

# Self-assessment checklist for pig farming

## Supplementing Guidelines Agriculture Pig Farming

You can use this checklist to document your **self-assessment**. Self-assessment must be carried out **at least once per calendar year** and must consider all areas relevant to your company. This supporting document is based on the requirements defined in the guidelines Agriculture Pig Farming.

 **Additional explanations and interpretation aids** can also be found in the **Explanatory Notes** to the Guideline Agriculture Pig Farming (related requirements).

Important to know: You can use the self-assessment in whole or in parts, as well as on one date or at different times throughout the year, depending on how you want to carry out the self-assessment. You can also have an external person (e.g. technician, consultant or veterinarian) assist you with the inspection.

This self-assessment checklist **does not replace the daily inspection** of all animals and all livestock buildings and facilities.

**Note:** The self-assessment checklist is divided into **Part A Control of documents** and **Part B Livestock inspection**. You can use the additional supporting document "Document overview" to check whether all documents are available that you will need for QS and in the audit. **Important:** The self-assessment checklist does not cover the complete QS Guidelines 1:1, but those points that should be checked once a year.

### Business data

Name of the company

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Street and house number  
Postcode and town

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QS location number (VVVO No.) and production scope

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Contact, legal representative

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Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
<b>Part A Document control</b>					
<b>2.1.1 [K.O.] General company data</b>					
Is there an up-to-date company overview with the following master data? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address of the company and its locations (incl. location numbers)</li> <li>• Telephone and fax number, e-mail address</li> <li>• Legal representative, contact person</li> <li>• Capacities/operating units</li> <li>• For on-farm mixers: type of feed used, number of animal places or amount of feed</li> <li>• Animal places/numbers (relevant for salmonella and antibiotic monitoring, among other things)</li> </ul>					
Has the coordinator been informed of all master data changes since the last self-assessment?					
Is there a company sketch with clear naming of all areas of the company and a location plan for operating resources/a description for externally stored operating resources (in particular feed, litter material)?					
Is the list of personnel (caring for the animals) up to date, including qualification and period of employment?					
Is there a current declaration of participation and power of attorney?					
<b>2.1.3 Fulfilment of measures of the self-assessment</b>					
Are all corrective actions from the last self-assessment implemented and is the implementation documented?					
<b>2.1.4 Incident and crisis management</b>					
Can a paper of incident always be accessed?					
Is a responsible person named who can be contacted in the event of an incident?					
Is there a complete and up-to-date emergency plan at each location?					
<b>3.1.2 Verification of eligibility of delivery</b>					
Has a procedure been established to check the QS eligibility of delivery of all relevant suppliers at the time of delivery (e.g. recipient and supplier list or check in the public scheme participant search)?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
<b>3.2.9 Emergency power supply</b>					
Is there a written agreement if an emergency power generator is borrowed from a third party in case of need?					
<b>3.3.6 Feed production (on-farm mixer)</b>					
Is there a list of used feed material and compound feed or a ration calculation showing the individual components?					
<b>3.3.7 Feed production in cooperation</b>					
Is the documentation for traceability available in case of a cooperation (name and address of the companies supplied as well as the type and quantity delivered)?					
Is there a contractual agreement on feed production or for purchasing groups?					
<b>3.5.1 Care contract with farm veterinarian</b>					
Is there a current care contract with all the necessary details?					
<b>3.5.2 [K.O.] Implementation of the stock care</b>					
<p>Are all* veterinary visit records and examination findings available (if no abnormalities: simplified documentation of findings, e.g. on invoice sufficient)?</p> <p>*Frequency of visits: at least twice a year or once per fattening cycle</p>					
<u>If a need for action has been identified</u> : Is there an action plan?					
<b>3.5.3 [K.O.] Procurement and application of medicines and vaccines</b>					
Is it ensured that the purchase and use of medicines and vaccines are documented to the day and in chronological order?					
<b>3.6.5 Pest monitoring and control</b>					
Are monitoring protocols available?					
Are locations for bait boxes and pest traps documented in a plan?					
<u>In case of pest infestation</u> : Is there verification for pest control measures?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
<b>3.8.8 [K.O.] Proof of qualification for drivers/carer (for livestock transport over 65 km)</b>					
Is there a proof of qualification for drivers and carers for transport over more than 65 km?					

