceeds the following values, unless otherwise specified in this statute: ammonia: 10 ppm, carbon dioxide: 3,000 ppm, hydrogen sulphide: 0.5 ppm, organic dust: 10 mg/m ³ . Air may not be drawn into a housing section via a manure or urine drainage system or via spaces that may contain air pollution or infectious agents which could negatively affect the animals' health. Housing for fattening pigs should be equipped with a shower system or other devices which allow the animals to cool off in the summer. Thermally insulated housing for growing pigs should have heating equipment for additional heat during the winter. | | | | | | | | | |
| HEALTH STATUS | "sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1) “sick or injured animals shall be accommodated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 4) "specialised housings (for piglets weaned less than 28 days of age) which are separated from housings where sows are kept" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, C3) | It must be possible to take animals in need of special care untethered into a nearby space where, if necessary, they can be housed individually. The space must have a climate that the animals are used to. (...) For pigs (...), the space referred to in the provision should be able to house at least one animal per 25. (...) | | | | | | | | | |
| COMPETITION FOR FOOD AND SPACE | “unobstructed floor area” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Article 3, 1a). "measures taken to prevent fighting (...) adequate opportunities to escape and hide from other pigs" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, D 1, 2) “feeding and watering equipment must be designed constructed and placed so that (...) the harmful effects of | Minimum space per animal in boxes with growing pigs, 10 - 130 kg. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Resting area, m²</th> <th>Total area, m²</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Littered restingbox</i></td> <td>$= 0.10 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{167}$</td> <td>$= 0.17 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{130}$</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Litter box</i></td> <td></td> <td>$= 0.10 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{84}$</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Resting area, m ² | Total area, m ² | <i>Littered restingbox</i> | $= 0.10 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{167}$ | $= 0.17 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{130}$ | <i>Litter box</i> | | $= 0.10 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{84}$ |
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| <i>Litter box</i> | | $= 0.10 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{84}$ | | | | | | | | | |

| | <p>competition between the animals are minimised” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 17)</p> <p>"permanent access to a sufficient quantity of fresh water" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 7)</p> | <p>*) A box in specified areas may not be designed in such a way that it is difficult for the animals to turn inside the box or defined manure path</p> <p>Water supply for pigs kept in groups:</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|----|----|------|----|-------------|------|----|------|------|
| | | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">Number of lactating sows per</th> <th colspan="2">Number of other pigs per</th> </tr> <tr> <th>water cup</th> <th>water nipple</th> <th>water cup</th> <th>water nipple</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dry feeding</td> <td>20</td> <td>10</td> <td>40 *</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wet feeding</td> <td>40 *</td> <td>20</td> <td>80 *</td> <td>40 *</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Number of lactating sows per | | Number of other pigs per | | water cup | water nipple | water cup | water nipple | Dry feeding | 20 | 10 | 40 * | 20 | Wet feeding | 40 * | 20 | 80 * | 40 * |
| | | Number of lactating sows per | | Number of other pigs per | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | water cup | water nipple | water cup | water nipple | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Dry feeding | 20 | 10 | 40 * | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Wet feeding | 40 * | 20 | 80 * | 40 * | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | <p>*) However, at least two water stations are required for groups of more than 30 pigs.</p> <p>Minimum space (trough length) per animal with straight feeding place and simultaneous feeding of groups of pigs:</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Feeding place, m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Growing pigs, 10-130 kg</td> <td>$= 0.164 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{538}$</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Feeding place, m | Growing pigs, 10-130 kg | $= 0.164 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{538}$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Feeding place, m | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Growing pigs, 10-130 kg | $= 0.164 + \frac{\text{weight(kg)}}{538}$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | <p>Piglets must not be weaned until they have reached four weeks of age and must be accustomed to supplementary feed.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DIET | <p>“animals must be fed a wholesome diet appropriate to their age and species and which is fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and satisfy their nutritional needs.” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 14)</p> | <p>Animals shall be given daily fodder of an appropriate structure.</p> <p>The fodder must ensure adequate, all-round, balanced nutrition.</p> <p>Additional provisions regarding fodder are found in Section 3 of the Animal Welfare Act.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Table 5


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| <p>Parameter (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336)</p> | <p>Legal requirements Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC</p> | <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: white;">SWITZERLAND</p>  |
| <p>ENRICHMENT MATERIAL</p> | <p>“permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4)</p> | <p>Foraging materials: Pigs shall have access at all times to straw, roughage or other equivalent foraging material.</p> <p>Enrichment materials: Suitable occupational materials can be chewed and gnawed, are edible and non-toxic, such as straw,</p> |

