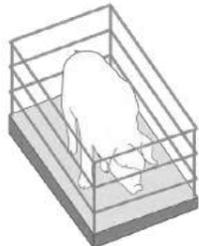
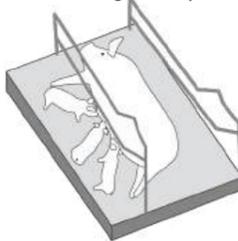
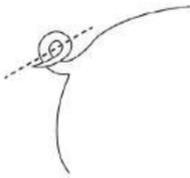
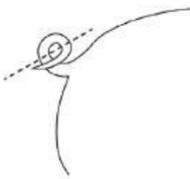


AUSTRALIAN PIG HOUSING SYSTEMS

	INDOOR SPACE ALLOWANCE	OUTDOOR SPACE ALLOWANCE	INDEPENDENT AUDITING TO ANIMAL WELFARE STANDARDS	SOW STALLS, FARROWING CRATES, BOAR STALLS AND MATING STALLS	BEDDING PROVISION	ENRICHMENT	PAINFUL PROCEDURES (tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, surgical castration, immunocastration)	GIVEN ANTIBIOTICS
<p>CONVENTIONAL INDOOR ENVIRONMENT: Large sheds of single or group housed pigs on solid or slatted floors. Sow stalls, farrowing crates and boar stalls used.</p> <p>OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT: N/A</p> <p>BEHAVIOUR EXPRESSION: Limited ability to express natural behaviours due to lack of space and enrichment. Sows subject to severe confinement when single housed.</p>	<p>Sow stalls size = 0.6mx2.2m</p> <p>Sow group housing = 1.4m² per sow</p> <p>Farrowing crate size = 0.5mx2m</p> <p>Farrowing crate/creep area total = 3.2m² per sow</p> <p>Farrowing pens = 5.6m² per sow (no crate confinement of sow)</p> <p>Boar stalls size = 0.7mx2.4m</p> <p>Boar individual pens = 6m²</p> <p>Pigs 10-120kg: 0.14-0.74m² depending on weight</p>	N/A	-	 <p>From 2018 sow stalls, farrowing crates and mating stalls are not permitted for more than 6 weeks each pregnancy.</p> <p>Sow stalls, farrowing crates, boar stalls and mating stalls permitted.</p>  <p>Where boar stalls are used, boars are required to be released for mating or exercise at least twice a week. Otherwise boars are housed in individual pens.</p>	Not legally required.	Not legally required.	 <p>Tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, surgical castration and immunocastration permitted.</p> <p>Surgical castration of piglets >21 days old must be under anaesthesia by a vet.</p>	 <p>Therapeutic and prophylactic use of antibiotics permitted.</p>
<p>OUTDOOR BRED (DEEP LITTER)</p> <p>INDOOR ENVIRONMENT: LARGE SHELTERS/SHEDS OF GROUP HOUSED PIGS ON DEEP LITTER.</p> <p>Gilts/sows and boars have outdoor access.</p> <p>OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT: Only gilts/sows and boars have outdoor access. Shelter and shade is provided. Wallows are recommended where permitted but no additional enrichment required.</p> <p>BEHAVIOUR EXPRESSION: Pigs are able to express forging behaviour in litter. Limited ability to express other natural behaviours due to lack of additional enrichment.</p>	<p>Pigs (indoors) 10-120kg: 0.14-0.74m² depending on weight</p> <p>Gilts, sows and boars have access to shelters in paddocks.</p> <p>Shelter requirements: Gilt/sow in group paddock = 1.2-1.5m² of shelter per pig</p> <p>Sows lactating with piglets = 4-6m² per sow</p> <p>Boars in paddock= 2m² of shelter per boar</p>	No minimum space allowance.	-	 <p>Sow stalls and farrowing crates not permitted.</p> <p>Boars housed in individual or group paddocks.</p>	Deep litter (bedding) provided in indoor sheds for pigs.	Indoor shelter/sheds for pigs have straw or other bedding.	 <p>Tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, surgical castration and immunocastration permitted.</p> <p>Surgical castration of piglets >21 days old must be under anaesthesia by a vet.</p>	 <p>Therapeutic and prophylactic use of antibiotics permitted.</p>

