

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
No rights may be derived from these criteria. Subject to inaccuracies and amendments.					
Definition of "date of new construction/renovation": the date on which the application for an environmental permit was submitted to the municipality. This must be demonstrated in writing on the basis of a confirmation of receipt from the municipality.					
Definition of "renovation": a structural modification of an existing building, an extension or a modified internal layout (e.g. installing platforms, changes to cages and/or animal category, etc.). Criteria for new construction and renovation may be limited to the renewed or refurbished area of the farm. For example, if a slatted floor is replaced, or the layout of the house is changed, the daylight criteria need not be realised at the same time.					
Exclusion criteria					
UIT01	Other activities	No other activities are performed at the company (UBN) that do not conform with the policy of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals.	<p>Activities that do not conform with the policy of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping fur animals for production purposes; - Keeping laying hens in enriched cages (permitted in the Netherlands until 01-01-2021) and colony housing (successor to the enriched cage and the only permitted form of 'battery cage' in the Netherlands from 2021). The identification code stamped on the egg starts with the number 3; - Keeping wild animals for production purposes, - Keeping geese or ducks for the production of goose or duck liver; - Breeding/Keeping endangered species, such as eel; - Keeping double-muscled breeds of meat cattle with a high incidence of caesarean sections, such as Belgian Blues and Dutch Improved Red Pied. <p>This does not include cattle produced by beef on dairy crosses of double-muscled breeds x dairy breeds whereby the bull has been selected for calving ease;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other activities that (may) conflict with the policy of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals. 	Verify <u>and record</u> whether the farm (UBN) performs any other activities that do not conform with the policy of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals.	Critical
UIT03	Genetically modified animals	There are no genetically modified animals on the farm (UBN).	<p>A genetically modified animal has been adapted using gene technology. Genetic or gene technology is a form of biotechnology by which the DNA of an organism is directly adapted by introducing additional genes with the desired traits into an animal. Conventional methods by which the DNA of an organism is indirectly adapted, such as crossing, selecting and breeding of certain breeds are permitted.</p>	Verify <u>and record</u> whether there are any genetically modified animals on the farm (UBN).	Critical

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UIT05	Standard for mega-housing	Z09.1	<p>To determine the number of NGE on the farm, the number of pigs based on the Better Life operating capacity (see A06) must be multiplied by the following numbers of NGE per animal category:</p> <p>1 dry, gestating or farrowing sow, 50 kg or more (on site with weaned piglets) = 0.2606 NGE 1 dry, gestating or farrowing sow, 50 kg or more (on site without weaned piglets) = 0.2370 NGE 1 rearing sow or boar, 20-50 kg or 1 rearing sow <u>or boar</u> of 50 kg or more, not covered/<u>ready for breeding</u> = 0.0577 NGE 1 piglet up to 20 kg (without sows on site) = 0.0330 NGE 1 piglet up to 20 kg (with sows on site) = 0.0000 NGE 1 finisher from 20 kg, ready for breeding = 0.0437 NGE 1 boar, 50 kg or more, not ready for breeding = 0.0577 NGE</p> <p>For example, the following locations are designated as mega-houses within the Better Life label and are excluded from participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - finisher farm with more than: 7551 finishers (7552 x 0.0437 = 330.02 NGE) - multiplication farm with more than: 1266 sows and weaned piglets (1267 x 0.2606 = 330.18 NGE) - farm with more than: 600 sows and 3973 finishers (601 x 0.2606 + 3973 x 0.0437 = 330.24 NGE) - wean-to-finish farms with more than: 10,000 weaning piglets (10,001 x 0.0330 = 330.03 NGE) <p>If, based on the farm capacity, it appears that a farm exceeds the maximum farm size, the farmer may, based on an overview of the number of animals present per day (e.g. the animal count) and the average number of animals present over the past year, demonstrate that the maximum farm size is not exceeded at any time. A management system must be used for this purpose. The management system must offer the possibility to process and display animal numbers per day and to display the average of animals present. The number of animals present must be kept up to date (the farmer may be a maximum of 1 week behind in updating the number of animals present in the management system) and must be transparent up to at least one year in the past. Keeping animal numbers in an Excel file or similar is insufficient.</p> <p>The term 'mega-barn ' should not be confused with the concept of an industrial-scale 'factory farm'. A mega-barn concerns a single location, a factory farm refers to a livestock farm with animal houses in multiple locations. The farm as a whole has a very high number of animals. However, the number of animals kept at the various locations is comparable to the numbers kept on regular farms.</p> <p>If existing BLL participants (registered before 01/01/2022) exceed the mega-housing standard as a result of the NGE animal categories, these participants will not be sanctioned. These participants may adhere to the number of BLL animal places present on 31/12/2021. In case of renovation or new construction, the number of BLL animal places is reduced to 330 NGE or less. For existing BLL participants registered before 01-01-2012, these participants may maintain the number of animals that were kept on 01-01-2012 and the number of animals kept during renovation/new construction is not increased further.</p> <p><u>Not applicable to existing houses that were Better Life Label participants before 02-05-2026 (adoption criteria). These barns may maintain the number of animals that were kept on 02-05-2026 (adoption criteria). With new construction or renovation, the number of animals kept must be decreased to 330 NGE or less.</u></p>	<p>Verify <u>and record</u> whether the farm does not exceed the limit for the maximum working size. <u>Record</u> the number of NGE present on the farm based <u>on</u> the number of BLL animal places <u>as defined in criteria A00 and subsequently</u>.</p> <p>If the farm exceeds the maximum farm size based on the number of BLL animal places, but in reality keeps fewer animals, verify and record whether the farm does not exceed the maximum farm size based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The average number of animals present in the past year. • At least 10 random samples of days on which pigs are supplied or set up and days before the pigs are removed. <p>This verification is performed using a management system.</p>	Major

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UIT06	Tiered enclosure Stores	Only the ground floor <u>of the farm (UBN) inside buildings</u> is used to keep animals. <u>With the exception of aviary and free-range houses for laying hens, where a maximum of two storeys may be used.</u>	<p>“Tiered houses”, i.e. houses where animals are kept on several storeys/floors/tiers are excluded from participation in the Better Life label.</p> <p>This criterion came into force per 01-01-2017.</p> <p>New farms with a tiered enclosure that registered for the Better Life label after this date are not eligible for the Better Life label scheme.</p> <p>Not applicable to existing enclosures that already participated in the Better Life label before 01/01/2017. However, in construction or renovation activities these enclosures may not build or add any new tiers after 01/01/2017.</p> <p>Not applicable for platforms, which are not included in the definition of tiered enclosures.</p> <p><u>A farm (UBN) with a house in which animals are kept on multiple floors/storeys/tiers that applies to register for the Better Life label after 01-09-2016 is not eligible for the Better Life label.</u></p> <p><u>This criterion does not apply to:</u> <u>- A farm (UBN) with a house in which animals are kept on multiple floors/storeys/tiers that was already a participant in the Better Life label scheme before 01-09-2016. With new construction or renovation, farms are not permitted to build or add a house with more than one floor/storey/tier.</u> <u>- Raised living areas/platforms. Platforms are not included in the definition of houses with multiple storeys.</u> <u>- aviary and free-range houses (or a combination of both housing systems): aviary and free-range houses for hens in which no more than two storeys are used to keep animals are (always) exempt from this ban on houses with multiple storeys. The exemption applies to both existing and new participants. This is consistent with local legislation in the Netherlands (e.g. the Brabant Care Quality Score Livestock (Brabantse Zorgvuldigheidscore Veehouderij) and Overijssel).</u></p>	<p>Make sure the farm only keeps animals on the ground floor. the farm has a tiered enclosure, check whether the farm participated in the BLK before 1/1/2017 and/or whether any new construction/renovations took place after this date.</p> <p>Not applicable for platforms, which are not included in the definition of tiered enclosures</p> <p><u>Verify and record whether the farm (UBN) only keeps animals on one storey, namely the ground floor. If there is a house on the farm (UBN) in which animals are kept on multiple storeys, verify whether the farm (UBN) participated in the Better Life label scheme before 01-09-2016 and whether, in case of new construction or renovation, no houses with more than one storey were built or added after this date.</u></p> <p><u>Verify and record in aviary houses or free-range houses whether the animals are kept on no more than two storeys.</u></p>	Critical
UIT07	Chain Manager	The livestock farm is registered with a chain manager that is approved by the Better Life label Foundation.	A chain manager is, for example, a feed producer , an abattoir, processor or intermediary that links various components of the supply chain, from the primary producer to the processor/seller as well as all existing interim links, and manages the farms affiliated to this supply chain.	Verify whether the livestock farm is registered with at least one chain manager that is approved by the Better Life label Foundation. Record the name of the chain manager(s).	Critical-Major
UIT08	Cooperation	The participant is obliged to provide full cooperation and grant access to the farm to BLL inspectors who perform inspections on behalf of the Certification Body or the Better Life label Foundation.	If the inspectors are denied access to the farm or no cooperation is given, the farm will be excluded from participation, unless it can invoke force majeure. Examples of force majeure are outbreaks of an infectious animal disease for which the government has imposed a ban on visitors to the farm, or a death in the family. This is not an exhaustive list. In practice, the inspectors will determine whether a situation of force majeure applies.	<u>If the inspectors are denied access to the farm or no cooperation is given, record why access is denied/no cooperation is given, and whether or not this concerns force majeure.</u>	Critical

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UJT09	All pigs present on the farm are Better Life	All pigs on the farm (UBN) comply with the criteria for Better Life label pigs 3 stars.	<p><u>If a finisher farm decides to stop with the BLL scheme and at any time sets up piglets under non-BLL-eligible piglets, under certain conditions the BLL-eligible finishers still present may be removed as BLL-eligible for a certain period of time.</u></p> <p><u>The following conditions apply:</u></p> <p><u>1. A maximum of three months after placing the first non-BLL piglets, the BLL breeder that stops may still deliver BLL-worthy piglets to other BLL pig farms; thereafter, no more. The end date of the BLL certificate will be set to this date (date of placing the first non-BLL piglets + 3 months);</u></p> <p><u>2. This arrangement is only applicable to the farm if it is actually stopping with BLL. Therefore, the farm may not reapply for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again, the farm may not reapply for BLL for at least one year.</u></p> <p><u>If a pig farm decides to stop with the BLL scheme and at any time sets up piglets under non-BLL conditions, under certain conditions the BLL-eligible piglets and/or finishers still present may be delivered/removed as BLL-eligible for a certain period of time.</u></p> <p><u>The following conditions apply to BLL breeding farms:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>- A maximum of 3 months after setting up the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible piglets from the breeding farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered to other BLL pig farms. However, this is no longer permitted after 3 months. The end date of the BLL certificate is this date (date of setting up first non-BLL piglets + 3 months).</u> <u>- As soon as the farm changes to setting up piglets under non-BLL conditions, the farm must only set up piglets under non-BLL conditions. No more piglets may subsequently be set up under BLL conditions.</u> <u>- BLL and non-BLL-eligible piglets are housed separately. During the BLL inspection, this is verified based on the age and castration of piglets.</u> <u>- The BLLF and CB are informed that piglets are set up under non-BLL conditions. This must be done no later than 1 week after the animals were set up.</u> <u>- An unannounced inspection is performed before the end date of the BLL certificate at the farmer's cost.</u> <u>- This is only applicable if the farm actually stops using the BLL scheme. The farm may therefore no longer register for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again.</u> 	<p><u>Verify and record whether there are any pigs on the farm (UBN) that do not comply with the criteria for BLL pigs 3 + stars.</u></p> <p><u>If applicable, record the date of the first supply of non-BLL piglets and/or date of delivery of last BLL finishers. In the case of farms that stop, verify whether the conditions are complied with.</u></p> <p><u>Record the findings.</u></p>	Major

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			<p><u>The following conditions apply to BLL finisher farms:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A maximum of 3 months after supplying the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible piglets from the finisher farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered. However, this is no longer permitted after 3 months. The end date of the BLL certificate is this date (date of supplying first non-BLL piglets + 3 months). - This is only applicable if the farm actually stops using the BLL scheme. The farm may therefore no longer register for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again. <p><u>The following conditions apply to BLL closed system farms:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A maximum of 3 months after setting up the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible piglets from the closed system farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered to other BLL pig farms. However, this is no longer permitted after 3 months. - A maximum of 6 months after setting up the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible finishers from the closed system farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered to the abattoir. However, this is no longer permitted after 6 months. - The end date of the BLL certificate is this date (date of setting up first non-BLL piglets + 6 months). - As soon as the farm changes to setting up piglets under non-BLL conditions, the farm must only set up piglets under non-BLL conditions. No more piglets may subsequently be set up under BLL conditions. - BLL and non-BLL-eligible piglets and finishers are housed separately. During the BLL inspection, this is verified based on the age and castration of piglets. - The BLLF and CB are informed that piglets are set up under non-BLL conditions. This must be done no later than 1 week after the animals were set up. - An unannounced inspection is performed before the end date of the BLL certificate at the farmer's cost. - This is only applicable if the farm actually stops using the BLL scheme. The farm may therefore no longer register for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again. 		

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A01a	All pigs present on the farm are Better Life	All pigs on the farm (UBN) comply with the Better Life label criteria.	<p>If a pig farm decides to stop with the BLL scheme and at any time sets up piglets under non-BLL conditions, under certain conditions the BLL-eligible piglets and/or finishers still present may be delivered/removed as BLL-eligible for a certain period of time.</p> <p>The following conditions apply to BLL-breeding farms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A maximum of 3 months after setting up the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible piglets from the breeding farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered to other BLL pig farms. However, this is no longer permitted after 3 months. The end date of the BLL certificate is this date (date of setting up first non-BLL piglets + 3 months). - As soon as the farm changes to setting up piglets under non-BLL conditions, the farm must only set up piglets under non-BLL conditions. No more piglets may subsequently be set up under BLL conditions. - BLL and non-BLL-eligible piglets are housed separately. During the BLL inspection, this is verified based on the age and castration of piglets. - The BLLF and CB are informed that piglets are set up under non-BLL conditions. This must be done no later than 1 week after the animals were set up. - An unannounced inspection is performed before the end date of the BLL certificate at the farmer's cost. - This is only applicable if the farm actually stops using the BLL scheme. The farm may therefore no longer register for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again. <p>The following conditions apply to BLL-finisher farms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A maximum of 3 months after supplying the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible piglets from the finisher farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered. However, this is no longer permitted after 3 months. The end date of the BLL certificate is this date (date of supplying first non-BLL piglets + 3 months). - This is only applicable if the farm actually stops using the BLL scheme. The farm may therefore no longer register for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again. <p>The following conditions apply to BLL-closed system farms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A maximum of 3 months after setting up the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible piglets from the closed system farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered to other BLL pig farms. However, this is no longer permitted after 3 months. - A maximum of 6 months after setting up the first non-BLL piglets, BLL-eligible finishers from the closed system farm stopping with the BLL scheme may still be delivered to the abattoir. However, this is no longer permitted after 6 months. - The end date of the BLL certificate is this date (date of setting up first non-BLL piglets + 6 months). - As soon as the farm changes to setting up piglets under non-BLL conditions, the farm must only set up piglets under non-BLL conditions. No more piglets may subsequently be set up under BLL conditions. - BLL and non-BLL-eligible piglets and finishers are housed separately. During the BLL inspection, this is verified based on the age and castration of piglets. - The BLLF and CB are informed that piglets are set up under non-BLL conditions. This must be done no later than 1 week after the animals were set up. - An unannounced inspection is performed before the end date of the BLL certificate at the farmer's cost. - This is only applicable if the farm actually stops using the BLL scheme. The farm may therefore no longer register for BLL for at least one year. Upon reapplication, a new entry inspection must be conducted, and all animals present on the farm must be BLL-worthy again. 	<p>Verify whether there are no pigs present on the farm that are not BLL-eligible.</p> <p>In the case of farms that stop, verify whether the conditions are complied with.</p> <p>Record the findings.</p>	Major

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A01	Reporting obligation	Better Life label participant is required to report without delay any amendment that affects or may affect participation in BLL or the BLL certificate in writing to the Certification Body and the chain manager.	Amendments include, but are not limited to: a. Cessation (temporary or otherwise) of the farm, regardless of the reason. b. Transfer of the farm to a new legal entity/owner c. Amendment of UBN d. Loss of an accreditation or a certificate meaning the applicable BLL criteria can no longer be complied with f. Etc. The chain manager informs the Certification Body and the Better Life label Foundation of the amendments.	Verify whether amendments that affect participation in the Better Life Label scheme from the previous year have been reported to the Certification Body and the chain manager. <u>Record any amendments.</u>	Minor
A02	Knowledge & skills	The farmer can demonstrate that the farmer and his staff have the necessary knowledge and skills regarding animal health, animal welfare, animal behaviour and various livestock farming systems.	The staff employed on the farm must have at least: - Secondary vocational education in livestock farming or - 1 year of working experience in <u>intensive</u> pig farming or - work under the responsibility of a person with these qualifications. Diplomas and certificates are present at the farm. These qualifications are registered in an overview.	Verify and record whether the overview of the knowledge and qualifications of the farmer and the staff is present and whether it complies with the conditions. Record the last date the registration was updated.	Minor
A03	Course Human-animal interaction workshop	<u>The manager/farm manager. All permanent staff that handle live animals</u> at each pig farm site that participates in BLL must have followed a human-animal interaction <u>course/workshop</u> approved by the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals. <u>A person who is new to working with pigs on a pig farm will follow a human-animal interaction course- workshop as soon as possible, but no later than within 1 year. Taking a refresher course is mandatory at least once every five years. This is counted from the date that a human-animal interaction workshop was followed. If this was more than 5 years ago, a refresher course must have been followed after the first year from the entry into force of the criteria, i.e. from 02-05-2027.</u> <u>Until 02-05-2027 a year after (adoption criteria) this obligation only applies to the pig farmer/manager. If it is not possible to follow the workshop within a year due to a waiting list with course providers, registration to attend a workshop must take place within that year.</u>	<u>The main element of the course workshop is awareness of the effects of one's own behaviour on pig welfare. Conditions human-animal interaction course (e.g.):</u> 1. <u>Provided by an experienced expert on swine welfare and health;</u> 2. <u>At least 3 hours of the training consists of practical examples (in the enclosure and/or using video and photo material) during which the course participant will learn to translate signals in animal behaviour or appearance into concrete positive or negative causes of this behaviour or appearance;</u> 3. <u>Attention is given to the effects of the behaviour of the pig farmer on the animals in his care;</u> 4. <u>Attention is given to the positive consequences of a good human-animal interaction on financial and production results.</u> See the Better Life Label Foundation website for <u>the assessment criteria for human-animal interaction courses workshops</u> . You can also find a list of approved human-animal interaction <u>courses-workshops here</u> . <u>Permanent staff are employees with an employment contract.</u>	Verify whether the <u>pig farmer/manager/farm manager</u> has obtained proof of participation in a <u>course/workshop</u> approved by the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals within 1 year of certification for BLL. <u>If applicable, verify whether a refresher course has been followed within 5 years after the workshop was followed or after the first year from the entry into force of the criteria, i.e. from 02-05-2027</u> <u>Verify annually after from 02-05-2027 (adoption criteria), whether all permanent staff that handle live animals, have obtained proof of participation in a course workshop approved by the Society for the Protection of Animals within 1 year. If applicable, verify whether a refresher course has been followed within 5 years after the workshop was followed.</u> Record <u>the name of the course workshop and the date on which the course workshop was followed. If applicable, also record the name of the refresher course.</u>	Minor
A03a	<u>Annual courses on the farm. Refresher courses</u>	<u>At least two courses half-day refresher courses on pig husbandry are organised annually, either on the farm itself or at another farm. All staff with a permanent contract that handle live animals must attend.</u>	<u>At least one course half day per year concerns positive human-animal interaction. Other topics a course for refresher courses include preventing tail biting and the farm health plan. The courses refresher courses may, for example, be given by the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner or by another relevant expert. A study meeting/study group may also be considered as a refresher course or refresher courses can be followed online.</u> <u>The mandatory human-animal interaction course workshop stated in A03a does not count towards criterion A03a.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether at least two half-day courses on pig husbandry have been given annually, with at least one course half day course per year concerning positive human-animal interaction. Verify and record whether all permanent staff attended using proof of participation/registration, the date the course was refresher course was followed and who gave these courses refresher courses.</u> <u>Permanent staff are employees with an employment contract.</u>	Minor