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| | | <p>miscanthus, bedding, dust-extracted wood shavings and coarse fodder (roughage) such as hay, grass, whole-plant silage and straw or hay cubes. Softwood is permitted only if suspended in such a way as to remain flexible, if regularly replaced and if the pigs are fed at least three times a day with a ration enriched with coarse fodder or fodder is freely available.</p> <p>Enrichment materials can be provided in suitable equipment such as mangers, troughs or special machines. These must contain a permanent supply of usable enrichment materials.</p> <p>If enrichment materials are provided on the floor, they must always be distributed in sufficient quantities to keep the animals occupied.</p> |
| CLEANLINESS | <p>“a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3)</p> | <p>Floors in pigs’ lying areas must not exceed the following perforation percentages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5 % for fattening houses existing on 1 October 2008; 2 % for other pig houses. <p>If floors in the lying area are perforated, the holes or gaps must be distributed evenly between the flooring elements. Requirements for surface of lying area see requirements for stocking density below.</p> <p>If the lying area in housing systems for weaned piglets and fattening pigs is reduced according to Annex 1, Table 3, note 8 AniPO, the dimensions of the lying area must be such that all animals in a pen can lie down beside each other at the same time.</p> <p>In housing systems with lying cubicles, if the lying area in the cubicles does not meet the minimum requirements in Annex 1, Table 3, nos 32 and 321-323 AniPO, there must be sufficient space outside the cubicles to meet those requirements.</p> <p>Solid floors shall be non-slippery and sufficiently clean. Floors in the lying area shall be sufficiently dry and satisfy the need of the animals for warmth.</p> |
| THERMAL COMFORT AND AIR QUALITY | <p>“air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10)</p> | <p>Protection from heat:</p> <p>In newly installed animal houses, pigs weighing 25 kg or more and kept in groups as well as boars shall be provided with cooling facilities at high temperatures.</p> <p>Farrowing pens</p> <p>The microclimate in the creep area for the piglets shall correspond to the animals’ temperature needs.</p> <p>Protection against cold</p> <p>If temperatures in the lying area fall below the following levels, the floor in the lying area should be insulated, sufficiently well-bedded or equipped with a heating system:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 24 °C for piglets until weaning; 20 °C for piglets from weaning to 25 kg; 15 °C for pigs from 25 to 60 kg; 9 °C for pigs over 60 kg. <p>In the first three days after farrowing, the temperature in the piglet area should be at least 30 °C.</p> <p>Suckling piglets should have access to the piglet area at all</p> |

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| | | <p>times.</p> <p>In outdoor climate houses, pigs should have a lying cubicle or similar facility, or the opportunity to burrow into a deep bed.</p> <p>Protection against heat</p> <p>If the temperature in new houses for groups of pigs weighing 25 kg or more or for boars exceeds 25 °C, the animals must be given an opportunity to cool themselves down.</p> <p>Cooling options include ground heat exchangers, air conditioning, floor cooling, misting systems and water cooling systems which act directly on the animals, such as showers or wallows.</p> <p>For pigs kept outdoors, a wallow must be provided if temperatures in the shade exceed 25 °C; in strong sunlight, a sufficiently large shaded area must be provided outside the pig huts.</p> |
| <p>COMPETITION FOR FOOD AND SPACE</p> | <p>“unobstructed floor area” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Article 3, 1a).</p> <p>"measures taken to prevent fighting (...) adequate opportunities to escape and hide from other pigs" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, D 1, 2)</p> <p>“feeding and watering equipment must be designed constructed and placed so that (...) the harmful effects of competition between the animals are minimised” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 17)</p> <p>"permanent access to a sufficient quantity of fresh water" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 7)</p> | <p><u>Feeding</u></p> <p>If feed is provided ad libitum, the number of feeding spaces should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. dry feeders: one space to five animals; b. wet feeders with up to three feeding spaces: one space to twelve animals; c. wet feeders with more than three feeding spaces, and pipe feeders: one space to ten animals; d. all other feeding systems: according to the requirements of the authorisation for mass-produced housing systems. <p>If the water supply at wet feeders or pipe feeders is turned off, the animal to feeding space ratio should be the same as for dry feeders.</p> <p>Distances between the trough divisions of feeding systems should be such that there is enough room for the animals’ snouts. Trough dividers are rods which are fitted inside the trough and do not protrude above its edge. The minimum distances are 15 cm for piglets up to 25 kg and 20 cm for fattening pigs weighing 25 kg or more.</p> <p>Width of feeding place per animal in group housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 15 kg: 12cm 15-25 kg: 18cm 25-60 kg: 27cm 60-85 kg: 30cm 85-110kg: 33cm 100-160kg: 36cm <p><u>Water Provision</u></p> <p>Pigs shall have access to water at all times, except in the case of outdoor production, when they are provided several times daily with water.</p> <p>In group housing, one drinking facility for every 12 animals shall be provided in the case of dry feeding and one drinking facility for every 24 animals in the case of liquid feeding.</p> <p><u>Stocking density</u></p> <p>Weaned piglets shall not be kept in multi-level cages. The</p> |