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**Date**

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**Signature**

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
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## Part B Livestock inspection

### 3.2.2 [K.O.] General farming requirements

Is it ensured that the husbandry does not lead to avoidable physical health and behavioural damage?					
Are there no items in the livestock area which mean an obvious risk of a pollution burden or an injury with splinter residue in the tongue?					
Are the animals adequately protected from the weather?					
Are no (subcutaneous) transponder implants used?					
With (expiring) use of implants: Is this mentioned in the food chain information (abattoir)?					
<p>Is it ensured that all pigs except</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sick or injured animals that are separated from the group,</li> <li>• gilt and sows in the period from one week prior to the farrowing date, during the suckling period and after weaning up until four weeks after successful service,</li> <li>• pigs which are sustainably incompatible with other pigs or which are subject to such behaviour,</li> <li>• gilt or sows in companies with less than ten sows and</li> <li>• boars intended for breeding are kept in groups?</li> </ul>					
Do individual pigs always have visual contact with other pigs?					
Can individual pigs turn around unhindered at any time during periods when group housing is generally required?					
Are all installations and equipment (in particular lighting, ventilation and supply equipment such as drinking troughs and feeding systems) in perfect condition?					
<b>Sow Production:</b>					
Is there no risk of injury in box sties?					
Is it possible to stand up, lie down, stretch out the head and (in lateral position) the limbs unhindered in box sties?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Is each side of the crate at least 2.80 m long in group housing and at least 2.40 m long in groups of less than six pigs?					
Is the aisle width behind gestation crates at least 1.60 m (one-sided crate arrangement) or 2.0 m (two-sided crate arrangement)?					
<b>Suckling piglets:</b>					
Are protective fittings against crushing provided in farrowing pens?					
Is the lying area of the piglets sufficiently littered or thermally insulated and heatable (perforated floor covered)?					
<p>Are suckling piglets weaned at the age of more than four weeks?</p> <p>When weaning under four weeks: Are the requirements fulfilled (among others immediate housing in cleaned and disinfected flat deck compartments)?</p>					
<b>3.2.3 [K.O.] Handling sick and injured animals</b>					
Are appropriate accommodation facilities (recovery bays) available for sick and injured animals?					
Are the recovery bays provided with sufficiently dry and soft bedding or padding and is this large enough?					
Are the devices for culling animals available and ready for use (e.g. bolt firing device incl. ammunition and sharp knife)?					
<b>3.2.4 Sty floors</b>					
Are the sty floors and driveways stable and non-slip?					
Do the animals not come more than unavoidable into contact with faeces and urine?					
Is there a dry lying area?					
Does the lying area have a maximum perforation degree of 15 % in group housing (except for weaned piglets)?					
<p><b>Sows (individual housing):</b> Is the lying area not perforated beyond partial areas (character of a closed area, possibility of drainage of liquids)?</p>					