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A04.3	IKB-certificaat <u>Supply chain quality system</u>	The pig farm The entire chain is IKB or Holland Varken Quality Varken and/or certified. This IKB system has been recognised as equivalent by GlobalGap IFA Pigs.	The following is also sufficient: 1. certification for a system that is recognised as an equivalent chain quality system by the Society for the Protection of Animals, see the BLLF website for a list, or 2. an IKB or Holland Varken Quality inspection report (without issue of an IKB or Holland Varken Quality certificate), not older than 1 year, performed by a certified Certification Body that demonstrates that the farm complies with the IKB or Holland Varken Quality standards, except for specific criteria which the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals Protection Society has established do not have to be complied with for the Better Life label.	Verify and record whether the farm has a valid IKB or Holland Varken Quality certificate, of an IKB-system. Record the expiry date of the IKB or Holland Varken Quality certificate of an IKB system that has been recognised by GlobalGap IFA The register of the chain quality system relevant IKB-system is leading.	Major
A05	I&R regulations	The pig farmer reports the supply and delivery of pigs from their farm in compliance with the <i>Regeling identificatie en registratie van dieren</i> (Regulations for the identification and registration of animals)	Foreign farms must report the supply and delivery of pigs in compliance with Guideline 92/102/EEG: regarding the identification and registration of animals, or national legislation derived from these guidelines.	Verify <u>and record whether supply and delivery conform with the 'Regulations for the identification and registration of animals' or Guideline 92/102/EEG using administrative records, supply and delivery notes.</u>	Minor
A06	Determine the Better Life operating capacity	The farm capacity for holding Better Life pigs animals is calculated and confirmed by the Certification Body awarding the Better Life certificate.	The farm capacity for holding Better Life pigs is calculated and confirmed by the Certification Body awarding the Better Life certificate.	Calculate the capacity for the holding pigs animals during the entry inspection and when changes to the farm layout have been implemented in the past year. The operating capacity for keeping pigs animals is (boars, sows, weaned piglets, finishers) calculated based on the Better Life label criteria for the relevant category. Record the operating capacity by determining the number of pigs animals per type of pen/section and multiplying this figure by the number of pens/sections of this type on the farm.	Major
Feed					
AV04	Feed	Sufficient feed must be provided based on nutritional and behavioural needs.		Check and note the condition of the animals and feed supply.	Minor
AV01a	<u>Liquid feed</u> RECOMMENDATION	<u>Pigs are not fed exclusively with liquid feed. If the basis consists of liquid feed, solid feed is also provided daily.</u>	<u>Under natural conditions in the wild, pigs spend many hours foraging and rooting for solid feed. They then consume this over a long feeding time. Providing liquid feed significantly decreases the feeding time and involves low chewing activity. Providing only a liquid diet does not satisfy the behavioural needs of pigs. Research has also revealed that pigs become soiled more often in housing with fully liquid feeding systems.</u>	<u>Verify whether only liquid feed is provided.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
AV02.3	GMP+ certified feed	Only GMP+ or BIO-organic certified feed is provided supplied by a GMP+ or BIO-organic certified feed supplier respectively.	Feed produced on the farm complies with the conditions of the 'On-farm production' GMP code or BIO-organic . If feed is produced on neighbouring farms, the pig farmer must have established that the supplier complies with all the requirements of the 'On-farm production' GMP code or is certified BIO-organic . Foreign farms may also provide feed from a supplier that is certified for an animal feed quality assurance system that is at least equivalent to GMP+.	Verify <u>and record</u> using the feed receipts whether the feed is GMP+ or BIO-organic or complies with the 'On-farm production' GMP code. Record the name and location of the GMP+ or BIO-organic feed supplier.	Minor
AV03	Drinking water	All pigs older than two weeks have permanent access to fresh drinking water of sufficient quality.	With liquid feed there must be separate drinking nipples/troughs with fresh drinking water.	Verify whether there are any restrictions in the provision of drinking water. Record non-conformities the findings. <u>Verify and record with liquid feeding whether there are separate drinking nipples/troughs with fresh drinking water.</u>	Minor

