

Approved Human-Animal interaction courses

The managers of each pig farm location that participates in the Better Life label scheme must have followed a human-animal interaction course.

Among other things, this course must comply with the following conditions:

1. The course is given by an experienced expert in pig welfare and health;
2. At least three hours of training are dedicated to practical examples (in the pig house and/or using videos and photos) during which the participant learns to translate signals given by the behaviour or appearance of the animal into concrete, positive or negative causes for this behaviour or appearance;
3. Attention is paid to the effects of the pig farmer's/stockperson's behaviour on the animals being cared;
4. Attention is paid to the positive consequences of good human-animal interaction on financial and production results.

Available courses

The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals has approved the following Human-Animal interaction courses for managers/stockpersons of pig farm locations that participate in the Better Life label scheme:

- '[Stressvrij omgaan met varkens](#)' by Wageningen Academy, Wageningen Livestock Research. Those interested can contact Marko Ruis (marko.ruis@wur.nl or (+31) (0)6-20393827).
- '[Varkenssignalen](#)' by Stichting Keten Duurzaam Varkensvlees – For pig farmers who supply to Keten Duurzaam Varkensvlees (KDV).
- '[Opleidingsprogramma mens-dier interactie voor varkenshouders/dierverzorgers op het varkensbedrijf](#)' by the Onderzoeksgroep Dier&Welzijn van de KU Leuven – Conducted on request.
- '[Welzijn en de behoeftes van het varken](#)' by De Varkenspraktijk
Those interested can contact Marly van Heesbeen (M.v.Heesbeen@devarkenspraktijk.nl or (+31) (0)6-53966895).

No longer available courses

The courses below have been approved but are currently no longer being offered:

- 'Basistraining Varkenssignalen: Aandacht voor het dier' by Varkens.nl and Rood Bont Agricultural Publishers
- 'Welzijn en de behoeftes van het varken' by PorQ
- 'Mens-dier interactie' by Varkens natuurlijk
- 'Varkenssignalen' by Kees Scheepens
- 'Welzijnscoach' via Wageningen University & Research, by the POV
- 'Mens-dier interactie' by HAS Kennistransfer en bedrijfsopleidingen
- 'Online cursus mens-dier interactie in de varkenshouderij' by Wageningen Academy, Wageningen Livestock Research.
- 'Varkenssignalen' by Trudy van de Ven