<p>Are the following slat widths complied with?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for sucking piglets max. 11 mm</li> <li>• for weaning piglets max. 14 mm</li> </ul>					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for rearing and fattening pigs max. 18 mm</li> <li>for gilts, sows and boars max. 20 mm</li> </ul>					
Does the width of the beams at least correspond to the respective slat width?					
Is the width of concrete beams for suckling and weaning piglets at least 5 cm, for all other pigs at least 8 cm?					
Do metal grid floors meet the requirements of the guideline?					
<b>3.2.5 Sty climate, temperature, noise pollution, ventilation</b>					
Are air circulation, dust levels, relative humidity and concentration of gas in the air kept at a level which is not harmful to the animals?					
Is it possible to reduce the heat load at high air temperatures?					
Are the requirements for the sty temperature met?					
Is noise reduced to a minimum?					
<u>Optional</u> : Did a sty climate check take place?					
<b>3.2.6 Lighting</b>					
Is the lighting appropriate for the animals (intensity and duration)?					
Is artificial light needed for the care and maintenance of the animals?					
Is the sty lighted continuously for at least 8 hours?					
Is the artificial light in the occupied area of the animals at least 80 lux or at least 40 lux in clearly defined lying areas?					
Is the lighting adapted to the daily rhythm?					
Is an "orientation light" available outside the lighting times?					
<b>3.2.7 [K.O.] Space allowances</b>					
Do the minimum surface areas per animal comply with the specifications (see guideline)?					
Do the minimum lying surfaces per animal comply with the specifications (see guideline)?					
<u>Boars</u> : Are boars over 24 months offered at least 6 m <sup>2</sup> area?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
<b>3.2.8 [K.O.] Alarm system</b>					
If there is electrical ventilation, is there an alarm system that provides a breakdown of the ventilation system and operates independently of the power grid?					
Does the alarm system work?					
Is the alarm system checked for functionality at technically required intervals?					
<b>3.2.9 Emergency power supply</b>					
Is an emergency power supply present if an adequate provision of fresh air, feed and water is not ensured in the event of a power failure?					
Are the necessary technical facilities to allow the connection of this generator in place?					
Does the emergency power supply work?					
Are emergency power generators checked for functionality at technically required intervals?					
Are back-up devices available to ensure adequate air exchange if the ventilation system fails?					
<b>3.2.12 Requirements on loading and unloading equipment for livestock transport</b>					
Are the loading and unloading facilities constructed in such a way that animals cannot get injured and can be loaded safely?					
Is there a protective railing for ramp systems?					
Are the ramps suitable (non-slip, angle of inclination, crossbars if necessary, side protection, lighting)?					
<b>3.2.13 [K.O.] Handling livestock during loading</b>					
Are the persons loading the animals trained or qualified?					
<b>3.2.14 [K.O.] Activity material</b>					
Does every pig of any age have access to a sufficient amount of manipulable material which does not pose a health risk?					
Is the activity material organic and rich in fibre?					
Can the activity material be examined, moved and rearranged by the pigs?					



Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
If products declared as feed are used as manipulable material: Are the requirements of criteria 3.3.3 <i>Feed storage</i> and 3.3.4 [K.O.] <i>Feed procurement</i> met?					
<b>3.3.2 Hygiene of feeding facilities</b>					
Are all plants, containers and feeding lines, feed transport boxes, equipment (e.g. shovels) and vehicles clean and in proper condition?					
Are feeding systems cleaned after the use of veterinary drugs?					
<b>3.3.3 Feed storage</b>					
Are all feeds stored clean and dry?					
Are all feeds protected from contamination (separated from waste, liquid and solid manure, hazardous substances, seeds, medication, chemicals, packaging materials)?					
Are all feeds protected from the weather?					
Are all feeds protected from pests, rodents, birds, wild boar, other wild animals and pets?					
If necessary, are suitable measures taken to remedy defects and/or combat them?					
Is mixing avoided and are silo cells clearly marked and easy to identify?					
<b>3.3.6 Feed production (on-farm mixer)</b>					
Have the plants and equipment for feed production been inspected and, if necessary, maintained or repaired?					
<b>3.4.1 [K.O.] Water supply</b>					
Do all animals always have access to drinking water (ad libitum)?					
Are there enough drinkers according to the guideline?					
Is the used drinking water clean, clear and without extraneous odour?					
<b>3.4.2 Hygiene of drinking facilities</b>					
Are all drinking facilities clean and in proper condition?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Are drinking facilities cleaned after the use of medicines?					
<u>Optional</u> : Was a drinking water check carried out?					
<b>3.5.3 [K.O.] Procurement and application of medicines and vaccines</b>					
Is it ensured that only flawless injection needles are used (replacement of bent, blunt, broken and otherwise unsuitable needles)?					
<b>3.5.4 [K.O.] Storage of medicines and vaccines</b>					
Is the medicine store clean and inaccessible to unauthorised persons?					
Are all medicines and vaccines stored in accordance with the instructions of the producer?					
Have all expired preparations been disposed of according to regulations? Have empty containers been disposed of?					
<b>3.6.1 Buildings and equipment</b>					
Are all buildings, adjoining rooms (including medication storage), outdoor facilities including loading equipment, all sty equipment and feeding systems clean and in proper condition?					
Is effective pest control possible for all buildings and facilities including containers and troughs, feed transport boxes, equipment (e.g. shovels), and vehicles used for feeding animals?					
<b>3.6.2 Hygiene on the farm</b>					
Are all sties marked with a sign stating "Livestock – Access prohibited for unauthorised persons"?					
For free-range and outdoor keeping: sign with "Livestock – unauthorised feeding and trespassing prohibited" available?					
Do gates, doors and other entrances effectively prevent the entry of unauthorised persons and animals?					
Is protective clothing for external persons provided?					
Are there a functional hand-wash basin, hand cleaning agent, disposable wipes or clean towels?					
Is access to landfills and household waste for animals prevented?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Are pig sty entrances and exits fitted with devices for cleaning and disinfecting shoes?					
Are there solid facilities (e.g. asphalt, concrete, pavement) for loading pigs?					
Are devices and means for cleaning and disinfection ready for use?					
Is contact with wild animals, especially wild boars and rodents, effectively prevented?					
<b>3.6.3 Handling litter, dung and feed leftovers</b>					
Are litter and organic manipulable material stored clean and protected from pests and wild boar?					
<b>3.6.4 Carcass storage and pick-up</b>					
Are dead animals stored on a paved area and outside the sty area if possible?					
Is the carcass storage large enough?					
Is it protected from unauthorised access?					
Is it easy to clean and disinfect?					
Is it rodent-tight?					
Is it protected against leakage of fluids?					
<b>3.6.5 Pest monitoring and control</b>					
Is the infestation checked regularly by means of pest monitoring?					
<b>3.6.6 Cleaning and disinfection measures</b>					
Are all cleaning agents and disinfectants stored properly?					
<b>3.6.7 Special hygiene requirements</b>					
Fattening pig and/or rearing pig companies with capacity for more than 700 fattening and/or rearing pigs, pig-breeding companies for more than 150 sows and mixed companies for more than 100 sows (Annex-3-companies)					
Does the staff only have access to the sty area via changing rooms?					
Are the sties only entered with protective clothing or disposable clothing?					
Is the changing room equipped with hand washing basin and water connection with drain for cleaning shoes?					

Criterion/requirement	Yes	No	Not applicable	Remark/ corrective action	Dead line
Are the sties divided into compartments?					
Is the company secured against unauthorised access by persons and wild boar (fencing, possibly "isolated solutions")?					
Is there a fixed area, ramp or other (operational) facility for loading or unloading pigs?					
<b>3.8.2 Requirements for the means of transportation</b>					
Are the vehicles in perfect technical and hygienic condition?					
Are the dividers strong enough?					
Aren't the animals on the lower level unnecessarily contaminated with faeces?					
Are the tethers strong enough?					
Can't the animals escape or fall out?					
Are the animals protected against the weather?					
Is the fresh air supply sufficient and air circulation possible?					
Is the floor non-slip?					
Are the floors littered?					
Is the inspection of animals possible at any time (e.g. lighting)?					
Transport over 50 km: Is there a sign "live animals" on the vehicle?					

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**Date**

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**Signature**