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AV04	Water quality analysis	The drinking water quality is analysed at least 4x at least twice per year. <u>The samples must be taken at animal level (nipple or drinking or liquid feed trough), not at source level, one sample per quarter.</u> <u>At least one sample is taken by an independent sampler and is analysed chemically and bacteriologically. The other sample may be taken by the pig farmer and is at least analysed bacteriologically.</u>	The laboratory that performs the analysis must be ISO/IEC 17025 accredited. <u>There is an interval of at least 4 months between the two analyses.</u> <u>An independent sampler is, for example, the inspector of the Certification Body, the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner or a specialised drinking water sampler (e.g. a person who professionally advises livestock farms on drinking water quality and regularly samples drinking water).</u> <u>If the farm uses drinking water supplied by a water company, no chemical analysis is necessary, as the water company must regularly perform statutory chemical analysis.</u>	Verify <u>using invoices and test reports</u> whether the analyses have been performed <u>and whether there is an interval of at least 4 months between both analyses. Record the dates on which the water samples were analysed. Verify and record who took the samples, which sampling points were sampled and how the samples were analysed (chemical, bacteriological).</u>	Minor
AV04a	Water quality analysis	The samples must be taken at animal level (nipple or drinking or liquid feed trough), not at source level.		Verify whether the samples were taken at animal level (nipple or drinking or trough). Ask the farmer how the samples were taken.	Minor
AV04b	Water quality analysis	At least one sample is taken by an independent sampler and is analysed chemically and bacteriologically.	An independent sampler is, for example, the inspector of the Certification Body, the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner or a specialised drinking water sampler (e.g. a person who professionally advises livestock farms on drinking water quality and regularly samples drinking water). If the farm uses drinking water supplied by a water company, no chemical analysis is necessary, as the water company must regularly perform statutory chemical analysis.	Ask who took the samples and which drinking points were sampled. Verify this based on invoices and test reports.	Minor
AV04e	Water quality analysis	The other 3 samples may be taken by the pig farmer and is at least analysed bacteriologically.		Ask who took the samples and which drinking points were sampled. Verify this based on invoices and test reports.	Minor
AV04d	Analyse water quality	The analysis must demonstrate that the drinking water for the pigs is of sufficient quality because it complies with the relevant national standard. <u>If analysis results differ from the standard, measures must be taken to improve the water quality and analysis must be repeated until the standard is complied with.</u>	In the Netherlands the relevant, national standard is the quality requirements applied by Royal GD (Dutch animal health service) for drinking water for pigs. See http://www.gddiergezondheid.nl/diergezondheid/management/drinkwater/referentiewaarden%20veedrinkwaterkwaliteit for the limit values for livestock drinking water. The values in the 'good' column are considered safe for the species concerned. Deviating from the relevant, national standard is only permitted if the cause can be traced to an additive prescribed by the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner (see also AV04e).	Assess test results and, if applicable, verify whether recovery measures have been taken and samples have been analysed again. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AV04e	Water quality analysis Pre-treatment of water	Pre-treatment of water, such as acidification (lowering pH levels, increasing ammonium levels), is only permitted on the advice and/or under the supervision of the contracted veterinary practitioner.	<u>Provided the applicable national standard (in the Netherlands, this is the quality requirements applied by Royal GD (Dutch animal health service) for drinking water for pigs) are not exceeded, when pre-treating water, this may be performed without the intervention of a veterinary practitioner.</u>	Verify using the test results or ask whether the drinking water is treated and whether this is done under the supervision of a veterinary practitioner, e.g. through reports in visit logs or the farm health plan. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AV04f	Action plan water quality	<u>If the analysis result deviates from the relevant, national standard, an Action Plan must be established and measures taken to improve the water quality. The analysis must be repeated until the standard is complied with.</u>		<u>Assess test results and, if applicable, verify whether there is an AP, recovery measures have been taken and samples have been analysed again. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AV05a	Sustainable soy	<u>All soy in the feed originates from a certified, responsible production system.</u>	<u>Members of Nevedi purchase soy from responsible production systems. A full list of Nevedi members can be found on the Nevedi website: https://www.nevedi.nl/vereniging/leden?pageindex.</u> <u>If the pig farmer does not purchase feed from a Nevedi member, the use of responsible soy can be demonstrated through addition certification from the supplier. Soy sold with a certificate that complies with the FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2021 is permitted. The latest list can be found on: https://standardsmap.org/en/identify?client=FEFAC</u>	<u>Verify and record whether the feed supplier is a member of Nevedi. Record the name of the feed supplier.</u> <u>If not, verify using feed delivery notes or a copy of additional certification from the feed supplier whether certified soy was used. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AV05b	Sustainable palm products	<u>All palm products (e.g. palm oil, palm kernels) in the feed originate from a responsible production system.</u>	<u>Members of Nevedi purchase palm products from responsible production systems. A full list of Nevedi members can be found on the Nevedi website: https://www.nevedi.nl/vereniging/leden?pageindex.</u> <u>If the pig farmer does not purchase feed from a Nevedi member, the use of responsible palm products can be demonstrated through addition certification from the supplier:</u> <u>- Organic certified suppliers</u> <u>- RSPO certified suppliers can be found on: https://rspo.org/certification/search-for-supply-chain-certificate-holders</u>	<u>Sales in the Netherlands only: Verify and record whether the feed supplier is a member of Nevedi. Record the name of the feed supplier.</u> <u>Subsequent or exclusively sales abroad: Verify, based on a copy of one of the other approved certifications of the supplier, whether sustainable palm products have been used. Record the findings.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AV06	GMO-free feed	The feed is GMO-free.	This can be demonstrated by a GMP+ MI 5.4 105 or organic certificate from the supplier.	Verify using the feed receipts whether the feed is GMP+ MI 5.4 105 or certified organic. Record the name and location of the GMP+ MI 5.4 105 or certified organic supplier.	Minor
Hygiene plan					
G913	Hygiene plan	The pig farm has a farm-specific hygiene plan that systematically indicates how hygiene is safeguarded on the farm. This may be part of the farm health plan.	<p>This plan should always contain a description of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The method of prevention and, if necessary, control of undesirable animals/pests (e.g. rodents, wildlife, birds, insects); 2. A strict separation between the clean farm zone road and the dirty farm zone physically (where possible) and in time intervals road; 3. A hygiene sluice; 4. The origin and quality of water (drinking water and cleaning water). 5. The method of cleaning and disinfecting the pens and barns; 6. The origin and storage method of feed; 7. Cadaver collection <p>The hygiene plan must be regularly updated, at least once every two years.</p> <p>See the Better Life Label website for an example of a hygiene plan</p>	Verify and record whether there is a farm-specific hygiene plan, whether it complies with the established requirements, whether it is followed and whether it is updated regularly at least once every two years .	Minor
G13a	Pest control Pest control.	Pest control and prevention of undesirable pests on the farm is performed in compliance with the European standard CEN-EN 16636.	<p>This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - firstly, as many preventive measures as possible are taken to prevent the presence of undesirable pests (refer to the "Beschuit zonder muisjes" report of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals), - If a pest control and prevention company is used, that company must be demonstrably compliant with CEN-EN 16636 and certified for the CEPA certificate or IPM Knaagdierbeheersing for rodent control. A list of these companies can be found on: https://kpmb.nl/deelnemers/ or https://www.cepa-europe.org/cepa-certified/companies/6 - If the pig farmer uses rodenticides outside the barn, they or their staff must have a valid IPM-KBA licence and an IPM Knaagdierbeheersing certificate for rodent control. - If the pig farmer performs pest control themselves, they or their staff must have a valid IPM Knaagdierbeheersing certificate for rodent control for the farm and a personal IPM-KBA-licence. Farmers in Belgium must have a Fytolientie proving they can safely handle pesticides in combination with a PCLT-certificate. Only a KBA-certificate is no longer sufficient. <p>If there are clear signs of pests and no control or exclusion measures are taken, the criterion cannot be complied with.</p>	<p>Verify whether undesirable pests are excluded and controlled where necessary in compliance with European standard CEN-EN 16636.</p> <p>If a pest control and prevention company is used, verify whether this company is demonstrably compliant with CEN-EN 16636. If the pig farmer performs pest control themselves, verify whether they or their staff have a valid IPM - Knaagdierbeheersing certificate for rodent control for the farm and a personal IPM-KBA-licence. For Belgium, verify whether the farmer has a Fytolientie proving they can safely handle pesticides in combination with a PCLT-certificate. If there are clear signs of pests on the farm and no control measures are taken, the criterion cannot be complied with.</p> <p>If the pig farmer uses rodenticides outside the barn, verify that they or one of their staff has a valid IPM Knaagdierbeheersing certificate for rodent control for the farm and a personal IPM-KBA-licence. Record the findings.</p> <p>Not applicable if the farm uses non-chemical pest control methods or if there are no pests present on the farm.</p>	Minor
G13b	Separation between clean and dirty zone road	<p>With completely new construction there is a strict separation between the clean zone road (the hygienic areas where the pigs are barnd) and the the dirty zone road (the non-hygienic areas accessible to visitors, suppliers, vehicles etc.).</p> <p>In the case of a total renovation or new construction of the farm after 01-01-2018 (adoption criteria), but no later than 01-01-2027 2025.</p>	<p>The clean zone of the farm is the hygienic zone where the pigs are barnd. This includes, for example, the sections, central corridors, working areas and routes between barns.</p> <p>The dirty zone of the farm is all zones outside the clean zone. This includes, for example, the entrance and exit routes, the farmbarn and area immediately adjoining the farmbarn.</p> <p>A line of separation in the form of a fence, wall or chain, for example, has been placed to separate the clean from the dirty zone.</p> <p>Transport trucks are not permitted access to the clean zone.</p> <p>Entrance and exit routes for, e.g., feed, or manure and cadavers cannot be accessed from the dirty zone.</p>	Verify and record with complete renovation or completely new construction after 01-01-2018 but no later than 01-01-2027 whether there is a strict separation between the clean zone road and the the dirty zone road .	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
G13c	Hygiene sluice	Hygienic access to the farm for employees, suppliers and visitors via mandatory use of a hygiene sluice. In the case of a total renovation or new construction of the farm after 01-01-2018 (adoption criteria), but no later than 01-01-2025 2025.	The hygienic sluice has a shower that is used before completely changing into the pig farm's company clothing. Farms that do not yet have a hygiene sluice may suffice with a changing room until a hygiene sluice is installed until 01-01-2025. The room contains a sink to wash hands and a space to put on the farm work clothing (an overall and boots).	Verify and record whether there is a changing room until 01-01-2025. Verify with renovation or new construction, however no later than 01-01-2025, whether there is a hygiene sluice.	Minor
G13g	Cadaver storage <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	There is a refrigerated storage for cadavers. This is located on the separation between the clean and dirty road.	If there is no separation of the clean and dirty roads on the farm, the collection point is close to the public road next to the drive and offers sufficient space for vehicles to load. The refrigerated storage for cadavers is connected to electricity. The cadaver cooling system is located on a liquid-tight floor or is liquid-tight and is equipped with a drain/collector to prevent fluids entering the ground or surface water.	Verify and record whether there is refrigerated storage of cadavers that complies with the criteria. If there is no separation of the clean and dirty roads on the farm, verify and record whether the collection point is close to the public road next to the drive and offers sufficient space for vehicles to load.	<u>Recommendation</u>
Management					
AM01	Daily inspection of animals	Farrowing sows, (weaned) piglets and Pigs housed in a sick bay and/or all pens housing farrowing sow and (weaned) piglets must be inspected at least twice a day, while all other pigs are inspected at least once a day care requirements, signs of injuries, poor health, stress, etc. for at least: body condition, tail biting and other injuries, sickness, stress, effects of any treatments, inspection of equipment in pens.		Interview the stockpersons about their inspection activities and their findings. Assess a number of pens for signs of animals requiring care, signs of injury <u>or illness, poor body condition, poor health, stress etc. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AM01a	<u>At least good care for Pen hygiene</u>	<u>At least the following is regularly done in all pens:</u> <u>- manure is removed;</u> <u>- feeding and drinking places troughs are cleaned;</u> <u>- feed trough sensors are cleaned;</u> <u>- enrichment materials are added/replenished/cleaned.</u>		<u>Verify a number of pens for hygiene for each animal category. Record the findings.</u>	<u>Minor</u>
AM02a	<u>Emergencies</u> <u>Emergency generator</u>	In case of power failure, there is a possibility to switch to natural ventilation or to an emergency generator. In a barn with mechanical ventilation, an emergency generator must be present with manual, sufficient fuel and a connection/coupling.	If there is an emergency generator, there is also a clear operation manual and a connection to the emergency power supply. This ensures the ventilation system works in the event of a power failure. The emergency power supply is present in a room with the operation manual and connection and sufficient fuel (depending on the type of emergency generator) to enable the generator to operate for 6 hours. This is also mandatory on farms where it is possible to switch to natural ventilation in the event of a power failure.	Check and record whether there is a possibility to switch to natural ventilation or see if there is an emergency generator with a user manual and sufficient fuel.	Minor
AM02a1	<u>Emergencies</u> <u>Alarm system</u>	When using mechanical ventilation there is an alarm system that reports power failures and essential equipment malfunctions, such as ventilation. <u>There is an alarm system that generates an alert if the mechanical ventilation fails. This also applies to other systems that are critical to the animals, if the systems do not have their own alarm system. The alarm system generates an alert in at least two different ways, for example via satellite, pager, analogue line or via mobile phone. It is important that the alarm system has its own power supply. An acoustic signal as a signal for the alarm system does not count.</u>	<u>Other critical systems include automatic feeding systems drinking water systems.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether there is an alarm system that generates an alert if the mechanical ventilation fails or the farm's pump for the drinking water systems fails other critical systems. Verify and record whether the alarm system generates an alert in at least two ways, has its own power supply and is functioning. An acoustic signal as a signal for the alarm system does not count. It is not necessary to test the system if the farmer can provide a maintenance contract and reports that demonstrate the system was functioning during the inspections. N/A if the farm is not dependent on mechanical ventilation or does not use its own pump for the drinking water system.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AM02a1a	Alarm	If there is an alarm system, it is necessary to have a corresponding and up-to-date alarm plan. The alarm plan is easily accessible and is up-to-date.	The alarm plan states at least the following:- 1. The alarm method 2. The testing method of the various components of the system 3. The names and telephone numbers of the responders and the order they are contacted in 4. Actions to be taken when an alarm is generated 5. Contact details of an electrical breakdown service 6. Amount of fuel the generator needs to run for 6 hours 7. A description of the measures to be taken to restore the system	Verify whether an alarm plan is present in an easily accessible place and whether the information is up-to-date (such as correct telephone numbers and responders). Record the findings.	Minor
AM02a2	Emergencies Testing the alarm system	Alarm systems as described in AM02A1 With a (including the mechanical ventilation system), the connected alarm system are tested monthly according to a protocol.	Records are kept of the monthly tests of the alarm installation system, including any irregularities detected and their follow-up. These records must be kept for at least 13 months. Examples of aspects to include in a protocol for testing the alarm (also part of the alarm plan): - Test the telephone dialler monthly by unplugging the cord; - Test the alarm units monthly by unplugging the cord; - Test the temperature alarm every cycle by setting the alarm limit to below the current temperature; - Test the ventilation alarm monthly by switching off the end group; - Following a repair, all aspects must be tested with the installer; - Test the alarm system by telephoning it after a thunderstorm and always check the settings before leaving the farm. Aspects that are part of the protocol can be found on https://www.rvo.nl/onderwerpen/welzijnseisen-dieren/huisvesting-verzorging/regels-nood-en-alarmsysteem-stallen	Verify and record whether the alarm system is tested monthly according to a protocol and whether these records are kept for at least 13 months. Verify and record whether any irregularities or defects have been detected and whether they have been repaired.	Minor
AM02a3	Emergency generator	If an emergency generator must be used during a power failure, the mechanical ventilation system is connected to the generator.		Please verify that the mechanical ventilation system is connected to the emergency generator.	Minor
AM02a4	Emergency generator	For mechanical ventilation with a vacuum in the enclosure, an emergency generator is present at the farm. In other cases of mechanical ventilation, there is at least a contract in place to install an emergency generator to working order within 4 hours.		If mechanical ventilation with a vacuum is used, check whether a generator is present on the farm. Check in all other cases whether there is a contract to install an emergency generator to working order within 4 hours.	Minor
AM02a5	Testing emergency generator	An emergency generator if present, is tested every month, and tested by running it loaded at least once every every 2 months.	Records are kept of the at least two monthly tests, including any irregularities detected and their follow-up. The records are kept for at least 13 months, of the emergency power supply. The test every month (unloaded), verifies whether the generator activates, whether the correct voltage and frequency are reached and whether the motor runs stably. The test every two months (loaded), verifies whether the generator can deliver enough power to take over the failed system.	Verify the results of the aspects tested during the test every month and every two months. Verify whether any irregularities or defects have been detected and whether they have been repaired. Verify whether there were any months when the generator was not tested unloaded or unloaded. Record these months. Write down the dates from last year when the emergency generator was tested. This also applies if a generator is rented with a contract. Not applicable if no emergency generator is present.	Minor
AM02b	Instructing staff on emergencies-Emergency plan	The staff is familiar with the work method in case of emergency. There is an emergency plan for calamities that is kept in a visible place for the staff and the emergency services.	The plan describes the action to take in the event of an emergency. The staff are aware of the content of the emergency plan. The emergency plan must state at least the following: company details, list of telephone numbers of emergency services, a property information card and what to do in the event of fire, an accident, an infectious animal disease or a power failure. See https://beterleven.dierenbescherming.nl/zakelijk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/04/Voorbeeld-calamiteitenplan.pdf for an example of an emergency plan. A visible place may be near an exit.	Verify and record whether there is an emergency plan and that it is visibly displayed. Ask a random staff member whether they know what to do in the event of an emergency. Record the findings.	Minor
AM02c	Object information card	There is an object information card present.	The object information card includes: layout of building blocks/enclosures, access doors, materials used, utilities, fire hydrants, locations with flammable materials/facilities, evacuation possibilities for animals, etc. information card is a plan that shows: floor plans for buildings/barns, access doors, materials used, utilities, fire. See www.objectinformatiekaart.nl for an example.	Verify and record whether the object information card is present and whether the contents comply with the requirements.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AM02e1	Object information card	The object information card is available immediately to the fire department/emergency services in case of emergencies (storage place is visible and outside the enclosure).		Verify that the object information card is readily available.	Minor
AM02e2	Property information card	The object information card includes: layout of building blocks/enclosures, access doors, materials used, utilities, fire hydrants, locations with flammable materials/facilities, evacuation possibilities for animals, etc.		Verify whether the contents of the property information card comply with the requirements.	Minor
AM03	Fire safety- Inspection of electrical installations	For fire safety reasons, an agricultural inspection of electrical installations must be performed performed at least every five three years periodically inspection.	<p>No later than 01-01-2020 or 5 years after the first participation in BLK the first certification must have been carried out.</p> <p>At the entry inspection, proof must be provided that an inspection of electrical installations was performed in the past three <u>five</u> years. If this is not the case, this inspection must be performed first.</p> <p>New installations must be inspected before use in compliance with NEN 1010.</p> <p>A 5 <u>three</u> yearly <u>periodic</u> reinspection must be performed in accordance with SCIOS scope 8 (NEN 3140) (Scios scope 8 van Scios). <u>The SCIOS scope 8 inspection is only for farmers who employ staff (based on an employment contract). The inspection cycle for scope 8 is consistent with the recommendations in the inspection report.</u></p> <p>SCIOS scope 10 must be complied with for the inspection of electrical installations for fire safety. <u>This inspection must be performed every three to five years, depending on the requirements of the insurer and the results of the inspection.</u></p> <p>However, other types of electrical inspection requested by the insurer (such as the Netherlands-Technical Agreement, NTA, 8220, SCIOS scope 10) are also permitted.</p> <p><u>The inspection report plan states at least the following:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspection body details (company); - Method of physical, visual inspection and measurements, including measuring instruments used; - Description of electrical installation, including components (lighting, wall sockets, etc.) and power-consuming devices (central heating, climate control); - Final assessment including any non-conformities and/or defects found. <p><u>Explanation: these inspections must be performed by a different company to the one that installed the electrical system. If remedial actions are concerned, the farmer must solve this with their own installer, so a re-inspection can be performed. Approval of the re-inspection is followed by deregistration in the SCIOS portal. More information about SCIOS inspections and a list of companies that can perform inspection can be found on: https://www.averoachmea.nl/preventie/elektrakeuring</u></p> <p>On foreign farms the certification of new installations, and <u>5-yearly periodic</u> reinspection must be performed in compliance with the national standard based on HD-IEC 60364 and NEN-EN 50110, respectively.</p> <p>The Belgian AREI electrical inspection is equivalent to the requirements of NEN 1010 (entry inspection) <u>and scope 8 (NEN 3140 (recovery inspection)) and scope 10</u> and therefore also complies with criterion AM03.</p> <p><u>Companies that can perform the inspection are listed here: https://www.averoachmea.nl/preventie/brand/inspectiebedrijven</u></p>	<p>Verify whether there is a certificate of the last inspection and record the date. If there is no certificate, verify after 1-1-2020 whether the farm has not yet participated in the BLK scheme for more than 5 years.</p> <p>Verify and record whether an inspection has been performed (if applicable for scope 8), <u>whether there is an certificate inspection report (if applicable for scope 8), and <u>when the last inspection was performed and whether there were any remedial actions.</u></u></p>	Minor
AM03a	Lightning protection	The highest structure of the block of buildings is equipped with external lightning protection, installed according to NEN-EN- NEN 62305. With new construction or renovation but no later than from 01-01-2030.		Verify with new construction or renovation, but no later than from 01-01-2020, whether there is an installation and acceptance certificate that confirms the correctness of the installation and its functioning. Record the findings.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AM03b	Fire detection technical area(s)/hazardous area	The technical area/hazardous area (replacement term for technical area in an existing building) contains fire detection equipment. With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.	A technical area/hazardous area is e.g. the area that contains technical building systems mechanical control of e.g. feed/drinking installations, pump (for spring water), ventilation systems, control computer, drive system for manure removal or switch box- (see AM03g). The hazardous area is the area that contains electrical installations which, according to AM03g, should normally be placed in an enclosed, fire-resistant area and which have a fire hazard for the pigs. The fire detection system complies with NEN2535 (or NEN-EN54 outside the Netherlands), e.g. a heat detector in a hazardous area or smoke detector in a technical area and sends an alert to at least two people. All The fire detectors in in the technical area/hazardous area are connected to to alarm and fire extinguishing installations in the barn/technical area/hazardous area, send an alert to at least two people. This criterion applies to the entire building of the barn (also with renovation, extensions or new construction). Qualified companies that install fire detection according to the correct standards can be found on: https://hetccv.nl/certificaat-schema/brandmeldinstallaties/ . Companies that perform inspections of fire detection systems can be found on: https://hetccv.nl/keurmerken/brandbeveiliging/inspectie-brandbeveiliging/overzicht-inspectie-instellingen/	Verify and record with new construction or renovation after 02-05- 2026, but no later than 01-01-2030, whether the technical area /hazardous area is equipped with a fire detection system that sends an alert to the telephone of at least 2 people and complies with NEN2535 (or NEN-EN54 outside the Netherlands) according to an inspection report of the inspection body.	Minor
AM03bb	Distribution board and inverters solar panels: Photovoltaic installation	Distribution board and inverters of solar panels outside the technical area must be mounted on a wall with fire resistance of at least 60 minutes. Existing photovoltaic installations are inspected every five years in compliance with SCIOS scope 12. With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.	A flash flame in the event of a short circuit cannot immediately set the wall on fire. It is better to place distribution boards and inverters in a cabinet with fire resistance of 60 minutes. The scope 12 inspection inspects the entire photovoltaic installation system and identifies the electrical safety and fire safety of the system. Explanation: this inspection must be performed by a different company to the one that installed the photovoltaic installation. If remedial actions are concerned, the farmer must solve this with their own installer, so a re-inspection can be performed. Approval of the re-inspection is followed by deregistration in the SCIOS portal. More information about SCIOS inspections and a list of companies that can perform inspections can be found on: https://www.averoachmea.nl/preventie/elektrakeuring	Verify and record with new construction or renovation, but no later than 01-01-2030, whether group cabinets and inverters of solar panels are mounted outside the technical room on a fire-resistant wall for at least 60 minutes. Verify the specifications of the invoices for the material used for the fire-resistant wall. Verify and record whether inspections have been performed, whether there is an inspection report, when the last inspection was performed and whether there were any remedial actions. Not applicable if no photovoltaic installation is present.	Minor
AM03c	Fire extinguisher technical area/hazardous area	The technical area/hazardous area (replacement term for technical area in an existing building) contains an automatic fire extinguisher that, in the event of smoke and/or heat, can extinguish a small fire. With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.	A technical area/hazardous area is the area that contains the technical building systems, see AM03g. The hazardous area is the area that contains electrical installations which, according to AM03g, should normally be placed in an enclosed, fire-resistant area and which have a fire hazard for the pigs. Examples of extinguishing systems are e.g. smoke and heat extraction systems, overpressure systems, or automatic extinguishing systems in the technical area or water mist systems in the hazardous area. Qualified companies that install fire extinguishing systems according to the correct standards can be found on: https://hetccv.nl/certificaat-schema/sprinklerinstallaties-watervoerend/	Verify and record whether the technical area/hazardous area is equipped with an automatic fire extinguisher.	Minor
AM03d	Layout of block of buildings	The distance between the barn and other barns, between the barn and other farm buildings and between the barn and high-risk installations (machinery or implement storage/workshop/installations that belong in the technical area) is at least 8 metres. With new construction from 01-01-2030.	This criterion applies to the entire building of the barn (including renovations and extensions). Outdoor runs count towards the distance of 8 metres. The distance between barns, barns and farm buildings and/or barns and high-risk installations (machinery or implement storage/workshop/installations that belong in the technical area) may be less if WBDBO calculations (Resistance to fire penetration and fire spread) in compliance with NEN 6068 demonstrate that this does not pose a risk of fire spread.	Physical verification by measuring the visibly narrowest distance between the buildings. If there are several buildings, measure the narrowest passage. If substantiated with WBDBO calculations, verify and record whether there is a report in which the correct risk of fire spread has been determined based on the greatest risk of fire spread in compliance with NEN 6068. Record the findings.	Minor
AM03e	Electric motors	There are no electric motors in the barns. If electric motors must be present in the barns, they are equipped with thermal protection to detect overheating approved in compliance with SCIOS scope 10.		Verify and record whether there are electric motors in barns. If electric motors must be present in animal barns, verify and record whether they are equipped with protection against overheating, approved in compliance with SCIOS scope 10 and whether there is an inspection report.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AM03g	Location of technical installations and equipment	<p>Technical installations/equipment that do not specifically belong in the barn are located in a separate area with a fire resistance of at least 60 minutes.</p> <p>This is mandatory for new construction and renovation per 1 April 2014. For barns built before that date, this must be realised by 01-01-2030 at the latest.</p>	<p>Technical installations/equipment that belong in a technical area: Distribution board, central heating system, heat pump, inverter solar panels, boiler rooms, air treatment systems and climate control, computer. Devices that do not belong to the animal housing: feed preparation (milk/liquid/dry feed), electric motors for feed transport, source water system.</p> <p>This criterion does not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment that does belong in the barn. This is equipment with a specific function in the barn, such as a feeding station for sows banded in groups. - Technical building systems. <p>This criterion applies to the entire building of the barn and if there is a technical area (including with renovation and extensions new construction).</p>	<p>Verify and record whether technical installations are located in a separate fire-resistant area with a fire resistance of at least 60 minutes. This can be done using the construction drawings and the two crosses marked on the fire-resistant area and check the specifications of the invoices for the material use of the fire-resistant space.</p>	Minor
AM03h	Hand-held fire extinguishers	<p>There are approved hand-held fire extinguishers that are suitable for fire classes A and B and/or C. There is a manual with instructions for operation and use. There is at least one fire extinguisher per 1000 m² of barn surface area with a capacity of at least 9 kg, or at least one fire extinguisher with a capacity of at least 6 kg per 600 m² of barn surface area.</p>		<p>Verify and record whether there is a sufficient number of approved hand-held fire extinguishers, the date of inspection and the suitability for classes A and B.</p>	Minor
AM03i	Fire-hoses	<p>There are fire hoses of sufficient length to reach barns and technical areas.</p>	<p>Sufficient length means that all areas in the barn must be accessible with the hose.</p>	<p>Verify and record whether the longest distance to the fire hoses corresponds with the length of the fire hose in at least 2 areas.</p>	Minor
AM03j	Water supply for extinguishing fires RECOMMENDATION	<p>Sufficient water for extinguishing fires is available at the farm.</p>	<p>Sufficient extinguishing water is 360 m³. This means that extinguishing is possible for 4 hours at 90 m³ per hour. On farms with no water available for extinguishing fires (or insufficient water), additional water sources (spring/well/pond/bioswale) must be installed in consultation with the municipality/fire services/safety region.</p>	<p>Verify and record whether the municipality/fire services/safety region has investigated the availability of (sufficient) water for extinguishing fires or whether an additional source (drilled well/pond/bioswale) is being built if necessary and whether there is a signed report.</p>	Recommendation
AM04	Ventilation system	<p>Mechanical ventilation systems on the farms are inspected by an authorised installer at least once every five years, and maintenance is performed when necessary.</p>		<p>Verify and record whether maintenance of the ventilation system takes place by an authorised installer and whether there is a report of the last inspection. Record the date of the last inspection.</p>	Minor
AM05A.3	Tail docking prohibited	<p>Tail docking is prohibited.</p>	<p>At the entry inspection, sows or gilts with docked tails may be present on the farm. After the entry inspection, the tails of sows and gilts may no longer be docked. The new breeding sows and gilts must have an intact tail. Other pigs present (boars, piglets and finishers) must have an intact tail during and after the entry inspection. After the entry inspection, the relevant farmer has the time until the next annual inspection (1 year) to deliver the docked breeding sows and gilts as non-BLL eligible.</p>	<p>Verify with new participants whether sows or gilts with docked tails have been removed from the farm after the entry inspection as not being BLL-eligible.</p> <p>Verify 2 sections in each barn at different places in the barn. Record whether the tails are intact. Record whether there is any tail biting.</p>	Critical
AM05.1.3	Preventing tail biting	<p>The pig farmer constantly monitors the operating conditions for the occurrence of tail biting and for the possibilities to reduce this. The Pig Welfare Check is completed annually together with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner to identify the risks of tail biting.</p> <p>To address structural causes of tail biting, the pig farmer, in consultation with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner, establishes an action plan aimed at minimising the causes and reducing tail biting.</p>	<p>The prevention of tail biting is part of the farm health plan. When assessing the risk of tail biting, the following aspects should be considered:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a.- The enrichment material provided; b.- The cleanliness of the pigs; c.- Thermal comfort and air quality; d.- Health condition; e.- Competition for food and space; f.- The diet. <p>The Welfare Check can be downloaded from https://beterleven.dierenbescherming.nl/zakelijk/deelnemen/bedrijfstypen/veehouderijen/varkens/ and from www.vitalevarkenshouderij.nl.</p>	<p>Verify and record whether the farmer takes measures to actively prevent tail biting by completing the annual welfare check together with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner. If applicable, verify whether there is an action plan. For a single section, calculate the percentage of damaged tails and check whether a veterinarian has been called in this regard.</p>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AM06	Pig hygiene	The pigs must be clean, taking into account the farming system used.	If more than 50% of the pigs are soiled, an action plan must be drawn up in consultation with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner and, if wished, other experts (e.g. a climate expert) to significantly reduce soiling (<25%) within 2 years.	Assess <u>and record</u> the cleanliness of the pigs. If cleanliness is insufficient (more than 50%), verify whether there is an action plan and whether soiling has been significantly reduced (<25%) within 2 years.	Major
AM07	Genetics <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>A type of sow is used that is able to raise her piglets independently and produce more robust piglets.</u>	<u>This takes into account aspects such as:</u> - <u>the sow's maternal behaviour</u> - <u>mortality+ cause of sow mortality</u> - <u>the sow's qait score</u> - <u>number of piglets per litter:</u> - <u>uniformity of the litter;</u> - <u>mortality + reason for piglet mortality just before, during and up to 3 days after birth;</u> - <u>mortality + reason for piglet mortality from 3 days after birth to weaning;</u> <u>number of piglets in relation to the number of teats, the principle being no more piglets than teats. No further breeding with a sow who receives more piglets than she has teats at the first litter.</u>	<u>Verify and record using the delivery notes whether the sows are the correct type.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
AM08	<u>Recycling waste and packaging materials</u>	<u>Packaging materials and other waste flows (paper, plastic, etc.) are disposed of separately as far as possible.</u>	<u>At least the following are disposed of separately:</u> <u>-Veterinary medicines and needles: Residues of veterinary medicines and syringes are disposed of as chemical waste. This waste flow must be collected in a hard plastic container with a sealed lid, labelled as a 'Chemical Waste' container and disposed of separately as chemical waste, if necessary by the veterinary practitioner; Plastic: this waste flow must be collected separately. Municipalities where plastic is separated after collection are exempt, see the website of the relevant municipality;</u> <u>Cleaning and disinfecting agents: this waste flow must be collected in a separate container and disposed of separately as chemical waste;</u> <u>-Paper;</u> <u>-Glass;</u> <u>-Residual waste.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether different waste containers/bins for the waste flows are present and are disposed of separately.</u>	Minor
Health					
AG01	Contracted veterinary practitioner	The pig farmer has a bilateral contract with a certified, assured swine veterinary practitioner who is responsible for the entire veterinary supervision on the farm.	The veterinary practitioner may contract other specialists/veterinary practitioners to provide full cover, for example as a replacement during illness or holidays. Certified, assured veterinary practitioners are listed in the register of Guaranteed Veterinarian Foundation (<i>Stichting Geborgde Dierenarts</i> (for quality control of the services provided by veterinarians in the Netherlands)), see www.geborgdedierenarts.nl. An example of a bilateral agreement is provided in the regulations of the Guaranteed Veterinarian Foundation. This example should be used. For foreign participants, an agreement must be concluded with a regular veterinary practitioner, with knowledge of the history of the farm and expertise in the field of pig husbandry. If the farm changes its veterinary practitioner, the 'old' veterinary practitioner must transfer the data relating to the pig farm to the 'new' veterinary practitioner. This veterinary practitioner does not have to be registered as an assured certified swine veterinary practitioner.	Verify whether there is a <u>valid</u> bilateral agreement with a certified, assured swine veterinary practitioner. <u>Register Record</u> the name of the veterinary practitioner.	Minor
AG02a	Farm health plan	The pig farmer has a farm-specific health plan in which they and the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner describe which measures are taken to inspect and improve animal health.	This farm-specific health plan is regularly updated (at least annually). Information from e.g. extra diagnostic tests, epidemiological conditions in the region and feedback systems of the abattoir are used to update the farm health plan, e.g plans for future interventions (e.g.). improvement to the barns, vaccinations, use and documentation of veterinary medicines, etc.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether <u>there is a farm health plan, whether it has been established by the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner</u> and whether it is updated <u>is-regularly at least annually.</u>	Minor
AG02b	Farm treatment plan	The pig farmer has a farm treatment plan for the use of veterinary medicines in which they and the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner describe which treatments and methods of treatment are used for the most common diseases.	The plan describes which veterinary medicines /antibiotics are used <u>in preferential order /and the first and second choice</u> to treat a certain disease/disorder.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether <u>there is a farm treatment plan and whether it has been established by with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner, use due to the presence of reports from the veterinary practitioner.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AG03	Health registration	All cases of increased mortality, disease, outbreaks of disease and euthanasia of seriously ill and/or injured pigs are registered and discussed with the veterinary practitioner.	If necessary, a thorough investigation will be conducted, the results of the investigation and actions and measures taken are <u>discussed with the veterinary practitioner and</u> recorded.	Verify and record whether there is a health record at the farm including veterinary visit logbooks and whether visit logbooks indicate that the causes and actions have been discussed. whether there is a health record at the farm Record the 3 last dates of registration and the reasons. N/A if there is no increased mortality, disease, outbreaks of disease and euthanasia of seriously ill and/or injured pigs.	Minor
AG04a	Mortality rate	The maximum permitted annual mortality rate is: - for finishers <2.1% and - for weaned piglets <1.9%.	<u>Euthanised animals do not have to be included in the mortality rate.</u> At the initial audit (first year of participation), a one-time mortality rate of 3.0% is permitted.	<u>Verify and record the annual average mortality rate.</u> Calculate the mortality rate as follows: Mortality rate= (number of dead animals – euthanised animals)/ (number of animals set up)* 100%	Minor
AG04b	Mortality rate action plan	If the farm exceeds the permitted <u>mortality</u> rate percentage for a year, an action plan must be established in cooperation with the contracted veterinary practitioner.		Verify, if the percentage is too high, <u>whether this was also the case a year ago. -the percentage of a year ago is still above the permitted percentage.</u> If this is <u>the case,</u> <u>verify whether an action plan has been established with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner. Record the findings.</u> <u>verify whether an external expert is being consulted.</u>	Minor
AG04c	Action plan for mortality in year 2 and onwards	If the farm is still above the permitted percentage one year after the action plan was established, an independent veterinary expert must be consulted or a process facilitator must be contracted.	An independent veterinary expert: - has no relationship with the practice of the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner - is, or is supervised by, a registered Dutch/European veterinary specialist/swine health care expert (see http://www.ebvs.eu/). Swine specialists from e.g. Royal GD (Dutch animal health service) or from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine are eligible. Advice provided by the independent veterinary expert on how to reduce the percentage of euthanised animals is considered sufficient. Active supervision is not necessary. The process facilitator must be listed on the register of the VAB (professional association for agricultural business consultants), with the specialism pig farming. The register can be found on https://www.vabnet.nl/leden-en-adviseurs/ledenlijst.html .	Verify, if the percentage is too high, whether last year's percentage also exceeded the permitted percentage. If this is case, verify whether an independent veterinary expert was consulted or whether a process facilitator was contracted. Record the findings.	Minor
AG05a	Discuss slaughter findings	The slaughter findings of the finishers are discussed with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner at least once a year. <u>Findings of the discussion are recorded in a report of the meeting signed/established by the veterinary practitioner.</u>	The abattoir must provide the pig farmer with at least the following information: - organ abnormalities (including pneumonia, pleurisy, liver disorders, skin inflammation, leg or tail damage) - rejection of (parts of) carcasses <u>and</u> - the average deviations/rejections (in %) per delivered group across all suppliers of the abattoir concerned. <u>- tail scores (if available at the abattoir)</u> Together with <u>their</u> the contracted veterinary practitioner, the pig farmer incorporates this information in the farm health plan in order to improve animal health and further reduce medication use, where necessary.	Verify and record whether the administrative records contain a report of the meeting signed/established by the veterinary practitioner at least once a year regarding the slaughter findings.	Minor
AG05b	Action plan slaughter findings	When the findings structurally exceed the average at the abattoir, an action plan must be established with the contracted veterinary practitioner. This plan must identify the possible underlying health problems and describe measures to reduce the number of slaughter defects to (below) the average at the abattoir.	In addition, the slaughter findings are discussed with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner at least twice a year.	Verify whether, if the slaughter average is structurally exceeded, an action plan has been established and whether the slaughter abnormalities have been included in a visit report signed/ <u>established</u> by the veterinary practitioner twice a year with regard to the slaughter findings <u>and whether the measures lead to a reduction. Record the findings.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AG05c	Action plan for slaughter findings in year 2 and onwards	If the farm is still above the permitted percentage one year after the action plan was established, an independent veterinary expert must be consulted or a process facilitator must be contracted.	<p><u>An independent veterinary expert:</u> - has no relationship with the practice of the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner; - is, or is supervised by, a registered European veterinary specialist/swine health care expert (See https://www.ebvs.eu/).</p> <p><u>Advice provided by the veterinary expert on how to reduce exceeding the average at the abattoir is considered sufficient. Active supervision is not necessary.</u></p> <p><u>The process facilitator must be listed on the register of the VAB (professional association for agricultural business consultants), with the specialism pig farming. The register can be found on https://www.vabnet.nl/leden-en-adviseurs/ledenlijst.html.</u></p>	If the average at the abattoir has been exceeded, verify whether this was also the case the year before. If this is the case, verify whether an independent veterinary expert was consulted or whether a process facilitator was contracted. Record the findings.	Minor
AG06	Documentation of medication use	All use of veterinary medicines is documented.		Verify <u>and record</u> whether all medication use is recorded.	Minor
AG06a	Registration of antibiotic use	All antibiotic use must be registered in a database designated by the government for this purpose.	All antibiotic use must be registered in a database designated by the government accessible to the pig farmer, so the trend of antibiotic use over time can be analysed.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether antibiotic use is recorded in a private database accessible to the pig farmer.	Minor
AG07	Visits by veterinary practitioner	Each production unit on the farm is regularly visited by the contracted veterinary practitioner (at least once a month) for a general inspection of animal health and animal welfare. This visit is registered.		Verify <u>and record</u> whether there is a visit report signed/ <u>established</u> by the veterinary practitioner containing the findings of the past year.	Minor
AG08a	Antibiotics policy	The farm health plan must contain a written policy for the reduction of antibiotic use.		Verify <u>and record</u> whether there is a written policy for the reduction of antibiotic use.	Minor
AG08ab	Antibiotics policy	The policy in the farm health plan regarding the reduction of the amount of used antibiotics must be assessed and revised annually together with the contracted veterinary practitioner.		Verify that the policy is reviewed and revised annually with the veterinary practitioner.	Minor
AG08b	Exclusion of certain antibiotics	The use of antibiotics reserved for human healthcare (fluoroquinolones or 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporines) is not permitted and these are not present on the farm. In exceptional cases, they may be prescribed for use in individual animals after a resistance test (antibiogram) has been shown that these are the only effective antibiotics.		Check the documentation kept by the veterinarian for whether these antibiotics are used. If so, check that a resistance test (antibiogram) was used to demonstrate that these antibiotics were the only active antibiotics and that these antibiotics are only prescribed to individual animals.	Major
AG08e	Amount of antibiotic use	Antibiotic use must be below the relevant action threshold as established by the Netherlands Veterinary Medicines Institute (SDa) and must be within the signalling threshold as established by the SDa within two years.	This criterion may be interpreted per animal category. For each animal category (sows/suckling piglets, weaned piglets, fattening pigs), the pig farmer has two years to reach the target level set by the SDa.	Record whether the farm's daily dose animal is below the action threshold as established by the SDa. Record, for farms that are not within the action threshold as established by the SDa, whether the use of antibiotics within two consecutive years is within the action threshold as established by the SDa.	Minor
AG08d	Guidance and assistance by swine specialist for excessive antibiotics use	If the use of antibiotics fails to meet the SDa target zone within two consecutive years, an independent swine veterinarian who is an expert in pig health care must be called on to provide secondary advice in the form of an action plan which will enable the farm to reach the SDa target level within 2 consecutive years.	<p><u>An independent, veterinary expert:</u> - is not connected to the practice of the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner; - is, or is led by, a registered Dutch/European veterinary specialist/swine health care expert (See https://www.knmvd.nl/actueel/nieuws/item/40836953/Registers-of-http://ebvs.eu/).</p> <p><u>Eligible swine specialists are those from Royal GD (Dutch animal health service) or from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. The preparation of the</u></p> <p><u>The preparation of the action plan includes an analysis of the measures that have already been taken and an analysis of the farm and the underlying causes of the increased use of antibiotics. The action plan must contain a set of additional measures with which the company can still reach the target level of the SDa within two years.</u></p> <p><u>If the use of antibiotics after 2 consecutive years of guidance by an external expert (i.e. after 4 consecutive years) is not within the SDa target level, the farm will have its Better Life certificate suspended.</u></p> <p><u>A process supervisor/expert specialised in pig farming listed on the BAS register of the VAB, may also be contacted. In addition, Belgian participants can also contact an AB coach listed on the AB Register of Belpork.</u></p>	Verify that a company that is above the target level for more than 2 consecutive years has called in an external veterinary swine health expert and whether an action plan has been drawn up. Check whether the farm, within 2 consecutive years of external supervision (i.e. after 4 consecutive years), has reached the SDa target level.	Major