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| | | <p>cages shall be open at the top.</p> <p>Minimum Requirements for unobstructed flooring for slaughtered piglets, fattening pigs and breeding pigs per pig.</p> <p>Pig weight (kg) Floor area (m² / animal)</p> <p>< 15 kg: 0.12m² (of this lying area must be 0.15m²)</p> <p>15-25 kg: 0.18m² (of this lying area must be 0.25m²)</p> <p>25-60 kg: 0,60m² (of this lying area must be 0.40m²)</p> <p>60-85 kg: 0.75m² (of this lying area must be 0.50m²)</p> <p>85-110kg: 0.9m² (of this lying area must be 0.60m²)</p> <p>100-160kg: 1.65m² (of this lying area must be 095m²)</p> |
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Table 6

| Parameter (Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336) | Legal requirements Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC | NORWAY  |
|--|---|--|
| ENRICHMENT MATERIAL | “permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) | <p>Pigs must have permanent access to a sufficient amount of material that they can investigate, root and manipulate. Materials such as straw, hay, sawdust, peat, wood (shavings), soil or a mixture of these may be used. The rooting material shall not endanger the health of the animals.</p> <p>Enrichment materials must be rootable.</p> |
| CLEANLINESS | “a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3) | Pigs must have access to a convenient, dry, clean and free lying area of a suitable temperature. Pigs must have access to separate resting and dunging areas, where a smaller part of slats can be above the dunging area. The design of pens should be such that litter can be used. The floor of the resting area must be solid, deep straw or dry manure, and this area must be so large that all animals can lie down at the same time. The rest of the pen can have drained floors. |
| HEALTH STATUS | <p>"sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence" (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1)</p> <p>“sick or injured animals shall be accommodated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 4)</p> <p>"specialised housings (for piglets weaned less than 28 days of age) which are separated from housings where sows are kept" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, C3)</p> | <p>When necessary, sick or injured animals shall be isolated in a hospital pen with a dry and soft sleeping space</p> <p>In buildings for pigs, there must be separate pens for sick animals and animals that need extra supervision. Number of hospital pens must be sufficient and there must be always one pen ready to use in which animals can be individually raised. The hospital pen may only be used for a limited stay and it must be so large that the animals can easily turn around unless the veterinarian recommends that the animal be in a narrower pen. Care should be taken to ensure that animals in hospital pens have sufficient heat and litter, and ensure access to water and feed.</p> <p>Pigs that are newborn, sick, injured or abnormal should be supervised several times a day.</p> <p>Piglets may not be weaned before 28 days of age. Earlier weaning is only permitted after medical indication evaluated by the veterinarian.</p> |

EXAMPLES OF IMPROVEMENT MEASURES BEYOND LEGAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

ANNEX III

Table 6: Example – Enrichment materials

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirement Directive 2008/120/EC, 98/58/EC | Compliance criteria for legal minimum requirements example DK | What could be considered sufficient improvement measures going beyond legal minimum requirements? |
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| Enrichment material | “permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) | <p>Guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable materials: straw, hay, wood, sawdust, mushroom compost, peat or a mixture • Distribution: Materials should be given on the floor to enable rooting behavior • Quantity: Two pieces of wood, ropes etc. in a pen with 18 pigs | <p>Providing optimal enrichment materials such as straw or roughage on the floor that are accessible for all pigs at the same time.</p> <p>Ideally combined with assessment of animal based indicators</p> |

Table 7: Example Thermal comfort

| Parameter Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirement Directive 2008/120/EC, 98/58/EC | Compliance criteria for legal requirements example SE (gas concentrations) | What could be considered sufficient improvement measures going beyond legal minimum requirements? |
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| Thermal comfort and air quality | “air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ammonia: 10 ppm • carbon dioxide: 3,000 ppm • hydrogen sulphide: 0.5 ppm • organic dust: 10 mg/m³ | <p>Undertaking of necessary measures to correct deficiencies and improve climate parameters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ammonia: < 10 ppm • carbon dioxide: < 2000 ppm • organic dust: < 10 mg/m³ <p>Ideally combined with assessment of animal based indicators</p> |