AUSTRALIAN PIG HOUSING SYSTEMS

<p>OUTDOOR (FREE RANGE)</p> <p>INDOOR ENVIRONMENT: N/A</p> <p>OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT: All pigs, gilts, sows and boars have outdoor access. Grouped in paddocks or kept individually (e.g. boars) with free access to shelter/hut.</p> <p>BEHAVIOUR EXPRESSION: Living in an outdoor environment that encourages nest building, wallowing (for gilts, sows, boars), socialising, foraging, rooting and exploring.</p>	<p>Shelter requirements: Gilt/ sow in group paddock = 1.2-1.5m² of shelter per sow</p> <p>Sows lactating with piglets = 4-6m² per sow</p> <p>Boars in paddock= 2m² of shelter per boar</p> <p>No minimum shelter requirement for weaner, grower or finisher pigs.</p>	<p>No minimum space allowance.</p> <p>-</p>		<p>Outdoor paddock must be suitable for pigs, gilts, sows and boars to forage and root.</p> <p>No requirement for additional enrichment indoors.</p> <p>Sow stalls and farrowing crates not permitted.</p> <p>Mating stalls permitted for use during daylight hours after insemination.</p> <p>Boars housed in individual or group paddocks.</p>	<p>Outdoor paddock must be suitable for pigs, gilts, sows and boars to forage and root.</p> <p>No requirement for additional enrichment indoors.</p>	 <p>Tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, surgical castration and immunocastration permitted.</p> <p>Surgical castration of piglets >21 days old must be under anaesthesia by a vet.</p>	 <p>Therapeutic and prophylactic use of antibiotics permitted.</p>
<p>RSPCA APPROVED: INDOOR SYSTEMS</p> <p>INDOOR ENVIRONMENT: Large shed where sows are group housed during their pregnancy, sows are moved to farrowing pens to give birth where they can nest build and freely interact with their piglets.</p> <p>Pigs are group housed in a large shed where they are free to move around, with access to bedding and enrichment.</p> <p>OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT: N/A</p> <p>BEHAVIOUR EXPRESSION: Living in an enriched environment that encourages nest building, socialising, foraging, and exploring.</p>	<p>Pigs 10-120kg: 0.22 – 1.16 m² depending on weight</p> <p>Gilts/sows: at least 1.6m² lying area and 3.5m² total area</p> <p>Farrowing or lactating sow: at least 5.6m² per sow</p> <p>Boars: at least 2.2m² lying area and 7.5m² total area</p>	<p>N/A</p>	 <p>Assessed a minimum of twice a year.</p>	<p>Sow stalls, farrowing crates and boar stalls not permitted.</p> <p>Mating stalls are permitted but sows must be removed after insemination.</p> <p>Boars housed in individual or group pens.</p>	 <p>Litter (bedding) provided for all pigs.</p> <p>Environmental enrichment must be provided that encourages pigs to express rooting, foraging and chewing behaviours.</p>	<p>Tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, and surgical castration not permitted.</p> <p>Immunocastration permitted.</p>	 <p>Therapeutic and prophylactic use of antibiotics permitted.</p>

AUSTRALIAN PIG HOUSING SYSTEMS

**RSPCA APPROVED:
OUTDOOR BRED SYSTEMS**

INDOOR ENVIRONMENT:

Once weaned, pigs reared in large sheds or eco shelters with bedding and enrichment provided.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT:

Gilts, sows and boars have outdoor access all year. With shelters in paddocks that have bedding. Wallows required.

Sows have access to farrowing huts when ready to give birth and to suckle piglets until weaning.

BEHAVIOUR EXPRESSION:

Living in an enriched environment that encourages nest building, wallowing (for gilts, sows, boars), socialising, foraging and exploring.

Pigs housed indoors: 0.22 – 1.16 m² depending on weight

Shelter requirements: Gilts/sows: at least 1.5m² lying area and 3.5m² total area

Farrowing or lactating sow: 4.3m²

Boars: at least 1.5m² lying area.

Gilts, sows and boars: 30 adult pigs/ha.



Assessed a minimum of twice a year.



Sow stalls, farrowing crates and boar stalls not permitted.

Mating stalls are permitted but sows must be removed after insemination.

Boars housed in individual or group paddocks.



Litter (bedding) provided for all pigs.



Wallows must be provided to breeding pigs.

Where pigs do not have continuous outdoor access, environmental enrichment must be provided that allow pigs to express rooting, foraging and chewing behaviours.

Tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, and surgical castration not permitted.

Immunocastration permitted.



Therapeutic and prophylactic use of antibiotics permitted.