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AG08e	Contracting a process facilitator with high antibiotic use	Pig farms that are in the red area of antibiotic use indicated by the SDa for one or more animal categories for 3 consecutive years must contract a process facilitator.	<u>The process facilitator must be listed on the register of the VAB (professional association for agricultural business consultants), with the specialism pig farming. The register can be found on https://www.vabnet.nl/leden-en-adviseurs/ledenlijst.html.</u> <u>Belgian pig farmers may also contract an AB coach listed on the AB Register of Belpork.</u>	Verify whether the farm is in the red area indicated by the SDa for 3 years. If this is the case, verify whether a process facilitator has been contracted. Record the findings.	Minor
AG09	Ban on medicated feed	Medicated feed must not be provided.	Medicated feed is feed containing antibiotics that has been produced by the feed manufacturer. During production of these feeds a small amount of this feed (including antibiotics) is unavoidably left on the production line and during storage and transport. It is transferred to other feed (carry-over), so low doses of the antibiotic can end up in feed. Research has shown that frequent exposure of bacteria to very low levels of antibiotics - caused, for example, by carry-over - develops antibiotic resistance. To prevent the development of antibiotic resistance, medicated feed is prohibited in the BLL scheme.	Verify <u>and record</u> based on feed delivery notes and/or medicine deliveries whether any medicated feed has been supplied to the farm.	Major
AG10	Blood samples	Blood samples (for animal disease monitoring programmes) are collected as much as possible in the abattoir and are not taken from pigs at the farm.	This does not include blood samples for specific examinations performed by the veterinary practitioner or for export. Exceptions are possible, concerning, e.g., examinations of younger animals or sows.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether the records contain the analyses of the past year that show whether sampling takes place at the abattoir or the farm <u>at the farm</u> .	Minor
AG11A	Sick bay	There is a sick bay (or a sick bay is prepared) for sick, weak and injured pigs. The sick bay has a capacity of at least 1% of the total number of animal places available based on sows, piglets and finishers.	In addition to sick or injured pigs, it might also be necessary to move a lagging pig a pig with <u>insufficient weight</u> or an extremely stressed animal to the sick bay if remaining with the other animals would cause additional welfare problems, for example if the pig is unable to compete for feed.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether the capacity complies with the criteria.	Minor
AG11B	Climate in the sick bay	The sick bay must be well ventilated, warm and dry.		Verify <u>and record</u> whether the sick bay is well ventilated, warm and dry.	Minor
AG11C.3	Solid floor in the sick bay	60% of the sick bay floor must be solid unless the veterinary practitioner advises against this for veterinary reasons.		Verify whether <u>the floor of the</u> sick bay complies. <u>If applicable, record why the veterinary practitioner gave this advice.</u> <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AG11D	Bedding in the sick bay	The floor of the sick bay must have bedding, e.g. straw or sawdust. The solid part of the floor may have a rubber mat covered with bedding, unless the veterinary practitioner advises against this for veterinary reasons.		Verify the floor of the sick bay <u>whether the floor is covered with sufficient bedding. If there is no bedding, ask for a declaration from the veterinary practitioner. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AG11E	Eye contact in the sick bay	A pig in the sick bay must be able to make eye contact with other pigs.	Eye contact must be possible unless the veterinary practitioner advises against this for veterinary reasons.	Verify whether the pigs in the sick bay <u>can</u> have eye contact with the other pigs. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AG11F	Cleaning the sick bay	The sick bay must be constructed so it is easy to clean and disinfect between each use. Any dead animals <u>can</u> be easily removed to minimise the risk of contact with other animals.		Verify <u>whether</u> the sick bay <u>is easy to clean and disinfect. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AG11G	Disposal of excrement from the sick bay	Urine and manure from the sick bay must be prevented from coming into contact with the other animals. Faeces must be disposed in a way that minimises the risk of contact with other animals.	For example, locate the sick bay at the end of the barn so manure and urine are not drained along other pens.	Verify <u>the location of the</u> sick bay. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
AG12	Euthanising seriously ill or injured animals	The farm health plan contains a written policy for euthanising seriously ill or injured animals with no prospect of recovery.	<u>The 'Farm decision tool for piglets in need of care' and the 'Farm decision tool for pigs in need of care for 2 months and older' established by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine can be used for this purpose. These tools can be consulted on the Better Life label website.</u>	Verify <u>the euthanasia</u> policy and health plan. Verify whether the farm health plan includes the euthanasia policy. <u>Interview employees and check for the presence of seriously injured or sick animals without a chance of recovery. Record the findings.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AG12a	Euthanising seriously ill or injured animals	Seriously injured or sick animals are euthanised in time. Euthanasia is based on legislation and humane principles (the animal is spared any avoidable form of pain, stress or suffering). <u>Agreements have been made with the veterinary practitioner for them to visit the farm, if necessary, to euthanise seriously ill or injured animals in emergency situations.</u>	When animals are killed and during the related activities, care is taken to ensure the animals are spared any avoidable form of pain, stress or suffering. An approved humane method of killing leads to immediate death without additional suffering, discomfort or stress for the animal. The veterinarian describes (in the farm health plan) how seriously injured and sick animals can be euthanised humanely on the farm as soon as possible. Euthanasia with stunning using a captive bolt pistol is permitted, provided the user has the necessary permits (storage and possession of ammunition). Euthanasia with a mechanical electric device is also permitted, whereby the device must first be placed on the head to stun.	Check whether the veterinarian has described in the farm health plan how seriously injured and sick animals can be euthanised humanely as soon as possible. Interview employees and verify whether there are any seriously injured or sick animals with no prospect of recovery. Verify whether the contract with the veterinary practitioner contains agreements for them to visit the farm, if necessary, to euthanise seriously injured or sick animals (e.g. in emergency situations). Verify the permit if a captive bolt pistol is used/is on the farm. Record the findings.	Minor
AG12b	Euthanising seriously injured or sick animals in emergency situations	Agreements have been made with the veterinary practitioner for them to visit the farm, if necessary, to euthanise seriously ill or injured animals in emergency situations.	These agreements are registered in the farm health plan or are part of, or an appendix to, the agreement with the veterinary practitioner.	Verify whether the agreement with the veterinary practitioner contains agreements for them to visit the farm, if necessary, to euthanise seriously injured or sick animals (e.g. in emergency situations).	Minor
AG12c	Reasons for euthanasia	Underlying reasons for euthanasia <u>performed by the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner</u> are registered by the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner.	This is registered e.g. in the visit report.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether the underlying reasons for euthanasia are registered by the <u>farm's contracted</u> veterinary practitioner.	Minor
AG12d	Action plan for structural reasons for euthanasia	To address structural reasons for euthanasia, the pig farmer, in consultation with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner, establishes an action plan aimed at minimising the causes and reducing the percentage of euthanised animals.		Verify <u>and record</u> whether the farmer has established an action plan for the structural underlying reasons for euthanasia.	Minor
AG12e	Action plan for the structural underlying reasons for euthanasia in year 2 and onwards.	If the farm has still not reduced the percentage of euthanised animals one year after the action plan was established, an independent veterinary expert must be consulted or a process facilitator must be contracted.	An independent veterinary expert: - has no relationship with the practice of the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner - is, or is supervised by, a registered Dutch/European veterinary specialist/swine health care expert (see http://www.ebvs.eu/). Swine specialists from e.g. Royal GD (Dutch animal health service) or from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine are eligible. Advice provided by the independent veterinary expert on how to reduce the percentage of euthanised animals is considered sufficient. Active supervision is not necessary. The process facilitator must be listed on the register of the VAB (professional association for agricultural business consultants), with the specialism pig farming. The register can be found on https://www.vabnet.nl/leden-en-adviseurs/ledenlijst.html .	If the percentage of euthanised animals has not been reduced based on the action plan, verify whether this was also the case the year before compared to the year before. If this is the case, verify whether an independent veterinary expert was consulted or whether a process facilitator was contracted. Record the findings.	Minor
Housing					
AH01	<u>Stimulating dunging behaviour</u>	<u>At least 3 measures have been taken to encourage the pigs to manure and urinate in a fixed place.</u>	<u>Animals are encouraged to manure and urinate in a fixed place using, among other things:</u> <u>- More light above the dunging area;</u> <u>- A solid pen partition at the lying area and an open pen partition at the dunging area so pigs can see into the neighbouring pen;</u> <u>- Hanging the drinker drinker near above the dunging area;</u> <u>- Raising or lowering the floor of the dunging area so the pigs must fully step on and off;</u> <u>- The dunging area must be sufficiently large to allow pigs to stand fully on it, in all directions.</u>	<u>Verify whether at least 3 measures have been taken to encourage the pigs to manure and urinate in a fixed place. Record the findings.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
AH02	Heat stress	Heat stress must be prevented. <u>Measures must be taken from an outside temperature of 21°C at animal level, depending on the animal category.</u>	<u>During hot weather conditions, this is possible by giving the animals sufficient opportunity to lie down separately, in combination with ventilation systems or water misting, for example-</u> <u>When an animal starts to experience heat stress depends on the age and animal category (piglet, sow, finisher), the temperature and relative humidity. For more information about the temperature limits per animal category: https://edepot.wur.nl/587090. For tips on how to prevent heat stress and documents to establish a Farm-specific heat protocol, see: https://www.pov.nl/actuele-themas/voorkom-hittestress-bij-varkens/4 https://www.gddiergezondheid.nl/Hittestress/Adviezen-varkens. For the prediction of heat stress see: https://www.gddiergezondheid.nl/Hittestress</u>	Record the measures taken by the farm to prevent heat stress. <u>Verify and record during the inspection whether measures have been taken to prevent heat stress from a temperature from 21°C.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AH03	Air quality	The ventilation system maintains the air quality at a level which prevents irritation of the eyes or noses of the pigs farmed there and/or the people carrying out inspections.	If there is insufficient air quality, an improvement plan for air quality is drawn up in consultation with the contracted veterinary practitioner and, if required, with further experts (e.g. climate expert).	Record non-conformities or any suspicions of a deviating barn climate such as excessive dust or a strong odour of ammonia. Check the ventilation system or improvement plan. Check whether there is any question of eye or nose irritation when standing at human level and squatting at the level of the pigs. In case of eye or nose irritation in the pigs, check whether an improvement plan is in place.	Minor
AH03a	Measuring the barn climate	<p>There is a measuring system that continuously monitors the barn climate at animal level. At least the following parameters are continuously monitored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indoor temperature; - Carbon dioxide concentration; - Ammonia concentration; - Relative humidity. <p>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2028. With the exception of pig farmers who do not comply with criterion AH04 (air volume). These farmers must comply with this criterion from 01-07-2026.</p>	<p>The equipment complies with the following specifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least 4 measurements are taken per hour; - the sensors are located as close as possible to nose level of the pigs. In practice this is in the middle above the pen, away from the direct influence of incoming air and as low as possible above the pigs without them being able to reach the sensors; - maintenance is performed on the sensors at least once every 2 years and functioning is validated annually; - measurement data of at least 300 days is available per year; - sensors automatically report malfunctioning; <p>Measurement data is logged and saved for at least 2 years for analysis to obtain greater insight. The user has real-time and continuous insight into the measured values.</p>	<p>Verify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - whether there is a suitable barn climate measuring system in the barn - whether the measuring system is correctly located - whether the measurement data is available - whether there is a maintenance contract, logbook or other proof of maintenance and validation - the number of days of available measured values in the past year <p>Record the findings.</p>	Minor
AH03aa	Number of measuring units barn climate	<p>There is at least one barn climate measuring system with the following animal categories: finishers, farrowing sows, weaned piglets, gestating sows.</p> <p>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2028. With the exception of pig farmers who do not comply with criterion AH04 (air volume). These farmers must comply with this criterion from 01-07-2026.</p>	There is a correctly located barn climate system in at least one section of the animal categories present. The system must comply with the criteria in AH03a.	Verify and record whether a barn climate system is present in at least one section of the animal categories present.	Minor
AH03b	Barn climate	<p>The barn climate is satisfactory in terms of temperature, relative humidity, carbon dioxide and ammonia for at least 60% per 3 months.</p> <p>The objective is working towards a barn climate that is within the current target values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fluctuations in temperature of maximum 5°C per day - Carbon dioxide < 3000 ppm - Ammonia < 20 ppm - 45% < relative humidity < 80% <p>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2028. With the exception of pig farmers who do not comply with criterion AH04 (air volume). These farmers must comply with this criterion from 01-07-2026.</p>	The measured data of the climate system indicate whether the measured parameters are within the target values. Per quarter, these results are exported from the system (or provided by the supplier) per animal category. An action plan must be established if more less than 60% of the values are outside the target values. At least 1 measure from this action plan must be implemented within 3 months.	Verify whether there are quarterly reports and the percentage of values that is within the target values. If less than 60% of the values are within the target values necessary, verify whether there is an action plan for improvement and whether measures have been implemented in the operational management strategy. Record the findings.	Minor
AH03c	Discuss monitoring the barn climate	<p>The results of monitoring the barn climate are discussed with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner and/or a climate specialist every six months.</p> <p>If >75% of the measured parameters are within the target values in the past 4 quarterly periods, it is sufficient to discuss the monitoring results once a year.</p> <p>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2028. With the exception of pig farmers who do not comply with criterion AH04 (air volume). These farmers must comply with this criterion from 01-07-2026.</p>	Findings of the discussions are recorded in a short interview or visit report.	Verify whether the indicators for the barn climate are below the set standards and, based on an interview or visit logbooks, verify whether the results have been discussed with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner and/or a climate specialist every six months or every year. Record the findings.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AH03e	Climate specialist barn climate	<p>If < 60% of the measured parameters are within the target values in the past 4 quarterly periods, the monitoring results must be discussed with a climate specialist.</p> <p>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2028. With the exception of pig farmers who do not comply with criterion AH04 (air volume). These farmers must comply with this criterion from 01-07-2026.</p>	An external climate specialist may come from a feed company or a veterinary practice.	Verify whether farms that failed to comply with the barn climate standards after 4 quarterly periods have contracted an external climate expert. Verify whether the farm is able to comply with the barn climate standards within one consecutive year. Record the findings.	Major
AH04	Air volume per piglet	<p>To maintain a good barn climate, the air volume in the barn is at least 1.2 m³ per piglet. With new construction or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than 01-01-2026. If from 01-01-20265 this criterion cannot be complied with, criteria AH03a up to and including AH03e must be complied with from 01-07-20265.</p> <p>To maintain a good barn climate, the air volume in the barn is at least 2.4 m³ per finisher. With new construction or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than 01-01-2025.</p>	<p>In order to properly control the climate in the enclosure, in existing enclosures with a smaller volume of air, the ventilation is adjusted to the minimum air flow for ventilation (moisture and ammonia filtering). In existing enclosures with a smaller volume of air, the ventilation is adjusted to ensure that there is adequate ventilation so that the air is not too moist or too dusty without this resulting in drafts.</p> <p>Calculate the air volume per piglet or finisher by dividing: the volume of the section (length x height x width) by the number of piglets animals.</p>	<p>Verify with new construction or renovation, but no later than from 01-01-2025, the air volume based on the calculations for the section types (length x height x width). Note the volume (m³) per piglet animal.</p> <p>In existing enclosures with a smaller air content, check whether the ventilation has been adjusted to ensure that there is adequate ventilation so that the air is not too moist or too dusty and that it does not contain too much ammonia, without this resulting in drafts.</p> <p>If this criterion is not complied with from 01-07-20265 for piglets, verify and record whether criteria AH03a up to and including AH03e are complied with.</p>	Minor
AH04a	Source-targeted measures to reduce ammonia RECOMMENDATION	Ammonia emissions are reduced using source-targeted measures.	Source-targeted measures such as cooling or storage in an acid or separating and removing dung and urine are currently being developed and tested for RAV/OW accreditation. As soon as these systems are ready for use in practice, they will become a criterion in the Better Life label scheme with new construction or renovation.	Verify and record the source-targeted approach with new construction or renovation.	Recommendation
AH05A.13	Light	There must be a clear day-night rhythm in each barn with at least 8 hours of uninterrupted darkness and at least 8 hours of uninterrupted light (daylight or artificial light) in the barn, achieved by daylight in the barn. Daylight permeable surface in walls and roofs at least 5% of the floor area.	The 8-hour period of uninterrupted light cannot be applied between sunset and sunrise.	Verify whether a day-night rhythm is used in the barn. This may be, e.g., a timer on the artificial lighting or allowing daylight to enter the barn. The pig farmer can also be asked how this is organised. Record the method used or the answer given by the pig farmer.	Minor
AH05B	Light intensity	The light in the barn, at animal height, is at least 40 Lux.	All animals must have sufficient light. Crepuscular is too dark. Direct lighting is provided by fluorescent/LED lighting or equivalent. Artificial lighting does not need to be switched on if there is enough natural light.	Use a Lux meter to measure whether 40 Lux is achieved throughout the barn at animal height. If artificial lighting is on when entering the section, perform the measurement with artificial lighting on. If artificial light is off when entering the section, perform the measurement with the artificial lighting off. Record the findings.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AH05C.3	Daylight permeable area	<p>The daylight permeable area in walls and roofs is at least 5% of the floor area.</p> <p><u>Daylight permeation through the side wall: 5% of the floor area.</u> <u>Daylight permeation through the roof: divide by factor 2, or 2.5% of the floor area.</u> <u>Daylight permeation through a light well in the roof: divide by factor 4, or 1.25% of the floor area.</u></p> <p>If animals are kept at a lower stocking density (more space per animal than the minimum required), the minimum percentage of daylight permeable area is based on the minimum mandatory area per animal. However, based on the total available floor area there must never be less than 2% daylight permeation through the side wall, 1% through the roof or 0.5% via a light well.</p> <p><u>With new construction and/or renovation (of outside walls or roof) after 01-01-2011, but no later than 01-01-2025:-</u> <u>Materials with a transmission value lower than 0.8 must be compensated for by providing a larger daylight permeable area with new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2045.</u></p>	<p>The floor area concerns the area of the section including the feed corridor and/or work corridors. The daylight permeable surfaces may consist of skylights, side windows and/or light wells, for example. Daylight permeable surfaces may also be made of other materials such as opaque glass, glass blocks or polycarbonate roofing sheet, provided these materials permit an equal total amount of daylight to permeate as standard glass. This assumes an average transmission value of 0.8 for standard glass. A lower transmission value must be compensated for by providing a larger daylight permeable surface area. The size of the daylight permeable surface area is calculated as follows: (0.8/transmission value × percentage of daylight permeable area × floor area)</p> <p>Daylight permeation through the side wall: 5% of the floor surface. Daylight permeation through the roof: divide by factor 2, or 2.50 % of the floor surface Daylight permeation through light well: divide by factor 4, or 1.25 % of the floor surface.</p> <p>The criterion entered into force on 1-1-2011, barns constructed or renovated after this date that do not comply with these criteria are excluded.</p> <p>Chalk may be applied to daylight permeable surfaces from 1 April to 30 September. The layer of chalk must still permit daylight transmission through the surface. It must not be thick enough to disrupt the natural day and night rhythm in the barn. The daylight permeable surfaces must be clear (free of chalk on the surfaces) from 1 October to 31 March.</p>	<p>Verify and record the percentage of daylight permeable area based on the floor area. With a lower stocking density, verify and record the percentage of daylight permeable area based on the minimum mandatory area per animal.</p> <p>Verify and record the percentage of daylight permeable area and whether the surfaces (light panels, windows) actually allow daylight to permeate (<u>e.g. whether a day-night rhythm can be observed</u> and the surfaces are clean).</p> <p>Verify and record whether no chalk is applied to the daylight permeable surfaces during the period from 1 October to 31 March.</p>	Minor
AH06	Rubbing device	<p>A rubbing device is permanently provided in each pen (except for sows in the service and farrowing house).</p>	<p>A rubbing device may be, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a pole (e.g. a wooden pole with a diameter of at least 15 cm), - a brush (e.g. the brush of a broom fixed to a wall or pole), or - a concrete partition with a rough surface. - an angle iron <p>The rubbing devices must be mounted in an easily accessible place (for all ages).</p>	<p><u>Verify and record</u> whether there is a rubbing device that complies with the criteria in at least 1 pen per animal category. <u>Record which rubbing device is provided.</u></p>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AH07	Enrichment material	<p>There is enrichment material in each pen with pigs. <u>The material must comply with the following requirements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Of plant or animal origin (organic). - Not mixed with regular feed - On the ground to permit rooting - Safe for pigs - Clean - Refreshed, replenished or replaced at least once a week <p><u>At least 25% of the pigs in a pen can be occupied 24 hours a day:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. with loose clean materials on the floor, and/or; 2. by removing material from a dispenser, and/or; 3. by rooting in material in a tray on the floor, and/or; 4. by playing with suspended objects trailing on the floor such as lute cloth, ropes or soft wood. 	<p>Enrichment material must enable pigs to meet their essential behavioural needs without compromising their health. <u>How it is provided greatly influences the effectiveness of enrichment material. See the Better Life Label website for the WUR Bbrochure on enrichment materials. 'Pen enrichment and nesting material for pigs' and the corresponding pen enrichment card. See the information leaflet on enrichment material on the website of the Better Life Label Foundation: beterleven.dierenbescherming.nl/zakelijik/</u></p> <p>For this purpose, the enrichment materials must be safe and have the following characteristics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safe—so that the health of pigs is not endangered, and it cannot lead to injuries; a2. Edible—so pigs can eat it, with some nutritional value (e.g. wood or plastic has no nutritional value and is therefore not “edible”); b3. Chewable—so that pigs can bite and chew it; e4. Investigable—so that pigs can investigate it <u>Rootable—so that pigs can root in them;</u> d5. Manipulable—The pig should be able to change its place, appearance and structure. <p><u>Therefore, Materials must be provided in such a way that they:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are of lasting interest, that is to say, they encourage the exploration behaviour of pigs and are regularly replaced or supplemented; 2. Are accessible to oral manipulation <u>taking into account the smallest animal in terms of height and that pigs make more use of low-hanging material;</u> 3. Are available— all animals must be able to have access to the material at the same time; are provided in sufficient quantity; 4. Are clean— are clean and hygienic and free of manure and urine. <p>Enrichment material must be offered in a place other than where the animals eat, rest or defecate. It is not permitted to provide enrichment material in the feed trough unless this cannot be avoided, such as with sows confined in farrowing pens or the gestation crates. <u>When loose enrichment materials are used (e.g. straw, alfalfa), this enrichment material must be replenished at least daily, and;</u></p> <p><u>in addition, there must be 1 type of permanent enrichment material offered that meets the above characteristics (for example a rope). Enrichment material that is soiled/contaminated with dung or urine is not sufficient.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If a dispenser (rack/basket/tube/platform) is used, the pigs must be able to remove the material easily and the dispenser must be placed at the right height. The snout may be lifted to a maximum of shoulder height. - If the dispenser is suspended above a slatted floor, sufficient material must remain on the floor for the pigs to root with. - If trays on the floor are used, the pigs must be able to root in the tray with their snouts. There must be enough space for the snout to move and root. - If objects such as a lute cloth, ropes, soft wood or fresh branches are used, the material must be completely or partially on the floor and must be easy for the pigs to break up. <p><u>Combinations of straw, dispensers, trays and objects are permitted to ensure that enrichment material is available for at least 25% of the pigs in a pen at any time.</u></p> <p><u>Enrichment material must be offered as much as possible in a place other than where the animals eat, rest or defecate. It is not permitted to provide enrichment material in the feed trough unless this cannot be avoided, such as with sows confined in the farrowing house or the service house.</u></p> <p><u>Additional requirements apply for the period in both the service house and farrowing house. These are stated in separate criteria, see the relevant chapters. For sows in the farrowing house or the service house each animal must have access to enrichment material, in accordance with this criterion.</u></p>	<p>Verify <u>and record per animal category whether</u> there is enrichment material available in at least 4 pens that complies with the criteria.</p> <p><u>A transitional period of 1 year applies for characteristic 'Edible'.</u></p> <p><u>For enrichment material day that must be replenished/supplemented. Verify using the purchase orders whether the material is replenished, supplemented or replaced at least once a week. Administrative check on refill purchases.</u></p>	Major
AH07A.3	Accessibility distraction-material of enrichment material	The distraction-material-enrichment material must be accessible to 25-50% of the animals at the same time.	A floor covered by bedding of straw or a similar, natural bedding complies with this criteria	Verify whether the distraction-material-enrichment material is accessible to at least 25% of the animals. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Major