Table 8: Example Thermal comfort

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirement Directive 2008/120/EC, 98/58/EC | Compliance criteria for legal minimum requirements example DK | What could be considered sufficient improvement measures going beyond legal minimum requirements? |
|---|--|---|--|
| Thermal comfort and air quality | "air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals" (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10) | Pens for weaners above 20 kg, breeding stock and finishers must have a sprinkling system or similar devices for regulating the animals' body temperature. | The use of clearly defined cooling systems that enable adequate and measurable cooling of facilities (high pressure vaporisation, cool pads, heat exchangers) or animals (wallows, showers). Providing shadow by planting trees around facilities or placing shutters / blinds to avoid direct sun radiation that pigs can't avoid. |

Table 9: Example Health status

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirement Directive 2008/120/EC, 98/58/EC | Compliance criteria for legal minimum requirements example | What could be considered sufficient improvement measures going beyond legal minimum requirements? |
|---|--|---|--|
| Health status | "sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1) " any person who employs or engages persons to attend to pigs ensures that the person attending to the animals has received instructions and guidance on the relevant provisions of Article 3 and Annex I" "appropriate training courses are available. In particular such training courses must focus on welfare aspects." (Directive 2008/120/EC Article 6) | A minimum number of stockmen should be available for a certain amount of pigs. This can be calculated in hours per sow / fattening pig or number of staff per sow / fattening herd of a certain size. Different values should be set for different production systems. Staff responsible for feeding and caretaking of pigs must possess: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Knowledge about pigs' needs with regard to feeding, care, health and husbandry b) Basic knowledge about biology and behaviour of pigs c) Knowledge about animal welfare legislation | Specific qualifications for staff beyond the basic requirements. : Specific training of staff in animal welfare issues with a special focus on pig behavioural needs and the prevention of tail-biting. Staff should complete a minimum of xx hours of training on an annual basis. Training courses should be approved by CA |

Table 10: Example Competition for food and space

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirement Directive 2008/120/EC, 98/58/EC | Compliance criteria for legal minimum requirements Stated in Directive | What could be considered sufficient improvement measures going beyond legal minimum requirements? |
|---|---|---|---|
| Competition for food and space | “unobstructed floor area” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Article 3, 1a). | <10 kg: 0,15 m ² 10-20 kg: 0,20 m ² 20-30 kg: 0,30 m ² 30-50 kg: 0,40 m ² 50-85 kg: 0,55 m ² > 110 kg: 1,0 m ² | Bearing in mind requirements of Point 8 of Annex I, Chapter I of Directive: increase stocking density beyond national minimum requirements moving towards stocking densities in countries that rear pigs with intact tails e. g. SE and FI (see table 2 and 4 above). |

Table 11: Example Diet

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirement Directive 2008/120/EC, 98/58/EC | Compliance criteria for legal minimum requirements example SE | What could be considered sufficient improvement measures going beyond legal minimum requirements? |
|---|---|---|---|
| Diet | “animals are fed a wholesome diet appropriate to their age and species and which is fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and satisfy their nutritional needs.” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 14) | Animals shall be given daily fodder of an appropriate structure. The fodder must ensure adequate, all-round, balanced nutrition. | Using <i>post-mortem</i> feedback particularly on stomach ulcers to assess gut health and taking appropriate improvement measures. Provide roughage in addition to normal feeding ration. Increase fibre content and fibre quality of feeding ration. Suggest sources of good quality fibre and set minimum levels of fibre content. Provide coarsely grounded feed. Set minimum values for grinding rate of feed. |

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| Member State: | |
| Member State contact: (email) | |
| Date of Action Plan Submission: | |

1. Drawing up compliance criteria and making them publicly available

| Parameter: Commission Recommendation (EU) 2016/336 | Legal requirements: Directive 2008/120/EC, Directive 98/58/EC | Define Compliance Criteria | Please insert 2018 Deadlines for: 1: update SOPs/ guidance 2: Inform pig-sector/ make publicly available 3: implement enforcement action 4. other |
|---|---|---|--|
| Enrichment material | “permanent access to a sufficient quantity of material to enable proper investigation and manipulation activities” (Directive 2008/120/EC Annex I, Chapter I, 4) | | |
| Cleanliness | “a lying area physically and thermally comfortable as well as adequately drained and clean which allows all the animals to lay at the same time” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 3) | | |
| Thermal comfort and air quality | “air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations must be kept within limits which are not harmful to the animals” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 10) | | |
| Health status | "sufficient number of staff who possesses the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 1) “sick or injured animals shall be accommodated in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding. (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 4) "specialised housings (for piglets weaned less than 28 days of age) | | |

