

Herd-health practical in pig farm

Undersigned,Supervisor of the practical work, herewith declares that the practitioner duly performed the tasks assigned for the date

	Tasks	Date	Signature
1	Comparison of animal welfare and biosecurity specifications with actual parameters of the farm		
2	Critical evaluation of biosecurity facilities and their operation. Experiences with implementation of the “all in – all out” principle.		
3	Studying the farm by checklists with special reference to discussing principal items of operation, management, health, population genetics and nutrition.		
4	Evaluation of methods of disinfection as applied in the farm. Checking the efficiency of disinfection.		
5	Waste management I. Treatment and disposal of carrions in the farm; critical analysis in the mirror of the existent regulations.		
6	Waste management II. Description and critical analysis of (liquid and/or solid) manure treatment and disposal.		
7	Methods of pest control in the farm (rodent-, bird- and insect-control).		
8	Description and critical evaluation of the operation of heating and ventilation systems. Instrumental control of the efficiency of air exchange in one or two chosen building(s) by using environmental diagnostic techniques.		
9	Management practices applied in the farm to reduce expensive feed wastages including feed distribution system and storage; feeder setup and management; feeding and management; rodent and vermin control; feeding unnecessary animals; feeding for unnecessary activity. Farm practice of water management: sampling of water source(es); correspondence with the diagnostic lab; evaluation of former data of water analysis; clearing and disinfection of the local water resource(s).		
10	Discussion of fattening performance (actual parameters of FCR /feed conversion rate/, daily weight gain, age at slaughter /105kg/) preferably with the veterinary consultant of the farm. Overview and detailed discussion on the effects of actual health status of the farm, nutrition and genetic program applied locally.		
11	Local practice of animal transportation. Critical evaluation of the practice with respect to the relevant animal welfare codes and directives.		
12	Getting acquaintance with the local computer programmes to support feeding, breeding and animal health		

	management with special reference to multi-factorial approach to controlling diseases (e.g. porcine respiratory disease complex).		
13	Evaluation of reproductive performance of the farm. Collating the actual parameters with the target and boundary (decision) parameters. Location of problem area(s).		
14	Practicing oestrus detection, oestrus synchronisation; AI and early pregnancy check.		
15	Local practice of buying in replacement animals. Conditions and practical conduct of quarantining. Principles and implementation of raising gilts with reference to animal health aspects. Methods of selection of gilts for breeding. Proportion of failure and silent gilts. Possible reason(s).		
16	Animal health and breeding management of boars. Practicing of semen collection. Microscopic evaluation of semen samples.		
17	Animal health and breeding management of primi- and multiparous sows with special reference to vaccination programmes and antiparasitic treatments.		
18	Reasons and economic consequences of culling of gilts and sows (culling strategy; proportion of voluntary and involuntary removals; effects of pre- and post-service and removal intervals on the culling rate).		
19	Herd-health management from farrowing till weaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Theory and practices of synchronised farrowing; hormonal interventions during and after farrowing; ○ Assistance at farrowings; resuscitation; ○ Analysis late foetal death and intrapartum/early postnatal death (occurrence, proportions) ○ Risk analysis of producing stillborn piglets; ○ Theory and local practice of fostering; ○ Postnatal preventive treatments of new-born piglets. 		
20	Periparturient disease complex of the sow with special reference to occurrence, herd-level diagnosis, prevention and treatment of hypogalactia. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teat profiles (inspecting and recording of at least 50 sows); ○ Practicing body condition score of sows (investigation of at least 50 sows; distribution of scores and optionally photo-illustration of different body conditions); ○ The role of feeding, housing and way of relocation of sows from the in-pig sow house to the farrowing house on the development of the periparturient disease complex. 		
21	Her-health management from farrowing till weaning		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Check-up abortions and application of relevant measures of state veterinary medicine; ○ Rules and practice of sending samples to diagnostic lab; ○ Reasons and magnitude of stillbirths ○ Supervision of farrowing as mean of controlling stillborn losses; ○ By inspecting and taking weight of new-born piglets of at least 20 litters prepare statistics on birth weight distribution of piglets; ○ Prepare statistics on the reasons and proportion of infectious and non-infectious losses between farrowing and weaning. 		
22	<p>Herd-health management from weaning to the end of the nursing (post-weaning) period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local factors that affect weight gain after weaning (preferably on basis of measuring the weight gain); ○ Create statistics on bacterial and viral diseases that characterise the farm; ○ Ideal and local practice of prevention of peri-weaning enteral diseases. 		
23	<p>Herd-health management of the fattening pig; If present: study the control methods postweaning multy-systemic wasting syndrome.</p>		
24	<p>With supervision of the local vet and with active collaboration of the vet-assistant participation in the daily routine of the preventive and curative work (herd inspection, autopsy, immunisation, antiparasitic treatments etc.).</p>		
25	<p>With supervision of the local vet and with active collaboration of the vet-assistant participation in the daily routine of the preventive and curative work: castration, hernia repairs etc.</p>		
26	<p>Diagnostic work: collecting biological samples and submitting them with lege artis letter to diagnostic labs; Individual and mass-treatments (e.g. application of medicine(s) in drinking water).</p>		
27	<p>Purchase of medicines, vaccines, veterinary biologicals and instruments; Critical evaluation of storing conditions of the above material.</p>		
28	<p>Summary and discussion of the vaccination and curative programmes applied in the farm; refreshment of knowledge of relevant infectious and germ related multifactorial diseases.</p>		
29.	<p>Pre-transport inspection of animals, filling up appropriate documentations.</p>		
30	<p>Practicing slaughterhouse surveillance according to the relevant lecture (occurrence, prevalence and severity /scoring/ of respiratory disorders /including pleurisy,</p>		

	lung abscessation and atrophic rhinitis;/ ascariasis; nephritis and sarcoptic mange) in the slaughterhouse to where the finished pigs are transported on regular basis.		
31	Overall summary and evaluation of the farm with special regard to economy of production, housing and feeding conditions and to the herd health technology.		

Of the above practices the student should perform at least 70% and the activities should be testified by signature of the supervisor. Lesser performance forms stumbling block of acceptance.

Date and place of the practice

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Supervisor

Issued by the Department of Animal Hygiene,
Herd-Health and Veterinary Ethology

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Prof. Dr. habil Endre Brydl, DVM, CSc, R. Dipl. ECBHM
Professor Emeritus
University of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Animal Hygiene, Herd Health and Veterinary Ethology
H-1078 Budapest
István u. 2.
brydl.endre@univet.hu
+36-1-478-4100/8516
+36-20-925-2127