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
AH08.3	Straw dispensing	At least half the floor of the lying place is covered with straw or similar material in a way that the entire floor is covered.	<u>This applies to all pens, including the service house.</u>	Verify whether the pens are bedded for 50% with straw or similar material. Record the material used as bedding in the pens	Major
AH10.3	Functional areas	The pigs must be able to distinguish between the functional areas (sleeping or lying areas, dunging and feeding areas) in the pens, including the outdoor area directly adjacent to the pen. The pens must be designed and the behaviour of the pigs must be encouraged in a way that ensures the lying and dunging areas are as far apart as possible and dunging in the dunging areas is encouraged.	Pigs are naturally clean and prefer to be as far as possible from the permanent dunging area. To encourage dunging in the appropriate area as much as possible, lying and dunging areas are placed as far apart as possible. Dunging is encouraged on the dunging slats as much as possible, for example by: - wetting the dunging slat when the pigs are set up in the pen, - directing light and fresh air onto the dunging slats, - using bars as closed pen dividers at the level of the dunging slats; and - placing cross or divider on the slat for the pig to safely dung behind.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether the lying and dunging areas are placed as far apart as possible. Verify whether the pigs in the pen can distinguish between three functional areas (sleeping or lying areas, dunging and feeding areas) and use the areas for the intended purpose. Interview the stockpersons about whether correct dunging behaviour is encouraged.	Minor
AH12	<u>Escape route.</u>	<u>In each group pen, sows, weaned piglets and finishers are able to escape from their pen mates. With new construction and/or renovation but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>	<u>Examples of an escape route are a partition, a platform, a bar or outdoor access. This reduces stress and avoids fighting and tail biting. There must be at least 1 shelter for each group of pigs. In groups of more than 40 pigs, there must be 1 shelter for every 20 pigs.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether there is an escape route. Verify and record whether there is 1 additional shelter for every 20 pigs in groups of more than 40 pigs.</u>	Minor
AH13	<u>Live wires</u>	<u>Live wires are not permitted in the areas of the barn that are accessible to the pigs.</u>	<u>The use of live wires, whether or not under power, is not permitted in the barn.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether there are live wires in the barn within reach of the pigs. Live wires are used.</u>	Minor
AH14	<u>Passages between pens</u>	<u>Passages may be created between pens to increase the group size, under the following conditions:</u> <u>- The passageway must always be open, with the exception of the situations described in criterion AH15;</u> <u>- Two pigs must be able to pass through the passageway at the same time with ease;</u> <u>- The passageway contains as few tight bends and/or dead ends as possible;</u> <u>- There are no protrusions or obstacles (such as thresholds, ridges that are higher/deeper than the toes) in/around the passageway;</u> <u>- There is sufficient lighting and there is as little visibility as possible of disruptive elements that can distract or scare animals (e.g. moving objects, chains in the direction of movement).</u>	<u>The passageways between existing sections/pens must comply with the criteria in order to provide the pigs with an unobstructed entrance that encourages them to use the entire area available.</u>	<u>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways between existing sections/pens comply with the conditions.</u>	Minor
AH15	<u>Longer closure of passageways between pens</u>	<u>The passageways may be temporarily closed by barriers. This is only permitted in the following situations:</u> <u>- For up to a maximum of the first seven days when setting up piglets in the weaned piglet pen. The piglets must be distributed evenly over the space to comply with the prescribed minimum surface area, width/number of eating places and number of drinking places per piglet;</u> <u>- In the case of infectious diseases in the affected section, a declaration from the veterinary practitioner or a visit report signed by the veterinary practitioner must be shown. For as long as necessary. The pigs must be distributed evenly over the space to comply with the prescribed minimum surface area, width/number of eating places and number of drinking places per piglet/finisher/sow;</u> <u>- Up to a maximum of 24 hours before the delivery of piglets and the permanent removal of pigs to the abattoir.</u>	<u>To encourage the piglets to use the intended dunging area as a permanent dunging area.</u> <u>To limit further spread of the disease where possible.</u> <u>To prevent piglet movement between the connected pens which causes restlessness.</u>	<u>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways are only closed during setting up (piglets), infectious diseases and delivery.</u>	Minor
AH16	<u>Protection against wild swine</u>	<u>Physical barriers are provided to prevent contact between pigs in outdoor runs and wild swine.</u> <u>No later than from 02-05-2027 1 year after (adoption criteria).</u>	<u>To prevent pigs coming into contact with wild swine in outdoor runs or during pasture access, the farm installs physical barriers to minimise the risk of disease transmission. Examples include (partially buried) fences or wildlife fences, cattle grids, multi-wire electric fences etc.</u>	<u>Verify whether physical barriers are installed. Record the findings.</u>	Minor