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| | which are separated from housings where sows are kept" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, C3) | | |
| Competition for food and space | <p>“unobstructed floor area” (Directive 2008/120/EC, Article 3, 1a).</p> <p>"measures taken to prevent fighting (...) adequate opportunities to escape and hide from other pigs" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter II, D 1, 2)</p> <p>“feeding and watering equipment must be designed constructed and placed so that (...) the harmful effects of competition between the animals are minimised” (Directive 98/58/EC, Annex, 17)</p> <p>"permanent access to a sufficient quantity of fresh water" (Directive 2008/120/EC, Annex I, Chapter I, 7)</p> | | |
| Diet | “animals must be fed a wholesome diet appropriate to their age and species and which is fed to them in sufficient quantity to maintain them in good health and satisfy their nutritional needs.” (Directive 98/58/EC Annex, 14) | | |
| | <p>Point 8 of Annex I of Chapter I of Directive 2008/120/EC</p> <p>"Neither tail-docking nor reduction of corner teeth must be carried out routinely but only where there is evidence that injuries to sows’ teats or to other pigs’ ears or tails have occurred. Before carrying out these procedures, other measures shall be taken to prevent tail-biting and other vices, taking into account environment and stocking densities. For this reason, inadequate environmental conditions or management systems must be changed."</p> | | |
| | Other legal requirements from 2008/120/EC and 98/58/EC | | |

2. Ensuring farmer risk assessments are carried out

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| <p>What actions are Member States planning to take in 2018 to ensure that where farmers tail-dock, or receive tail-docked pigs they:</p> <p>record/provide evidence of tail/ear injuries</p> | <p>Define Member State Proposed Actions</p> | <p>Please insert 2018 Deadlines for:</p> <p>1: update SOPs/ guidance</p> <p>2: inform pig-sector/ make publicly available</p> <p>3: implement enforcement action</p> <p>4: other</p> |
| <p>What actions are Member States planning to take in 2018 to ensure that where farmers tail-dock, or receive tail-docked pigs they:</p> <p>assess the risk factors leading to tail/ear biting</p> | <p>Define Member State Proposed Actions</p> | <p>2018 Deadlines:</p> <p>1: update SOPs/ guidance</p> <p>2: inform pig-sector/ make publicly available</p> <p>3: implement enforcement action</p> <p>4: other</p> |
| <p>What actions are Member States planning to take in 2018 to ensure that where farmers tail-dock, or receive tail-docked pigs they:</p> <p>change inadequate environmental conditions or management systems</p> | <p>Define Member State Proposed Actions</p> | <p>2018 Deadlines:</p> <p>1: update SOPs/ guidance</p> <p>2: inform pig-sector/ make publicly available</p> <p>3: implement enforcement action</p> <p>4: other</p> |

3. Assessing evidence of tail/ear biting and changes to environmental and management systems including stocking density

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| <p>What actions are Member States planning to take in 2018 to ensure where farmers tail-dock, or receive tail-docked pigs that:</p> <p>inspectors can make enforcement decisions on what is sufficient</p> | <p>Define Member State Proposed Actions</p> | <p>Please insert 2018 Deadlines for:</p> <p>1: update SOPs/ guidance</p> <p>2: inform pig-sector/ make publicly available</p> <p>3: implement enforcement action</p> |
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| evidence of tail and ear injuries to justify tail-docking and how often should this be recorded | | 4: other |
| What actions are Member States planning to take in 2018 to ensure where farmers tail-dock, or receive tail-docked pigs that: inspectors can make enforcement decisions on what are sufficient improvement measures by farmers, and at what frequency should they be undertaken, to change inadequate environmental conditions or managements systems before resorting to tail-docking of pigs | <p>Define Member State Proposed Actions</p> <p>Table 6 of Annex 3 could be used as a template to define both compliance criteria and related improvement measures</p> | <p>2018 Deadlines:</p> <p>1: update SOPs/ guidance</p> <p>2: inform pig-sector/ make publicly available</p> <p>3: implement enforcement action</p> <p>4: other</p> |

4. Reviewing the provision of veterinary statements and quality standard requirements justifying the need to tail-docking

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|---|--|---|
| What actions are Member States planning to take in 2018 to review the provision of veterinary statements and quality standard requirements justifying the need to tail-dock | <p>Define Member State Proposed Actions</p> | <p>Please insert 2018 Deadlines for:</p> <p>1: update SOPs/ guidance</p> <p>2: inform pig-sector/veterinary sector make publicly available</p> <p>3: implement other action</p> |
|---|--|---|