**RSPCA APPROVED:
FREE-RANGE SYSTEMS**

INDOOR ENVIRONMENT: N/A

Shelters or huts provided to pigs in outdoor paddocks.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT:

Pigs are reared with outdoor access all year with shelters in paddocks that have bedding. Sows have access to farrowing huts when ready to give birth and to suckle piglets until weaning.

BEHAVIOUR EXPRESSION:

Living in an enriched environment that encourages nest building, wallowing, socialising, foraging, rooting and exploring.

Pigs: 0.22 – 1.16 m² depending on weight

Gilts/sows: at least 1.5m² lying area

Farrowing or lactating sow: 4.3m²

Boars: at least 1.5m² lying area

Gilts, sows and boars: 30 adult pigs/ha.

Pigs: outdoor area at least 1.5x size of shed area.



Assessed a minimum of twice a year.



Sow stalls, farrowing crates and boar stalls not permitted.

Mating stalls are permitted but sows must be removed after insemination.

Boars housed in individual or group paddocks.



Litter (bedding) provided for all pigs.



Wallows must be provided to breeding pigs.

Growing pigs have continuous outdoor access.

Tail docking, teeth clipping, nose ringing, ear notching, and surgical castration not permitted.

Immunocastration permitted.

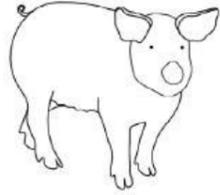


Therapeutic and prophylactic use of antibiotics permitted.

AUSTRALIAN PIG HOUSING SYSTEMS

Disclaimer:

The information provided in this table is intended to give a general overview, based on the *Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Pigs 3rd edition* and *RSPCA Approved Farming Scheme Standards for Pigs*. Specific housing and management practices will vary between farms and what may be required under various certification schemes.

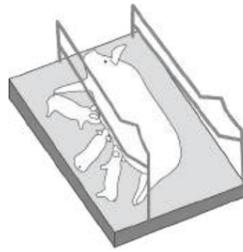


Gilt, sow, boars and pigs:

Gilts are young female pigs that have not yet had a litter of piglets, whereas a sow is a female pig that has had at least one litter of piglets. Boars are adult male pigs used for breeding. Pigs that are grown out for pork production are often referred to as weaners, growers and finishers depending on their age/weight and stage of production.

Sow stalls, farrowing crates, mating stalls and boar stalls:

A sow stall, also known as a gestation (pregnancy) stall, is a metal-barred crate that houses a single sow for part of her 16-week pregnancy. A farrowing crate, also known as a piglet protection pen, is a metal-barred crate that is similar in size to a sow stall but slightly narrower. The sow is moved into the farrowing crate a week before farrowing (giving birth) and is kept there until the piglets are weaned at about 3–4 weeks of age. A mating stall is a crate used to hold a female pig for artificial insemination and is similar in size to a sow stall. A boar stall is like a sow stall but for boars (male adult pigs). It is a metal-barred crate slightly larger than a sow stall, and boars are housed in these continuously other than for exercising or mating.



The Australian pig industry has committed to voluntarily phasing out sow stalls. Around 80% of sows* are now housed in groups except for up to 5 days after mating where they are confined to mating stalls, and the 7 days before farrowing (giving birth) where they are placed in farrowing crates until their piglets are weaned. Where sow stalls are still in place, regulation currently requires that they cannot be used for more than 6 weeks during gestation (pregnancy).

*as at July 2020

For more information:

[What are the animal welfare issues with sow stalls and farrowing crates?](#)

[What is a mating stall for pigs and is it different to a sow stall?](#)

Enrichment:

Providing environmental enrichment may be an effective strategy to improve animal welfare by enabling positive affective (emotional) states and improving biological functioning, particularly where animals are confined indoors. In order to satisfy a pig's innate need to forage, enrichment needs to have certain properties, e.g. be ingestible, destructible, have a smell, and/or be chewable. For a pig to be interested in an enrichment material or object, it should be novel (new or unfamiliar). Renewing and replacing objects and materials when they are no longer being used is essential to ensure pigs maintain interest and receive the benefits of the enrichment.

For more information:

[Why is environmental enrichment important for pig welfare?](#)



Painful procedures:

In their first few days of life, piglets may undergo several painful husbandry procedures such as teeth clipping, tail docking, and ear notching. The RSPCA is opposed to teeth clipping, tail docking and ear notching as routine husbandry procedures. These procedures, especially when performed without anaesthesia or pain relief, cause significant stress and pain to piglets.

For more information:

[What are the animal welfare issues with piglet husbandry procedures?](#)