Energy and climate

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
EK01	Electricity consumption and electricity generation	<p>The electricity purchased from the grid is max. 160 kWh/GAZ (sows) and 20 Kwh/finisher place (finishers) based on the previous year's annual energy consumption figures (excluding private use). This applies no later than 1 year after (adoption criteria).</p> <p>As of 01-01-2030, the amount of electricity purchased from the grid (excluding private use) is 80 kWh/GAZ (sows) 10 KWh/finisher place (finishers).</p> <p>As of 01-01-2035, the farm must generate all its own electricity (excluding private use) and must no longer buy electricity from the grid.</p>	<p>Electricity purchased = electricity consumption minus electricity generated on the farm. Placing additional electricity meters can be used to demonstrate the percentage of energy consumption accounted for by the farm.</p> <p>If more electricity is consumed, an action plan must be drawn up by an energy consultant within one year. This plan must describe how the farm intends to satisfy the standard within three years by energy saving measures and/or generating energy on the farm. The action plan includes concrete measures that will be implemented, including calculated energy savings, any investment costs and a time scale.</p> <p>The farmer may consult an external energy consultant of their own choice.</p>	<p>Verify, based on the electricity purchased from the grid based on the previous electricity invoice (minus estimated private energy consumption) and the number of GAZ (sows) and/or receipts of green electricity paid for by the pig farmer but outside their farm.</p> <p>If too much electricity was purchased from the grid, verify, at the next annual audit inspection whether an action plan has been drawn up by an external energy consultant. Verify whether the farm satisfies this component within three years after establishing an action plan. Record the findings.</p>	Minor
EK02	Green energy	<p>The farm buys 100% green energy through a contract. This applies no later than 1 year after (adoption criteria).</p>	<p>Green energy is defined according to the contract with the energy supplier. In the case of a contract to supply grey energy, the farmers must switch to a green energy supplier within 1 year of starting participation in BLL.</p> <p>After 01-01-2035, EK02 expires, provided that EK01.1 has been fully achieved.</p>	<p>Verify whether the farm purchases 100% green energy based on the contract with the energy supplier. Record the findings.</p>	Minor
EK03	Natural gas RECOMMENDATION	<p>With new construction, the barn is constructed without a gas connection. Gas must no longer be used in existing barns by 01-01-2040 at the latest.</p>	<p>This applies only to buildings that are directly related to pig farming and not to residential buildings or other outbuildings that are not related to pig farming.</p> <p>This recommendation only applies if the farm is located in an area where the energy grid has sufficient transport capacity at the time of the new construction. For this purpose, a request to supply back to the grid can be submitted to the grid operator.</p>	<p>Verify whether there are any new constructions related to pig farming in the farmyard. Verify whether there is a gas connection with a gas meter in the new building. Verify whether gas is no longer used in existing barns from 01-01-2040 onwards based on supply contracts and invoices.</p> <p>If there was insufficient transport capacity at the time of new construction, verify the written rejection from the grid operator. N/A before 01-01-2040.</p> <p>Record the findings.</p>	Recommendation
EK04	Electricity from manure fermentation	<p>Gas from fermented manure is not converted into electricity on the pig farm.</p>	<p>When converting gas from fermented manure into electricity, about 60% of the electricity is lost in the form of heat, so this is not an efficient process.</p>	<p>Verify, based on the presence of a cogeneration system, whether gas from fermented manure is not converted into electricity. Record the findings.</p>	Minor
Nature and biodiversity					
NA02	Farm nature management plan	<p>The farm has a nature management plan that contains a baseline measurement and advice from an ecological adviser approved by the Dutch Society for the Protection of Birds (VBN) on the natural area to be created. This applies no later than 1 year after (adoption criteria).</p>	<p>The farm nature management plan contains at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a map of the farm and the corresponding parcels; - the location of landscape elements specific to the region are registered and indicated on maps and vertical elements in the landscape (woodland, trees, buildings etc.) have been indicated; - whether the farm participates in the Agricultural Nature Management (ANLb) scheme; - which plots are grazed, if applicable; - any deviations observed by the ecological adviser in relation to the criteria for nature and landscape management and advice on how to rectify them. 	<p>Verify and record whether there is a farm nature management plan established by an ecological adviser approved by the Dutch Society for the Protection of Birds (VBN). Verify and record whether the farm nature management plan has been established in accordance with the BLL template (see the Better Life website).</p>	Minor
NA02a	Evaluation of farm nature management plan	<p>The farm nature management plan is evaluated and amended at least once every 6 years by an ecological adviser approved by the Dutch Society for the Protection of Birds. This applies no later than 1 year after (adoption criteria).</p>	<p>The pig farmer is advised once every 6 years by an ecological adviser about updating the farm nature management plan. The ecological adviser verifies that at least the criteria for nature and landscape are satisfied and that attention and action points from the previous farm nature management plan have been followed up and records any non-conformities.</p>	<p>Verify and record whether the farm nature management plan has been updated every 6 years in response to advice from an ecological adviser approved by the VBN.</p>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
Teaser boars					
BE01.3	Pens for <u>teaser boars</u>	The boar pen has a minimum <u>available</u> floor area of at least 6.0 m ² <u>per teaser boar</u> . With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2018, but no later than 01-01-2028, the teaser boar pen has a floor area of at least 8.0 m ² <u>per teaser boar</u> . If the pen is also used for mating, a floor area of 10.0 m ² <u>per teaser boar applies</u> .	<u>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen.</u>	<u>Verify and</u> record the floor area in the <u>teaser boar pen</u> .	<u>Critical Major</u>
BE02.3	Outdoor run <u>teaser boars</u>	Each <u>teaser boar</u> has <u>permanent</u> access to an outdoor run of at least 8 m ² . <u>A maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof.</u>	The outdoor run may be unpaved, partially paved or fully paved; it may consist entirely of slatted flooring and a maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof. <u>There are two exceptions when 100% roofed is permitted:</u> - Completely covering the outdoor run is only permitted temporarily and based on rain sensors. <u>- If the pigs are permitted meadow access in addition to outdoor run access if a functional pig toilet combined with meadow access is provided. This must be demonstrable for at least 250 days a year when soil and weather conditions permit. At least 25% of the roof covering must be transparent.</u>	<u>Verify and record the floor area in the outdoor run.</u> <u>Verify whether the teaser boars have permanent access to an outdoor run and whether the criteria are complied with.</u> <u>Record the surface area and whether the criteria are complied with.</u>	Major
<u>BE03</u>	<u>Bedding on lying place floor for teaser boars</u>	<u>The lying place floor must be covered with straw or similar bedding material.</u> <u>With new construction and renovation after (adoption criteria), but no later than 01-01-2030.</u>	<u>In barns with partially slatted floors, this only concerns the solid floor.</u>	<u>Verify and record with new construction and renovation after (adoption criteria), but no later than 01-01-2030, whether there is bedding on the lying place floor.</u>	Minor
BE04	<u>Solid floor teaser boars</u>	<u>At least 2/3rds of the floor is solid.</u> <u>A maximum of 50% of the pen floor may consist of slats.</u> <u>With new construction and renovation after (adoption criteria), but no later than 01-01-2030.</u>	<u>A solid floor is a floor or part of a floor, which is fitted with slurry-permeable openings. A floor is considered solid if:</u> <u>a. the total of slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 5% of the total area of the solid part of the floor, and</u> <u>b. the width of slurry-permeable slat openings does not exceed 10 mm and the diameter of round slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 20 mm.</u> <u>For example, so-called 'German Welfare Slats' and square grid slats do not comply with the criteria for solid floors.</u>	<u>Verify and record with new construction and renovation after (adoption criteria), but no later than 01-01-2030, whether a maximum of 50% 1/3rd of the floor is slatted.</u>	Minor
BE05	<u>Trough eating place width teaser boars</u>	<u>The eating place With trough feeding provides a width of at least 30 cm per teaser boar to feed.</u>	<u>From 01-01-2030, only the inner length between separators will be measured to assess the width to feed. This also applies to the places at the extreme ends of the troughs, the corner is not included. With round feeders, the inner length between separators is calculated by dividing the circumference minus the sum of the width of all separators together by the number of eating places.</u>	<u>Verify and record the width of the trough.</u>	Minor
BE06	<u>Enrichment material boars</u>	<u>Enrichment material is provided for boars</u>	<u>For a description of the criteria enrichment material must comply with, see AH07.</u> <u>- The solid part of a boar's floor must be covered with bedding according to the "Animal Holders Decree". This also meets the need for pen enrichment, provided the bedding is regularly replenished or replaced.</u> <u>- In addition, it is advisable to provide other enrichment materials such as a rope, jute sack or long chain with large links.</u> <u>- If the bedding on the floor is not edible, 20 grams of straw/alfalfa/CGM/grass silage per animal must be provided at least twice a day.</u>	<u>Verify whether enrichment material is provided, whether it is sufficient and whether it complies with the criteria. Record the type of enrichment material provided.</u>	Minor
BE07	<u>Group housing teaser boars</u> RECOMMENDATION	<u>Teaser boars are housed in groups where possible.</u>	<u>Group housing of boars can vary from small groups of boars (2-3), or part-time group housing with a group of sows. An intermediate step could be to experiment with social contact for teaser boars, for example by facilitating nose contact and a view of other animals.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether boars are kept in groups (part-time).</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Gilts					
G01	<u>Housing weaned gilts for breeding</u>	<u>From weaning up to 10 weeks of age, gilts for breeding must be housed together in compliance with the criteria for weaned piglets.</u>		<u>Verify and record whether the weaned gilts for breeding are housed together and whether they are housed in compliance with the criteria for weaned piglets.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
G02	<u>Housing young gilts for breeding body weight up to 110 kg 10 weeks to 6 months</u>	From 10 weeks to 6 months of age Young gilts for breeding weighing up to 110 kg must be housed in compliance with the criteria for finishers.	The criteria for finishers concern all criteria indicated by the letter V.	Verify and record the stocking density of the <u>gilts for breeding up to 110 kg 10 weeks to 6 months and whether they are housed in compliance with the criteria for finishers.</u>	Minor
G03	<u>Housing young gilts for breeding body weight from 110 kg after 6 months of age</u>	From 110 kg After 6 months young gilts for breeding must be housed with a minimum of 1.9 m² of pen space per gilt, of which at least 50% must be solid flooring, with an outdoor run of at least 1.4 m² per gilt. This applies no later than from 02-05-2027. From when the gilts are ready for breeding the criteria group housing for housing for sows will apply.	The criteria for sows concern all criteria indicated by the letter Z.	Verify and record the stocking density of the <u>gilts for breeding from 110 kg after 6 months of age and whether they are kept in compliance with the criteria for sows.</u>	Minor
Sows					
Z02	Mortality rate of breeding animals	The mortality rate of breeding animals is registered.	The reason for the mortality rate is important for health analysis.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether and how this is recorded. A printout of the management programme or other registration is sufficient. Registration on the sow chart only is not sufficient.	Minor
Z03	Monitoring hoof health	The condition of the legs and hooves of at least 30 sows is inspected at least once a year for excessive strain, excessive growth or infections, using the hoof check tool.	See http://www.verantwoordeveehouderij.nl/show/Doe-de-Zeugenklauwen-Check.htm. The hoof check tool can be found on the Better Life label business website under 'Pigs'. If there are one or more scores of 3 or 4 in the hoof check, improvements must be made and the monitoring frequency increased to twice a year until there are no more scores of 3 or 4 in the hoof check.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether the pig farmer has registered the findings of the annual hoof check. Record the dates of the annual hoof check. Verify <u>and record</u> whether the monitoring frequency was increased from once to twice a year for one or more scores of 3 or 4 in the hoof check.	Minor
Z03a	<u>Evaluating</u> monitoring hoof health	The results of the hoof check are evaluated once a year with the farm's contracted veterinary practitioner to prevent aspects including excessive growth, infections and pain when moving.		Verify whether the results from the <u>gait score and</u> hoof check are discussed with the veterinary practitioner. Record <u>the</u> findings.	Minor
Z04A.3	<u>Breeding animal tails</u>	Sows and gilts have intact tails. Partial or complete tail docking is not permitted.	At the entry inspection, sows or gilts with docked tails may be present on the farm. After the entry inspection, the tails of sows and gilts may no longer be docked. The new breeding sows and gilts must have an intact tail. Other pigs present (boars, piglets and finishers) must have an intact tail during and after the entry inspection. After the entry inspection, the relevant farmer has the time until the next annual inspection (1 year) to deliver the docked breeding sows and gilts as non-BLL worthy.	Verify with 10% of the sows and gilts in 1 section whether the tails are intact. If there are less than 10 animals in one section, inspect 100%. Record the number of animals in the section and the number of animals with a deviating tail length. Verify with new participants whether sows or gilts with docked tails have been removed from the farm after the entry inspection as not being BLL-eligible.	Minor
Z04B	Tail biting breeding animals	At least 95% of the breeding animals have an intact, undamaged tail.		Verify in at least two sections whether at least 95% of the animals have an intact, undamaged tail. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
Z05	<u>Individual housing sows Service pen</u>	Gilts or sows may be housed individually from: 1. one week before the calculated time of farrowing until the time of farrowing. 2. weaning up to and including 4 days after the day of natural mating or artificial insemination (AI). <u>This criterion will lapse when Z05b comes into force.</u>	N/A If the farm can demonstrate through a written confirmation that they are in the government established supervision programme, sows may be kept individually up to a maximum of 28 days after the day of insemination if placing the sows in the group 4 days after insemination caused problems. The supervision programme aims to responsibly ensure group integration after 4 days. At the end of this supervision programme the farm must meet all requirements.	Verify how long the sows <u>are housed individually in the service pen</u> and record the maximum number of days. If the farm participates in the government established supervision programme, verify whether there is a written confirmation of this. At the end of this supervision programme the farm must meet all requirements.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
Z05a	Enrichment material sows in the service house	Sows are offered enrichment material in the service house.	<p>For a description of the criteria enrichment material must comply with, see AH07.</p> <p>A jute sack, fresh branches or a sturdy rope without harmful components (for example cotton or sisal), with a length of about 40 cm and a diameter of about 1 cm is permanently provided, which the sows can gradually break up.</p> <p>The following requirements must be taken into account when attaching the enrichment material:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the material is attached at least of shoulder height; - the material is attached at approx. 20 cm from the wall or pen partition; - the material is regularly replenished, depending on consumption. <p>In addition, edible enrichment material is provided daily, for example in the feed trough or in a (straw) dispenser, but not at the same time as the feed. 20 grams of straw/alfalfa/CCM/grass silage per animal must be provided at least twice a day.</p> <p>A piece of PVC pipe or rubber wrapped around one of the bars in the pen is not sufficient.</p>	Verify whether enrichment material is provided, whether it is sufficient and whether it complies with the criteria. Record the type of enrichment material provided.	Minor
Z05b	Group housing service house RECOMMENDATION	Sows are kept in groups in the service house.	Subject to further development into a housing system that can be applied in practice.	Verify and record whether sows in the service house are kept in groups.	Recommendation
Z06	Service groups	When animals are grouped during weaning / mating, extra inspections must be performed to identify aggressive animals and/or injured/stressed animals promptly.	When animals are added to a group at different moments, the farmer must perform an extra inspection on several occasions during the first days after the animals were grouped. Aggressive animals must supervised and in extreme cases separated from the group. Any injured/stressed animals are recorded and discussed with the veterinary practitioner and, if necessary, transferred to the sick bay if remaining with the other animals causes additional welfare problems, for example if the pig is unable to compete for feed.	Verify and record whether there are stable groups, or whether there are any aggressive, injured or stressed animals in the group. Verify in an interview whether any additional inspections are performed when the animals are grouped. Record the findings.	Minor
Z08.3	Floor area per sow	The surface area is at least 2.25 m ² per sow 2.50 m ² per sow of which at least 1.30 m ² solid floor which is bedded.	<p>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen.</p> <p>A solid floor is a floor or part of a floor, which is fitted with slurry permeable openings. A floor is considered solid if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the total of slurry permeable openings does not exceed 5% of the total area of the solid part of the floor; and b. the width of slurry permeable slat openings does not exceed 10 mm and the diameter of round slurry permeable openings does not exceed 20 mm. <p>For example, so-called 'German Welfare Slats' and square grid slats do not comply with the criteria for solid floors.</p>	Verify by measuring and record the surface area per sow.	Major
Z08A.3	Surface area outdoor run	The sows have permanent access to an outdoor run of at least 1.9 m ² per sow. A maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof.	<p>The outdoor run may be unpaved, partially paved or fully paved; it may consist entirely of slatted flooring and a maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof. There are two exceptions when 100% roofed is permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completely covering the outdoor run is only permitted temporarily and based on rain sensors. - if the pigs are permitted meadow access in addition to outdoor run access if a functional pig toilet combined with meadow access is provided and when soil and weather conditions permit. This must be demonstrable for at least 250 days a year. At least 25% of the roof covering must be transparent. <p>Pigs are naturally on the move 10-12 hours a day. This prevents leg disorders and the fresh air prevents pulmonary diseases.</p>	Verify whether pigs have permanent access to an outdoor run and whether the criteria are complied with. Record the surface area and whether the criteria are complied with.	Critical
Z08B.3	View outdoor run	At least one side of the outdoor run has an unobstructed view of > 5 m.	<p>The following applies to a view directly into another pen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least half of one wall between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen, or; - at least a quarter of two walls between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen. <p>In addition, when there is a direct view into another pen, there must also be an open space of >5 m next to/in front of the outdoor run.</p> <p>When the view is provided by the wall to the open space, i.e. not directly into another pen, there must be a view over the entire length.</p> <p>There must be no buildings, runs, other obstacles, etc. in this open space of > 5 m .</p>	Verify the view from the outdoor run. Record the findings.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
Z08D.3	Meadow access for gestating sows and <u>gestating</u> gilts	Gestating sows and gilts have meadow access.	<u>Meadow access is offered when soil and weather conditions permit.</u>	Verify whether the gestating sows and gilts have meadow access <u>when soil and weather conditions permit. Record the findings.</u>	Critical
Z09.3	Group housing system	<p>The sows <u>have sufficient space to move, of which at least 1.3 m² as a lying space, are kept in groups of 20 or more-</u> <u>- Groups of 1 up to and including 19 sows: min. 2.75 m² per sow;</u> <u>- Groups of 20 sows and more incl. gilts ready for breeding (regardless of group size): min. 2.50 m² per sow/gilt</u></p> <p><u>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025:</u></p>	<p>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen. In larger groups, animals can 'borrow' space from each other. It is permitted to keep sows in smaller groups provided there is a larger floor surface area per sow.</p> <p>A solid floor is a floor or part of a floor, which is fitted with slurry-permeable openings. A floor is considered solid if:</p> <p>a. the total of slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 5% of the total area of the solid part of the floor, and</p> <p>b. the width of slurry-permeable slat openings does not exceed 10 mm and the diameter of round slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 20 mm.</p> <p>For example, so-called 'German Welfare Slats' and square grid slats do not comply with the criteria for solid floors.</p> <p>Passages may be created between pens to increase the group size, under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The passageway must always be open, with the exception of the situations below; - Two pigs must be able to pass through the passageway at the same time with ease; - The passageway contains as few tight bends and/or dead ends as possible; - There are no protrusions or obstacles (such as thresholds, ridges that are higher/deeper than the toes) in/around the passageway; - There is sufficient lighting and there is as little visibility as possible of disruptive elements that can distract or scare animals (e.g. moving objects, chains in the direction of movement). <p>The passageways may be temporarily closed by barriers. This is only permitted in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the case of infectious diseases in the affected section, a declaration from the veterinary practitioner or a visit report signed by the veterinary practitioner must be shown. For as long as necessary. The pigs must be distributed evenly over the space to comply with the prescribed minimum surface area, width/number of eating places and number of drinking places per sows; - Up to a maximum of 24 hours before the permanent removal of pigs to the abattoir. 	<p><u>Verify and record with new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 the date of new construction/renovation the number of sows per group and the floor surface area per sow,-</u></p> <p><u>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways between existing sections/pens comply with the conditions-</u></p> <p><u>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways are only closed during setting up (piglets), infectious diseases and delivery.</u></p>	<p>Minor</p> <p>Major</p>
Z09.13a	<u>Lying areas group housing sows</u>	<u>If lying areas are created in group housing for sows, the minimum width is 2.8 m.</u>	<u>A sow lying down occupies approx. 55-60 cm. This width allows five sows to lie down next to each other.</u>	<u>Verify the width of the lying areas randomly. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
Z10	Phasing out feeding pens with free access	<p>Group housing in feeding pens with free access is no longer used.</p> <p><u>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025</u></p>	Using former feeding pens exclusively as feeding and/or drinking places is permitted if the minimum floor area and solid floor requirements per sow are complied with without these pens. In this situation, there are no longer feeding pens with free access, but a feeding/drinking pen (which cannot be closed) and a separate lying area. As soon as the pens are used to provide feed at the same time, there must be at least as many feeding pens as sows.	Verify with new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 whether there are any feeding pens. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
Z14	Existing enclosure with feeding pens with outlets	<p><u>If the farm still uses feeding pens with outlets, there should be at least 2 meters of free space behind the crate, so the sow can back out of the crate normally and can turn around.</u></p> <p><u>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 feeding pens with outlets are no longer permitted</u></p>		Measure the free space behind 5% of the feeding pens and note this down.	Major

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
Z11a	Existing enclosure with feeding pens with outlets	If the farm still use feeding pens with outlets, the gestation crates may be closed for a maximum of 2 hours during feeding. <u>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 feeding pens with outlets are no longer permitted</u>		Check this by comparing the time of feeding in the computer with the times the feeding pens are closed. Record the findings by placing the time of feeding next to the closed pens.	Minor
Z12	Bedding on lying place floor	<u>The lying place floor must be covered with straw or similar bedding material.</u> <u>With new construction and renovation after (effective date criteria), but no later than 01 January 2028.</u>		<u>Verify whether the floor lying is bedded with straw or similar material. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
Z13	Dunging area for sows	The surface of the dunging area must provide the sows with sufficient grip. for example consisting of profiled metal or a concrete slatted floor. <u>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 the following applies:</u> - specifically purchased concrete floors must have a surface roughness of 63 Leroux or FSC2000 value 0.60 - dunging areas with a solid floor must be covered with straw or similar bedding.	<u>The dunging area consists of, e.g. profiled metal or a concrete slatted floor.</u>	Verify and record whether the dunging area provides the sows with sufficient grip. Record the material used in the dunging area. If applicable, verify and record with new construction and/or renovation, but no later than from 01-01-2025 , whether at purchase a concrete floor complies with a surface roughness of 63 Leroux or FSC2000 value 0.60 (stated on the certificate with the floor) and whether a dunging area consisting of a solid floor has been covered with straw or similar bedding.	Minor
Z14	Trough feeding	If dry and gestating sows are trough fed at the same time, the animals are may be protected by trough dividers above the trough.	Dividers prevent the pigs from eating each other's feed ration as much as possible. Trough dividers of up to 1.20 metres are permitted. The length of the trough divider is measured including the depth of the trough, regardless of whether the trough allows a sow to rest her head underneath. Foot supports between 0.80 and 1.20 metres to support the trough divider are not a problem. However, solid barriers reaching to the floor are not permitted. The maximum length of a trough divider no longer applies when the minimum floor area and solid floor per sow are complied with without a feed pen, as described in criterion Z10.	Verify whether there is a trough divider and the length with trough feeding. Record the total length of the trough dividers.	Minor
Z14a	eating places for sows restricted feeding	<u>With restricted feeding several times a day (not ad libitum), all the sows can eat at the same time.</u> <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than 01-01-2030.</u>	<u>In addition to liquid feed, this also concerns sensor feeding, for example, N/A with feeding stations.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether there are sufficient eating places.</u>	Minor
Z15.3	Trough length	<u>In case of trough feeding, the trough width is a minimum of 35 cm per sow.</u>	<u>With trough feeding, feed is offered in such a way that all the sows can eat at the same time.</u>	<u>Measure the trough length and check through random sampling when in doubt. N/A with individual or ad libitum feeding. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
Z16.3	Number of eating places for individual or ad libitum feeding	With individual or ad libitum feeding systems, there is at least one eating place per 12 sows. With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2030 there is at least 1 eating place per sow. This does not apply to ad libitum feeding.	N/A with feeding stations.	Verify and record whether there is one eating place per 12 sows. Record non-conformities. N/A with feeding stations.	Minor
Z17.3	eating place width sows individual or ad libitum feeding	With trough feeding, individual or ad libitum feeding, the eating place must be at least 35 cm wide.	<u>With trough feeding, feed is offered in such a way that all the sows can eat at the same time.</u> <u>From 01-01-2030, only the inner length between separators will be measured to assess the width to feed. This also applies to the places at the extreme ends of the troughs, the corner is not included. With round feeders, the inner length between separators is calculated by dividing the circumference minus the sum of the width of all separators together by the number of eating places.</u>	Verify and record whether the width of the eating place complies. Record non-conformities.	Minor
Z18.3	Number of drinking places	There is at least 1 functioning drinking place per 10 sows. For sows fed with liquid feed, 1 drinking spot per 20 sows is allowed.	<u>For feeding stations where water is added to the feed, the same standard applies as for liquid feed.</u> The feeding station does not count as a drinking place.	Verify and record the number of sows per functioning drinking place. Record the findings.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
Z18.3A	At least 2 drinking places RECOMMENDATION	In group housing, regardless of the group size, at least 2 functioning drinking places are available at the same time	Providing 2 drinking places prevents a higher ranked pig blocking the drinking place for a lower ranked pig.	Verify and record whether there are at least 2 functioning drinking places available at the same time. Verify whether the distance between the drinking places complies.	Recommendation
Z19	Forage	To counteract hunger, the sows are fed <i>ad libitum</i> with: - feed with a high v-NSP content, or - forage such as straw, grass silage or hay	Forage: feedstuff with a structure value higher than 1.10/kg DM. The structure value is assessed based on the structure value as listed in the CVB feed tables, see www.cvbdiervoeding.nl for the current CVB feed tables. Roughage means feed with a minimum dry matter content of 50%.	Verify whether fibre-rich feed or forage has been purchased using purchase orders. Verify whether it has been provided in the barn. Record the type of fibre-rich feed and the findings	Major
Z21	Pen-enrichment-gestating-sows	Gestating sows are provided with enrichment material.	For a description of the criteria enrichment material must comply with, see AH07. In addition to the forage referred to under Z19, the sows have permanent access to enrichment materials. Suitable materials for sows include ropes or jute sacks. In addition, edible enrichment material is provided daily, for example in the feed trough or in a (straw) dispenser, but not at the same time as the feed. 20 grams of straw/alfalfa/CGM/grass silage per animal must be provided at least twice a day.	Verify whether enrichment material is provided, whether it is sufficient and whether it complies with the criteria. Record the type of enrichment material provided.	Minor
Farrowing pen					
K01.3	free-farrowing pen	In the free-farrowing pen, the sow may be confined for a maximum of 3 days, after which it must be able to move freely through the farrowing pen.	A sow may be confined for a maximum of 3 days to prevent piglets being crushed.	Verify whether the farrowing pens in the farrowing section comply. Record the number of days the sows are confined in the farrowing pen.	Major
K01.3a	free-farrowing pen floor area	The free-farrowing pen offers the sow access to at least 4.5 m2 of the total floor area with a turning circle of at least 2 m. If there are no barriers in the farrowing pen, this criterion will lapse. With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2035.		Verify with new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2035 whether the pen floor area and turning circle in the farrowing section comply. Record the findings.	Major
K02.3	Surface area indoor-farrowing pen	The surface area of a farrowing pen is at least 7.5 m ² and the sow is no longer confined 3 days after farrowing. This includes space for the piglets and the piglet nest.	This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen.	Measure the surface area of 1 pen of each type of farrowing pen. Record the findings.	Major
K02A.3	Surface area outdoor run	The sows have permanent access to an outdoor run of at least 2.5 m ² per sow with piglets. A maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof.	The outdoor run may be unpaved, partially paved or fully paved; it may consist entirely of slatted flooring and a maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof. There are two exceptions when 100% roofed is permitted: - Completely covering the outdoor run is only permitted temporarily and based on rain sensors. - If the pigs are permitted meadow access in addition to outdoor run access if a functional pig toilet combined with meadow access is provided and when soil and weather conditions permit. This must be demonstrable for at least 250 days a year. At least 25% of the roof covering must be transparent.	Verify and record the floor area in the outdoor run. Verify and record whether sows and piglets have permanent access to an outdoor run and whether the criteria are complied with. Record the surface area and whether the criteria are complied with.	Major
K02D.3	View outdoor run	At least one side of the outdoor run has an unobstructed view of > 5 m not directly into another pen.	The following applies to a view directly into another pen: - at least half of one wall between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen, or; - at least a quarter of two walls between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen. In addition, when there is a direct view into another pen, there must also be an open space of >5 m next to/in front of the outdoor run. When the view is provided by the wall to the open space, i.e. not directly into another pen, there must be a view over the entire length. There must be no buildings, runs, other obstacles, etc. in this open space of > 5 m.	Verify the view from the outdoor run. Record the findings.	Minor
K03.3	Lying place for farrowing sows	The lying place of the farrowing sows is solid and covered with straw or similar natural material that meets the nesting needs of the sow.		Verify whether the sow's lying place in the farrowing house is solid and covered with straw or similar natural material that meets the nesting needs of the sow. Record the natural material used.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
K06	Farrowing pen	If sows are confined during farrowing, there must be at least 30 cm of space behind the sow to enable farrowing.		Measure and record the space to farrow behind the sow.	Minor
K07.3	Forage material sows in farrowing pen	Straw is permanently available in the farrowing pen.		Verify whether straw is present. whether there is straw permanently available in the farrowing pens, for example, based on purchase orders. Record the findings.	Minor
K08	Piglet nest	All suckling piglets from one litter have a safe, protected lying place (the piglet nest) <u>at least</u> 0.6 m ² . <u>With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2035 the sheltered lying place must be at least 1.2 m² of continuous floor area.</u>		Verify <u>whether the lying place is safe and protected and has a minimum area of 0.6 m². piglet nest on m² lying place. Record non-conformities: Verify with new construction and/or renovation, no later than from 01-01-2035, whether there is a sheltered lying place with a minimum floor area of 1.20 m². Record the findings.</u>	Minor
K08A	Floor piglet nest	The floor of the <u>sheltered lying area</u> / piglet nest is solid.		Verify <u>and record</u> whether the piglet nest has a solid floor. <u>Record non-conformities.</u>	Minor
K08b	Heating piglet nest	<u>The sheltered lying area/ The piglet nest is heated by:</u> 1. a piglet lamp, <u>infrared panel</u> and/or 2. floor heating	The temperature in the piglet nest is adapted to suit the current needs of the piglets in the nest.	Verify whether there is heating in the nest <u>and the type of heating</u> . Record <u>the findings type of heating.</u>	Minor
K08c	Bedding piglet nest	<u>The floor of the piglet nest must be covered with straw or similar natural material.</u> <u>With new construction and/or renovation of the farrowing pens after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2035.</u>		<u>Verify and record with new construction and/or renovation of the farrowing pens after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2035 whether there is bedding on the floor of the piglet nest.</u>	Minor
K09A_13	Fostering piglets	Routinely fostering piglets is not permitted.	In principle, each sow suckles her own piglets. Fostering piglets should therefore not be routine and is only permitted: - within the same age group (piglets) - up to and including the age of 3 days after birth - if the percentage of fostered piglets within one age group (piglets) remains below 10%.	Verify the pen charts for irregularities concerning fostering. Record any irregularities.	Minor
K09B_13	Artificial suckling	Artificial suckling (e.g. an artificial sow or rescue deck) is not permitted.	Artificial suckling (e.g. an artificial sow or rescue deck) is only permitted: - in extreme cases, - temporarily, - in consultation with the contracted veterinary practitioner, and - provided measures are taken to remove the need for artificial suckling.	<u>Verify whether artificial suckling is used. If artificial suckling is used verify and record with the farmer whether consultation with the veterinary practitioner has taken place (using e.g. a visit report) and whether measures are being taken to remove the need for artificial suckling.</u>	Minor
K10_13	Play area for piglets	<u>Piglets in the farrowing pens can walk freely all the way round the pen, along the sides. Piglets in the farrowing pen must be able to move around the pen freely and without obstruction.</u>	This gives them more space to play and acquire normal behaviour. This does not apply to a separate piglet nest that is not part of the farrowing pen. <u>Adjustable floors are still permitted, as they are usually only a potential obstacle for the piglets during the first few days.</u>	Verify <u>and record</u> whether piglets in the farrowing pen can move around the pen freely and without obstruction.	Minor
K11	Solid feed	Suckling piglets are given <u>some</u> solid feed or a creep feed porridge from the age of 14 days at the latest.	This enables the piglets to get used to solid feed and <u>to prevents weaning dip.</u>	Verify <u>and record</u> whether piglets are given solid feed <u>no later</u> than from 2 weeks of age and older. Verify <u>and record based on</u> the stock and/or invoices.	Minor
K11a	<u>Trough sow Piglets eat with sow</u>	<u>The sow's trough is replaced by a feeder or trough that is low enough to allow the piglets to eat from. Piglets older than one week are also given feed at the same time as and with the sow. This enables the piglets to establish the relationship between eating feed with the sow and their own feed.</u> <u>With new construction and renovation after 02-05-2026 from 01-01-2026, but no later than 01-01-2035.</u>	<u>This means that both feeders must be close to each other, but also that the piglets can observe the sow eating. At least 5 piglets must be able to eat from the feeders at the same time. This can also be achieved using floor feeding.</u> <u>As a result, the sow teaches the piglets to eat solid feed from a young age which helps prevent weaning dip.</u>	<u>Verify whether piglets older than one week are also given feed at the same time as and with the sow. The sow's trough is at the right height and the piglets can eat from it. Record the findings.</u>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
K12.3	Weaning	The piglets are weaned at an average age of at least 42 days. Individual piglets are not weaned earlier than 39 days of age.		Verify the age at weaning of the piglets. Record the weaning age and weaning date and transfer of the sow based on at least 5 random samples (sow charts in the barn and printout management system). Record the minimum weaning age in days.	Minor
<u>K13</u>	<u>Farrow to finish pens</u> <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>Farrow to finish pens are used.</u>	<u>In farrow to finish pens, the sow is removed from the pen after weaning. The piglets remain in the farrowing pen until at least 10 weeks of age. Because the piglets stay in the same pen, they do not experience the stress of moving to a new pen in combination with weaning.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether farrow to finish pens are used.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
B01.3	Floor area per piglet	<p>The minimum <u>available</u> floor area per weaned piglet is an average of 0.60 m² <u>per farm</u>. No individual piglet has less than 0.55 m² of floor area.</p> <p><u>With a group size of 40 or more animals or when farrow-to-finish pens are used, the floor area per weaned piglet may be 10% less, on average 0.54 m² per farm. No individual piglet has less than 0.50 m² of floor area.</u></p>	<p>Piglets</p> <p>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen.</p> <p>With a group size of 40 or more animals or when farrow to finish pens are used, the floor minimum pen floor per weaned piglet may be 10% lower, on average 0.54 m² per weaned piglet. No individual piglet has less than 0.50 m² of floor area.</p> <p>In order to stimulate the correct dunging behaviour, weaned piglets may be kept in groups of 20 animals or more on 0.50 m² of surface area per weaned piglet during the first 7 days after set up.</p> <p>Passages may be created between pens to increase the group size, under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The passageway must always be open, with the exception of the situations below; - Two pigs must be able to pass through the passageway at the same time with ease; - The passageway contains as few tight bends and/or dead ends as possible; - There are no protrusions or obstacles (such as thresholds, ridges that are higher/deeper than the toes) in/around the passageway; - There is sufficient lighting and there is as little visibility as possible of disruptive elements that can distract or scare animals (e.g. moving objects, chains in the direction of movement). <p>The passageways may be temporarily closed by barriers. This is only permitted in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For up to a maximum of the first seven days when setting up piglets in the weaned piglet pen. The piglets must be distributed evenly over the space to comply with the prescribed minimum surface area, width/number of eating places and number of drinking places per piglet; - In the case of infectious diseases in the affected section, a declaration from the veterinary practitioner or a visit report signed by the veterinary practitioner must be shown. For as long as necessary. The pigs must be distributed evenly over the space to comply with the prescribed minimum surface area, width/number of eating places and number of drinking places per piglet; - Up to a maximum of 24 hours before the delivery of piglets and the permanent removal of pigs to the abattoir. 	<p>Verify the floor area per animal using pen administration and pen dimensions. If the piglets were transferred to a pen with 10% reduced surface area, ascertain whether this concerns a group of 20 or more animals with a surface area of 0.50 m² per piglet and that this last no longer than the first 7 days after transfer.</p> <p>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways between existing sections/pens comply with the conditions.</p> <p>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways are only closed during setting up (piglets), infectious diseases and delivery.</p>	Major
B01a.3	Stable groups of weaned piglets	<p>Piglets that have already become familiar with each other in the farrowing pen are placed in a pen together to reduce stress and competing for hierarchy.</p>	<p>Gilts and barrows may be separated before the finishing period.</p>	<p>Verify <u>and record</u> whether the piglets are mixed and whether the groups are stable. Record non-conformities.</p>	Minor
B02.3	Floor-type- Solid floor piglets	<p>50% of the floor <u>for weaned piglets</u> is solid. <u>The solid floor is continuous as much as possible.</u></p>	<p><u>A solid floor is a floor or part of a floor, which is fitted with slurry-permeable openings. A floor is considered solid if:</u></p> <p><u>a. the total of slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 5% of the total area of the solid part of the floor, and</u></p> <p><u>b. the width of slurry-permeable slit openings does not exceed 10 mm and the diameter of round slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 20 mm.</u></p> <p><u>For example, so-called 'German Welfare Slats' and square grid slats do not comply with the criteria for solid floors.</u></p>	<p>Verify <u>and record</u> whether 50% of the floor is solid <u>and continuous</u>.</p>	Major
B02a.3	<u>Bedding</u> -solid floor <u>piglets</u>	<p>TheThe solid part of the floor is bedded with straw or similar material</p>		<p>Verify <u>and record</u> whether the solid part of the floor is bedded with straw or similar material.</p>	Major

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
B02b	Dunging area for piglets	<p>The surface of the dunging area must provide the piglets with sufficient grip. The dunging area consists of a hard plastic slatted floor, plastic-coated slatted floor, coated metal or concrete slatted floor for example.</p> <p>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specifically purchased concrete floors must have a surface roughness of 63 Leroux or FSC2000 value 0.60 - dunging areas with a solid floor must be covered with straw or similar bedding. 	<p>The dunging area consists of a hard plastic slatted floor, plastic-coated slatted floor, coated metal or concrete slatted floor for example.</p>	<p>Verify and record whether the dunging area provides the piglets with sufficient grip. Record the type of material used in the dunging area, the manure grid.</p> <p>If applicable, verify and record with new construction and/or renovation, but no later than from 01-01-2025, whether at purchase a concrete floor complies with a surface roughness of 63 Leroux or FSC2000 value 0.60 (stated on the certificate with the floor) and whether a dunging area consisting of a solid floor has been covered with straw or similar bedding.</p>	Minor
B03A.3	Surface area outdoor run	<p>The animals have permanent access to an outdoor run of at least 0.4 m² per weaned piglet. A maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof.</p> <p>With a group size of 40 or more animals or when farrow to finish pens are used, the floor area per weaned piglet may be 10% less. This is 0.36 m² per weaned piglet.</p>	<p>The outdoor run may be unpaved, partially paved or fully paved; it may consist entirely of slatted flooring and a maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof. There are two exceptions when 100% roofed is permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completely covering the outdoor run is only permitted temporarily and based on rain sensors. - If the pigs are permitted meadow access in addition to outdoor run access, if a functional pig toilet combined with meadow access is provided and when soil and weather conditions permit. This must be demonstrable for at least 250 days a year. At least 25% of the roof covering must be transparent. <p>Pigs are naturally on the move 10-12 hours a day. This prevents leg disorders and the fresh air prevents pulmonary diseases.</p>	<p>Verify whether pigs have permanent access to an outdoor run and whether the criteria are complied with. Record the surface area and whether the criteria are complied with.</p>	Critical
B03C.3	View outdoor run	<p>At least one side of the outdoor run has an unobstructed view of > 5 m.</p>	<p>The following applies to a view directly into another pen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least half of one wall between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen, or; - at least a quarter of two walls between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen. <p>In addition, when there is a direct view into another pen, there must also be an open space of >5 m next to/in front of the outdoor run.</p> <p>When the view is provided by the wall to the open space, i.e. not directly into another pen, there must be a view over the entire length.</p> <p>There must be no buildings, runs, other obstacles, etc. in this open space of > 5 m .</p>	<p>Verify the view from the outdoor run. <u>Record the findings.</u></p>	Minor
B04.3	Trough width	<p>In case of trough feeding, the trough width is a minimum of 20 cm per piglet.</p>	<p>During trough feeding, feed is provided in a way that ensures all piglets can eat at the same time.</p>	<p>Check and write down the trough space width per piglet.</p>	Minor
B04a	Number of eating places for individual or ad libitum feeding	<p>With individual or ad libitum feeding, there is at least 1 eating place per 8 piglets.</p> <p>With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026, 01-01-2011, but later than from 01-01-2030 there is at least 1 eating place per piglet and at least per 5 piglets with ad libitum feeding.</p>		<p>Record the number of piglets per eating place.</p>	Minor
B04b	eating places for piglets restricted feeding	<p>With restricted feeding several times a day (not ad libitum), all the piglets can eat at the same time.</p> <p>With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026 (adoption criteria), but no later than from 01-01-2030.</p>	<p>In addition to liquid feed, this also concerns sensor feeding, for example.</p>	<p>Verify and record with new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026 (adoption criteria), but no later than from 01-01-2030, whether there are sufficient eating places.</p>	Minor
B04b.3	eating place width piglets for individual or ad libitum feeding	<p>With trough feeding, individual or ad libitum feeding, the feeding width is at least 20 cm per eating place.</p>	<p>With trough feeding, feed is provided in a way that ensures all piglets can eat at the same time.</p> <p>From 01-01-2030, only the inner length between separators will be measured to assess the width to feed. This also applies to the places at the extreme ends of the troughs, the corner is not included. With round feeders, the inner length between separators is calculated by dividing the circumference, minus the sum of the width of all separators together by the number of eating places.</p>	<p>Verify and record the feed feeding width per piglet.</p>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
B04c	Number of drinking places	There is at least 1 <u>functioning</u> drinking place per 12 piglets. For piglets fed with liquid feed, 1 drinking area will suffice for 24 piglets <u>With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026 (effective date criteria) but no later than from 01-01-2030 there is at least 1 drinking place per 10 piglets.</u>		Verify <u>and record</u> the number of piglets per <u>functioning</u> drinking place.	Minor
<u>B04c.1</u>	<u>At least 2 drinking places</u> <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>In group housing, regardless of the group size, at least 2 functioning drinking places are available at the same time.</u>	<u>Providing 2 drinking places prevents a higher ranked pig blocking the drinking place for a lower ranked pig.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether there are at least 2 drinking places available at the same time.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
B06.3	Tail docking	The animals have intact tails. Tail docking is not permitted.		Verify with 10% of the piglets in 1 section whether the tails are intact.	Minor
B06.3	Castration of piglet boars	Castration of piglet boars is only permitted under anaesthetic and with pain relief administered afterwards.	Castration of piglets boars is only permitted under anaesthetic and with pain relief administered afterwards. The farm participates in the IKB module on anaesthetised castration and pain relief is demonstrated by the medication administration.	Verify on a random basis (at least two sections with farrowing pens) whether castration is performed. If this is the case, verify whether there is participation in the IKB module on anaesthetised castration. Verify whether the medication records show that pain relief has been administered.	Major
<u>B06.3a</u>	<u>Ban on the castration of piglet boars</u> <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>There are no castrated piglets on the farm.</u>	<u>For new participants, no more piglets on the farm may be castrated after the entry inspection. Only piglets that were castrated on the farm before the BLL entry inspection may be on the farm and delivered under the Better Life label.</u> <u>Castration includes both surgical castration and immunocastration.</u>	<u>Verify on a random basis (at least two sections with farrowing pens) whether there are any castrated piglets on the farm (applies to piglets born after the entry inspection). Record the findings.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
B07	Ban on teeth clipping	Teeth clipping of newborn piglets is not permitted.		Verify on a random basis in different sections (at least two farrowing pens per section) whether the canine teeth are intact. If the teeth have been shortened, verify whether the teeth have been filed and not clipped. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
B08	Teeth filing	The teeth of new born piglets are not routinely filed.	If teeth of newborn piglets are filed: 1. has the contracted veterinary practitioner given permission, and 2. has the veterinary necessity been described and documented in a certificate from the contracted veterinary practitioner.	Verify on a random basis in different sections (at least two farrowing pens per section) per pen whether the canine teeth are intact. If the teeth have been filed, verify whether advice was issued by the contracted veterinary practitioner and whether this advice is reviewed quarterly. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
B08A	Plan of action to end teeth filing	If teeth are filed due to problems, an action plan must be established to solve the problems within a year (at the next inspection) after which time teeth filing will stop. This plan is established in consultation with the feed advisor and, if necessary, the contracted veterinary practitioner.	If the sow is injured due to sharp teeth, the cause must be addressed. For example, by improving the sow's nutrition in consultation with the feed advisor to ensure she produces sufficient, good milk. N/A if the teeth are not filed.	If there are piglets with teeth that have been shortened, verify <u>whether there is an action plan to end tooth filing whether this was also the case a year ago. If this is the case, verify whether an action plan has been established in consultation with the feed advisor and, if necessary the contracted veterinary practitioner. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
Finishers					
V01A	Stable groups	Finishers are kept in stable groups and are not mixed with unfamiliar animals after set up.	Finishers are kept in stable groups. Groups of finishers are not mixed with unfamiliar/new animals after set up.	Verify whether after set up unfamiliar pigs are mixed in groups.	Major

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
V01B3	Stable groups- Space to move finishers	<p>Finishers are kept in groups of at least 20.</p> <p>The finishers have sufficient space to move in the barn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Groups of 1 up to and including 19: an average of 1.5 m² and no finisher with an area less than 1.45 m² available; - Groups of 20 up to and including 39: an average of 1.3 m² and no finisher with an area less than 1.25 m² available; - Groups of 40 or more: 1.3 m² minus 10% = an average of 1.05 m² per finisher and no finisher less than 1.0 m² available. <p>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025.</p>	<p>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen. The minimum pen floor area applies from set up to slaughter.</p> <p>In larger groups, animals can 'borrow' space from each other. This makes it easier for the pig to distinguish between a lying, activity, feeding and dunging area. It is also permitted to keep finishers in smaller groups provided there is a larger floor surface area per finisher.</p> <p>Passages may be created between pens to increase the group size, under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The passageway must always be open, with the exception of the situations below; - Two pigs must be able to pass through the passageway at the same time with ease; - The passageway contains as few tight bends and/or dead ends as possible; - There are no protrusions or obstacles (such as thresholds, ridges that are higher/deeper than the toes) in/around the passageway; - There is sufficient lighting and there is as little visibility as possible of disruptive elements that can distract or scare animals (e.g. moving objects, chains in the direction of movement). <p>The passageways may be temporarily closed by barriers. This is only permitted in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the case of infectious diseases in the affected section, a declaration from the veterinary practitioner or a visit report signed by the veterinary practitioner must be shown. For as long as necessary. The pigs must be distributed evenly over the space to comply with the prescribed minimum surface area, width/number of eating places and number of drinking places per finisher; - Up to a maximum of 24 hours before the delivery of piglets and the permanent removal of pigs to the abattoir. 	<p>N/A with existing building until 01-01-2025. With new construction and/or renovation but no later than from 01-01-2025: Verify <u>and record for 10% of the finisher groups</u> the number of finishers per group <u>and the floor area per finisher.</u></p> <p>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways between existing sections/pens comply with the conditions.</p> <p>If applicable, verify and record whether the passageways are only closed during setting up (piglets), infectious diseases and delivery.</p>	Major
V02.3	Floor area per finisher	<p>The minimum available floor area in the pen is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Groups of 1 up to and including 10: an average of 1.7 m² per finisher and no finisher less than 1.65 m² - Groups of 11 up to and including 19: an average of 1.5 m² per finisher and no finisher less than 1.45 m² - Groups of 20 or more: an average of 1.3 m² per finisher and no finisher less than 1.25 m² <p>The minimum available outdoor run area consists of 1 m² per finisher.</p>	<p>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen. The minimum pen floor area and outdoor run area apply from set up to slaughter.</p> <p>For groups of 40 or more animals, the floor area per animal may be reduced by 10% per animal.</p>	<p>Verify the floor area per animal using pen administration and pen dimensions. Measure the surface area of each type of pen. Record the available area and any non-conformities.</p>	Critical
V02.3a	Enlarging space to move finishers RECOMMENDATION	<p><u>The finishers have sufficient space to move.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Groups of 1 up to and including 19: an average of 1.8 m² and no finisher with an area less than 1.7 m² available;</u> - <u>Groups of 20 up to and including 39: an average of 1.6 m² and no finisher with an area less than 1.5 m² available</u> - <u>Groups of 40 or more: 1.6 m² minus 10% = an average of 1.43 m² per finisher and no finisher with an area less than 1.325 m² available.</u> 	<p><u>This concerns the available pen floor area. The space under protruding or upright troughs is not included in the calculation of the available floor area in the pen. The minimum pen floor area applies from set up set up to slaughter.</u></p> <p><u>In larger groups, animals can 'borrow' space from each other. This makes it easier for the pig to distinguish between a lying, activity, feeding and dunging area. It is permitted to keep finishers in smaller groups provided there is a larger floor surface area per pig.</u></p>	<p><u>Verify the floor area per animal using pen administration and pen dimensions. Record the findings.</u></p>	Recommendation
V03A.3	Solid floor finishers	<p>At <u>least</u> 50% of the floor is solid. <u>The solid floor is continuous as much as possible, but consists of a maximum of two parts. With a group size of 40 or more pigs, it may consist of a maximum of three parts.</u></p>	<p>A continuous floor section on which at least one pig can lie fully outstretched, counts as solid floor.</p> <p>A solid floor is a floor or part of a floor, which is fitted with slurry-permeable openings.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the total of slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 5% of the total area of the solid part of the floor, and the width of slurry-permeable slat openings does not exceed 10 mm and the diameter of round slurry-permeable openings does not exceed 20 mm. <p>For example, so-called 'German Welfare Slats' and square grid slats do not comply with the criteria for solid floors.</p>	<p>Verify whether at least 50% of the floor is solid. Record non-conformities <u>the findings</u>.</p>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
V03B.3	Bedding on the floor	The floor is bedded with straw or similar material.		<u>Verify whether the floor is bedded with straw or similar material.</u> Record the type of bedding.	Minor
V03C.3	<u>Surface-area-Outdoor run finishers</u>	The animals have permanent access to an outdoor run of at least 1 m ² per finisher. A maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof.	<p>The outdoor run may be unpaved, partially paved or fully paved; it may consist entirely of slatted flooring and a maximum of 75% of the run may be covered by a roof. <u>There are two exceptions when 100% roofed is permitted:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completely covering the outdoor run is only permitted temporarily and based on rain sensors. - <u>If the pigs are permitted meadow access in addition to outdoor run access if a functional pig toilet combined with meadow access is provided and when soil and weather conditions permit. This must be demonstrable for at least 250 days a year. At least 25% of the roof covering must be transparent.</u> <p><u>Pigs are naturally on the move 10-12 hours a day. This prevents leg disorders and the fresh air prevents pulmonary diseases.</u></p>	Verify whether pigs have permanent access to an outdoor run and whether the criteria are complied with. Record the surface area and whether the criteria are complied with.	Critical
V03D.3	View outdoor run	At least one side of the outdoor run has an unobstructed view of > 5 m.	<p>The following applies to a view directly into another pen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at least half of one wall between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen, or; - at least a quarter of two walls between pens must allow the pigs to look into another pen. <p>In addition, when there is a direct view into another pen, there must also be an open space of >5 m next to/in front of the outdoor run.</p> <p>When the view is provided by the wall to the open space, i.e. not directly into another pen, there must be a view over the entire length.</p> <p>There must be no buildings, runs, other obstacles, etc. in this open space of > 5 m .</p>	Verify the view from the outdoor run. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
V04	Dunging area for finishers	<p>The surface of the dunging area must provide the finishers with sufficient grip. <u>The dunging area consists of, e.g. profiled metal or a concrete slatted floor.</u></p> <p><u>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 the following applies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specifically purchased concrete floors must have a surface roughness of 63 Leroux or FSC2000 value 0.60 - dunging areas with a solid floor must be covered with straw or similar bedding. 	<u>The dunging area consists of, e.g. profiled metal or a concrete slatted floor.</u>	<p>Verify <u>and record whether the surface of the dunging area provides the finishers with sufficient grip.</u> Record <u>the type</u> of material used in the dunging area.</p> <p>If applicable, verify and record <u>with new construction and/or renovation, but no later than from 01-01-2025</u>, whether at purchase a concrete floor complies with a surface roughness of 63 Leroux or FSC2000 value 0.60 (stated on the certificate with the floor) and whether a dunging area consisting of a solid floor has been covered with straw or similar bedding.</p>	Minor
V05.3	<u>Trough width</u>	<u>In case of trough feeding, the trough width is a minimum of 35 cm per finisher.</u>	<u>With trough feeding, feed is provided in a way that ensures all finishers can eat at the same time.</u>	<u>Verify whether there is 35 cm of eating place available per animal. Record the findings.</u>	Minor
V05.3a	<u>eating places for finishers restricted feeding</u>	<p><u>With restricted feeding several times a day (not ad libitum), all the finishers can eat at the same time.</u></p> <p><u>With new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026 (effective date criteria), but no later than 01-01-2030.</u></p>	<u>In addition to liquid feed, this also concerns sensor feeding, for example.</u>	<u>Verify and record with new construction and/or renovation after 02-05-2026 (effective date criteria), but no later than 01-01-2030, whether there are sufficient eating places.</u>	Minor
V05a	Number of eating places for individual or ad libitum feeding	<p>With individual or ad libitum feeding, there is at least 1 eating place per 12 per 8 finishers.</p> <p>With new construction and/or renovation after 01-01-2011, but no later than from 01-01-2025 there is at least 1 eating place per 8 finishers with individual or ad libitum feeding.</p>	N/A with feeding stations.	<p>Verify the number of eating places for individual or ad libitum feeding. Verify with new construction and/or renovation whether the number of eating places complies. Record the findings.</p> <p>N/A with feeding stations.</p>	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
V05b.3	eating place width finishers for individual or ad libitum feeding	With trough feeding, individual or ad libitum feeding the eating place must be 30.0 cm wide. With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2045 2030 the feeding width must be at least 35 cm.	<u>With trough feeding, feed is provided in a way that ensures all finishers can eat at the same time.</u> <u>From 01-01-2030, only the inner length between separators will be measured to assess the width to feed. This also applies to the places at the extreme ends of the troughs, the corner is not included.</u> <u>With round feeders, the inner length between separators is calculated by dividing the circumference minus the sum of the width of all separators together by the number of eating places.</u>	Verify and record the feeding width per eating place.	Minor
V05c.3	Number of drinking places	There is at least 1 <u>functioning</u> drinking place per 10 <u>finishers</u> . For finishers fed with liquid feed, 1 drinking nipple will suffice for 20 finishers.		Verify <u>and record</u> the number of finishers per drinking place.	Minor
<u>V05d.3</u>	<u>At least 2 drinking places</u> <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>	<u>In group housing, regardless of the group size, at least 2 functioning drinking places are available at the same time.</u> <u>Maintain a distance of 50-60 cm between drinking places.</u>	<u>Providing 2 drinking places prevents a higher ranked pig blocking the drinking place for a lower ranked pig.</u>	<u>Verify and record whether there are at least 2 functioning drinking places available at the same time. Verify whether the distance between the drinking places complies.</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
<u>V07</u>	<u>Pen enrichment for finishers</u>	<u>Enrichment material is provided for finishers.</u>	<u>For a description of the criteria enrichment material must comply with, see AH07.</u> <u>- Forage is very suitable as an enrichment material. This is preferably provided on a solid floor. 20 grams of straw/alfalfa/CCM/grass silage per animal must be provided at least twice a day.</u> <u>- Other options include providing enrichment material in a rack, metal potato basket or a straw holder.</u> <u>With a straw tube, care must be taken to ensure it is not fitted too tightly and that the straw logs protrude sufficiently from the base of the holder (1.5 cm or more). The straw log must be of a quality that enables the pigs to bite off chewable chunks without the material crumbling immediately.</u> <u>- Individual pigs must be prevented from 'confiscating' the material, as a result of which it loses its effectiveness for the other pigs in the pen.</u>	<u>Verify and record enrichment material.</u>	<u>Minor</u>
Transport					
T00A.3	Supplied pigs	The pigs supplied to the pig farm originate from farms that are certified as Better Life label pigs 3 stars <u>or from organic certified farms.</u>	This does not apply to supplied gilts/boars. These animals may be supplied from farms that do not have Better Life[1] certification, for instance from abroad. This does not apply to piglets from for newly started 3 star pig farms. These newly started farms may be supplied with non-Better Life label [1] certified piglets under the following conditions: For a maximum of the first 6 months (calculated from the first supply). The total number of piglets supplied from non-Better Life label [1] certified farms may not exceed the number of BLL animal places in the target category of the newly started 3 star farm. This means the barn(s) may be filled once with non-Better Life label [1] piglets, which may be delivered in multiple batches over the (first) six-month period. After that period, all the piglets supplied must be BLL-eligible for 3 stars or certified organic at all times. [1] Supply of piglets from Better Life 1 and 2 star certified farms is also permitted. If a pig farm decides to stop with the BLL scheme and at any time sets up piglets under non-BLL conditions, under certain conditions the BLL-eligible piglets and/or finishers still present may be delivered/removed as BLL-eligible for a certain period of time, see criterion UIT09.	Verify the BLL pigs 3 stars certificate <u>certificate or organic certificate</u> of the farms that supply the pigs. Record the UBNs of these farms. N/A with breeding gilts/boars and piglets on newly started 3 star farms. Verify on newly started 3 star farms whether no more than the number of BLL animal places in the target category have been supplied as 1 star, 2 stars or non-BLL piglets over the first six months.	<u>Critical-Major</u>

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
T00B	Abattoirs receiving the pigs	The pigs are supplied to abattoirs that have been approved/certified for the corresponding Better Life scope (BLL pigs and the corresponding number of stars).	If the abattoir has not been approved/certified for the corresponding Better Life scope, the animals must be downgraded to non-Better Life-eligible or to a Better Life scope for which the abattoir has been certified/approved.	Verify <u>the</u> administrative records.. Record the name and location of the abattoir(s) receiving the pigs. Record per abattoir whether they have been approved/certified for the corresponding Better Life scope (BLL pigs and corresponding number of stars). If not, verify <u>and record</u> whether the animals are downgraded to non-Better Life-eligible or to a Better Life scope for which the abattoir has been certified/approved.	Minor
<u>T01</u>	<u>Participation in a livestock transport quality assurance system</u>	<u>The Better Life pigs are transported no later than one year after (adoption criteria) by a cattle transporter certified for Quality Livestock Transport for pig transport or an equivalent system.</u>	<u>For more information and the corresponding documents see: https://vee-logistiek.nl/focus-vee-logistiek/erkenningssystemen/quality-livestock-transport-qt-varkens</u>	<u>Verify using the administrative records whether the pigs have been transported by a QLT-certified livestock transporter or an equivalent system. Record the findings.</u>	<u>Minor</u>
T02	Electric cattle prods	No electric cattle prods are used on the pig farm.	There are no electric cattle prods on the farm.	Verify <u>and record</u> whether no electric cattle prods are present on the farm and record which alternatives are used.	Minor
T03	Loading ramp, platform, lift or loading floor	The loading ramp, platform, lift or loading floor must be equipped with: - foot battens to prevent slipping, - side walls and rails to prevent pigs from falling off; The loading ramp/slope must not be steeper than 20% / 11°. This applies with 01-01-2020 at the latest. Vehicles that transport livestock must be equipped with a loading lift or an adjustable loading floor.		Verify <u>if animals are loaded during the BLL inspection, and note</u> whether the design and slope of the loading ramps and platforms comply. <u>Record the findings.</u>	Minor
T04	Empty stomach	The finishers are delivered with an empty stomach.	Empty stomach means that the last feed supply takes place before 16:00 hours on the day before the day of the delivery to the slaughter house. Feeding may be stopped 6 hours before the planned departure from the farm. To ensure the right level of pre-transport fasting, the time of the last feed is coordinated between the livestock farmer and the abattoir.	Verify <u>and record</u> with <u>the livestock farmer</u> whether <u>written agreements have been made with the abattoir about pre-transport fasting.</u> The last feed supply took place before 16:00 on the day before delivery.	Minor
T05	Transport time <u>weaned</u> piglets	The transport duration of piglets may not be longer than 6 hours. Weaned piglets may not be transported over distances greater than 280 km.	Transport duration is clear from transport documentation in the administration. This documentation must be kept for at least one year. The transport duration starts with the loading of the first animal and ends at the unloading of the last animal. The maximum transport distance of 280 km corresponds to a maximum transport time of 4 hours, assuming an average speed of 70 km per hour based on the EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) guidelines for livestock transport. The transport distance between the pig farm of birth and the finisher farm must be verified based on Routenet.nl with a 40T trailer selected as the vehicle.	Calculate the distance by trailer between the farm of birth and the farm receiving the pigs using the Routenet website and estimate the corresponding transport time. Verify the transport documents. Record <u>the transport distance and the UBN(s) of the farms of origin/destination. N/A if BLL weaned piglets are transported to a non-BLL farm.</u>	<u>Critical Major</u>
T05A	Transport vehicle for weaned piglets distance greater than 50 km.	Weaned piglets are only transported over a distance greater than 50 km using closed, climate-controlled livestock transport vehicles, in order to deliver piglets in a better condition. <u>Mandatory from 01-01-2020.</u>	Transport method (closed, climate-controlled truck) is clear from transport documentation. This documentation must be kept for at least one year. The transport distance between livestock farms must be verified using Routenet.nl with a 40T truck selected as the vehicle.	For transport distances greater than 50 km, verify <u>and record</u> whether a closed, climate-controlled livestock transport vehicle has been used based on the transport documentation. Record the transport distance and the UBN(s) of the farms of origin/destination. Record <u>the transport distance and the UBN(s) address</u> of the farms of origin/destination. N/A for distances less than 50 km.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
T06.3	Transport time for slaughter pigs	The transport duration of slaughter pigs not be longer than 6 hours. <u>Slaughter pigs may not be transported over distances greater than 420 km.</u>	Transport duration is clear from transport documentation in the administration. This documentation must be kept for at least one year. The transport duration starts with the loading of the first animal and ends at the unloading of the last animal. <u>The maximum transport distance of 420 km corresponds to a maximum transport time of 6 hours, assuming an average speed of 70 km per hour based on the EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) guidelines for livestock transport.</u> <u>The transport distance between the livestock farm and the abattoir must be verified based on Routenet.nl with a 40T trailer selected as the vehicle.</u>	Use the Routenet website to calculate the distance a transport vehicle travels between the farm and the abattoir. Verify the transport documents. Record <u>the transport distance and the name and address of the abattoir.</u> <u>N/A if BLL slaughter pigs are downgraded to non-BLL.</u>	Critical Major

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
			Recommendations B platforms for weaned piglets and finishers		
PL01	Platform for weaned piglets and finishers	<p>With weaned piglets and finishers, platforms can be used to comply with the minimum floor area per weaned piglet/finisher. Platforms are not permitted in the farrowing pen.</p> <p>Platforms are not mandatory. If platforms are used they should, in time, meet the following criteria recommendations. In the current version 2.1, these criteria are recommendations and there is no penalty if these are not met.</p> <p>It is expected that in the next version (3.0) of the criteria, a penalty will be added. New platforms, installed after the final implementation of the next version (3.0, including penalties), must meet the following criteria.</p> <p>Not applicable for platforms that have been installed before the establishment of the next version of the criteria (3.0, including penalties).</p> <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>	<p>The access ramp to the platform must not be counted as available floor area for the animals. The space under the ramp (if the slope of the ramp to the ground floor is steeper than 20°) may be counted as available floor area.</p>	<p>Register <u>Verify and record whether and for which animal categories</u> platforms are used.</p>	Minor
PL02	Platform load weight RECOMMENDATION	<p>The platform construction meets the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - piglets: minimum load calculated at 130 kg/m² - finishers: minimum load calculated at 200 kg/m² <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>	Maximum deflection is 1/250e with a maximum of 12 mm.	Verify and <u>register record</u> the platform load weight <u>for per animal category</u> based on the specifications of the structure.	Minor
PL03	Minimum distance from the ground floor to the base of the platform RECOMMENDATION	<p>The distance from the ground floor to the base of the platform is at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0.9 m with a platform width of 0.9-1.5 m - 1.2 m with a platform width > 1.5 m <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>		Verify and <u>record the</u> width and corresponding height of the platform.	Minor
PL04	Floor area of the platform RECOMMENDATION	<p>The platform covers a maximum of 40% of the floor area on the floor</p> <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>		Verify and <u>record</u> the percentage of the floor area covered by the platform.	Minor
PL05	Distance between platform and ceiling RECOMMENDATION	<p>The distance between the platform and the ceiling is at least 0.9 m everywhere, and at least 1.5 m at the highest point of the ceiling.</p> <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>		Verify and <u>register record</u> the distance between the platform and the ceiling. Measure from the lowest and highest point of the ceiling.	Minor
PL06	Platform slope RECOMMENDATION	<p>The platform may have a maximum slope of 5% across the width and 10% across the length.</p> <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>		Verify <u>(e.g., using a slope meter on the digital distance meter)</u> and <u>register record the</u> slope of the platform over the width and length.	Minor
PL07	Platform width RECOMMENDATION	<p>The width of the platform is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - piglets: minimum 0.9 m and maximum 1.56 m - finishers: minimum 1.1 m and maximum 1.9 m <p><u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u></p>	These dimensions include any (ventilation/slurry) openings.	Verify and <u>register record</u> the width of the platform <u>per animal category</u> .	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
PL08	Platform length RECOMMENDATION	The length of the platform is: - piglets: minimum 1.5 m - finishers: minimum 2.5 m <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>		Verify and register record the length of the platform per animal category .	Minor
PL09	Platform floor RECOMMENDATION	The floor of the platform is solid: <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>	The floor of the platform is solid, with the exception of: a. a grid over the entire width of the platform, at both ends of the platform, is permitted for: - piglets: maximum 0.6 m - finishers: maximum 1.0 m b. a grid over the entire width of the platform, at the floor area at the ramp, is permitted for: - piglets: maximum 0.6 m - finishers: maximum 1.0 m c. a grid over the entire length on the wall side of the platform is permitted for: - piglets: maximum 0.2 m and 0.3 m if there are no ventilation/ slurry openings. - finishers: maximum 0.3 m and 0.4 m if there are no ventilation/ slurry openings. d. a ventilation/slurry opening along the wall side permitted for: - piglets: minimum 5 cm and maximum of 6 cm - finishers: minimum 8 cm to maximum of 8 10 cm e. the ramp may either be solid or slatted for: - piglets: openings of 10-12 mm - finishers: openings of 10-18 mm.	Verify whether the floor is solid, including the exceptions stated. Record the findings .	Minor
PL10	Platform solid floor material RECOMMENDATION	The platform must be designed to provide the piglets or finishers with sufficient grip, for example, profiled metal, rough plastic, rough composite or concrete. <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>		Verify and record whether the floor is sufficiently rough. Record the register type of material.	Minor
PL11	Platform railing RECOMMENDATION	The platform has a railing with bars and for: - piglets: minimum 0.5 m high - finishers: minimum 0.6 0.7 m high <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>	Preferably use horizontal railings with at least 2 bars. The lower bar height for piglets is 0.2 m and 0.2-0.3 for finishers. The upper bar height is 0.5 m for piglets and 0.7 m for finishers, measured at the top of the bar. Vertical bars are also permitted.	Verify and register record per animal category whether there are railings and the height of the highest bar. Verify whether the bars are horizontal or vertical.	Minor
PL12	Ramp/steps width RECOMMENDATION	The ramp/steps used by the piglets/pigs to access the platform (including any hinge points) is for: - piglets: minimum 0.60 m wide - finishers: minimum 0.75 m wide <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>		Verify and register record the width of the ramp/steps per animal category .	Minor
PL13	Ramp/steps slope RECOMMENDATION	The slope of the ramp/steps is not steeper than maximum 30° in relation to the ground floor; <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>		Verify and record the slope of the ramp/steps in relation to the ground floor.	Minor
PL14	Horizontal access with parallel ramp/steps RECOMMENDATION	If the ramp/steps are placed parallel (not perpendicular) to the platform, there must be a horizontal access ramp to the platform <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>	This ramp access is for: - piglets: minimum 0.70 m x 0.70 m - finishers: minimum 0.75 m x 0.75 m, and fitted with railings in compliance with the criteria stated in PL11 Platform railing.	Verify and register record whether there is an angled or parallel ramp/steps per animal category . Verify and register record with a parallel ramp/steps whether there is horizontal ramp, the dimensions of the ramp and the height of the railings.	Minor
PL15	Cross battens RECOMMENDATION	Battens are fitted on the ramp. <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>	For piglets: at a distance of 5 to 10 cm (measured between the battens). The battens have: - a height of between 2 and 4 cm, and - a width of between 4 2 and 5 cm	Verify and register record whether battens are fitted, the height, width and distance between the battens.	Minor

Standard	Welfare aspect	Criterion	Interpretation	Method of measurement	Sanction
PL16	Ramp/steps railing RECOMMENDATION	A railing with a height of at least 50 cm must be fitted on one side of the ramp/steps. <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>		Verify and register record whether a railing is fitted on at least one side of the ramp/steps.	Minor
PL17	Step on/off ramp/steps RECOMMENDATION	There may be a step on and/or off at the bottom and top of the ramp for: - piglets: maximum 10 cm - finishers: maximum 15 cm. <u>With new construction or renovation after 02-05-2026, but no later than from 01-01-2030.</u>		Verify and register record whether there is a step on and/or off and the distance height per animal category .	Minor
Supplementary					
A00	Number of animals	The number of BLL animal places and the number of animals present are recorded for each animal category during the annual audit inspection. <u>If the capacity has changed since the previous inspection, the number of BLL animal places and the number of animals present during the current inspection are calculated and recorded again</u>	To do so, during the entry inspection and with new construction and renovation, the BLL inspector measures the various types of pens/sections at the farm. The BLL inspector determines the total area per animal category on the farm based on this area per type of pen/section. The inspector then determines the total number of BLL animal places per animal category for the farm based on the required area per animal category, as defined in the BLL criteria.	Record the number of BLL animal places and the number of animals present. Based on measurements of the different pens/sections and the BLL area criteria by animal category.	
A00A	Number of BLL dry, gestating or farrowing sow places	The number of BLL dry, gestating or farrowing sow places is:		Record the number of BLL dry, gestating or farrowing sow places	
A00A1	Number of dry, gestating or farrowing sows present	The number of dry, gestating or farrowing sows present is:		Record the number of dry, gestating or farrowing sows present	
A00B	Number of BLL boar places	The number of BLL boar places is:		Record the number of BLL boar places	
A00B1	Number of boars present	The number of boars present is:		Record the number of boars present.	
A00C	Number of BLL finisher places	The number of BLL finisher places is:		Record the number of BLL finisher places	
A00C1	Number of finishers present	The number of finishers present is:		Record the number of finishers present	
A00D	Number of BLL rearing sow or boar places 20-50 kg and BLL rearing sow places 50 kg or more	The number of BLL rearing sow or boar places 20-50 kg and BLL rearing sow places 50 kg or more is:		Record the number of BLL rearing sow or boar places (20-50 kg) and BLL rearing sow places (50 kg or more)	
A00D1	Number of rearing sows or boars of 20-50 kg and rearing sows of 50 kg or more present	The number of rearing sows or boars of 20-50 kg and rearing sows of 50 kg or more present is:		Record the number of rearing sows or boars of 20-50 kg and rearing sows of 50 kg or more present	
A00E	Number of BLL piglet places up to 20 kg	Record the number of BLL (weaned) piglets places up to 20 kg:		Record the number of BLL (weaned) piglets places up to 20 kg	
A00E1	Number of piglets up to 20 kg present	The number of (weaned) piglets up to 20 kg present is:		Record the number of (weaned) piglets up to 20 kg present	