PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD

PNS/BAFS 267:2022
ICS 65.020

Swine — Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP)

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Foreword

In 2019, the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) of the Department of Agriculture (DA) developed the PNS on Code of Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP) for Swine (PNS/BAFS 267:2019). The main objective of the Standard was to ensure that farming practices provide consumers with products that are safe and fit for human consumption. It was also intended to ensure safety and comfort of farm workers and animals without any degradation to the environment.

In 2022, the PNS/BAFS 267:2019 was assessed to check the alignment with the ASEAN GAHP for Pigs. Based on the result of the alignment activity, the harmonization rate of the PNS was 96%. In the same year, the result of the alignment assessment was presented to the 6th Expert Working Group (EWG)-ASEAN GAHP meeting.

As part of the commitment of the ASEAN Member States (AMS) to fully harmonize national standards with ASEAN standards, BAFS created a Technical Working Group (TWG) to amend the PNS/BAFS 267:2019 through Special Order No. 617, series of 2022 (Amendment to Special Order No. 487, series of 2022 entitled, “Creation of TWG for the Development of PNS for Agriculture and Fishery Products, Machineries and Infrastructures”). The TWG was composed of experts from government agencies, academe, private sector, and Civil Society Organization (CSO). In order to expedite the review of the provisions that were not aligned with the ASEAN GAHP for Pigs, BAFS conducted a PNS Writeshop authorized through SO no. 601, series of 2022 (Authority to Conduct and Attend Writeshop for the Revision/Amendment of Various Livestock and Poultry PNS, September 14-15,2022, DA Facility, NCR). During the PNS Writeshop, the TWG also included additional provisions that were relevant to prevent the spread of African Swine Fever (ASF). The draft from the PNS Writeshop was circulated to the TWG members for their final technical review before its endorsement to the DA Secretary for approval.

This Standard includes the following significant changes compared to ASEAN GAHP for Pigs:

a) Modification on the definitions of backyard farm and commercial farm;
b) Inclusion of provision to prevent physical, chemical, and biological hazards in the area;
c) Inclusion of provisions regarding design and arrangement of areas, perimeter fences, separation of production and non-production areas, and sufficient space for waste water treatment, carcass disposal and solid waste management;
d) Inclusion of provision on hygiene and maintenance of pig houses and equipment;
e) Inclusion of provision on contamination of water source;
f) Inclusion of provision on farm personnel to animal ratio;
g) Inclusion of provision on farm and personal hygiene as part of biosecurity measures;

h) Inclusion of provisions on compliance of farm with existing rules and regulations on disposal of infectious and hazardous waste, disposal of pig carcasses, and wastewater treatment;
i) Inclusion of provision on sanitation and disinfection protocol after harvest;
j) Inclusion of provision on the role of veterinarian and trained personnel during treatment and euthanasia of sick, injured or disabled pigs; and
k) Inclusion of provision on securing shipping permit and veterinary health certificate prior to transport.

This Standard cancels and replaces PNS/BAFS 267:2019 which has been technically amended. This document was drafted with the editorial rules of the BAFS Standards Development Divisions Standardization Guide No. 1: Writing the Philippine National Standards.

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1 Scope

This Standard sets out the general principles of good practice and minimum requirements in breeding, commercial, and backyard rearing/farming of swine for breeding and food use.

2 Normative References

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all their contents constitute the requirements of this document. The latest edition of the referenced documents (including any amendments) applies.

An act amending certain sections of Republic Act no. 8485, otherwise known as "The animal welfare act of 1998", Republic Act No. 10631. (2013). https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2013/ra_10631_2013.html

An act to promote animal welfare in the Philippines, otherwise known as "The animal welfare act of 1998", Republic Act No. 8485. (1998). https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra1998/ra_8485_1998.html

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). (2004). Revising DENR Administrative Order No. 29, series of 1992, to further strengthen the implementation of Republic Act 6969 (Toxic substances and hazardous and nuclear wastes control act of 1990) and prescribing the use of the procedural manual. DENR Administrative Order (AO) 36, series of 2004. https://emb.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/dao20041.pdf

3 Terms and Definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following definitions shall apply:

3.1
abnormal behavior
any changes developed as a response to improper management practice causing stress, discomfort, pain, and uneasiness to the animal leading to reduced productivity/diseases

3.2
backyard farm
piggery farm with at least one of the following:

a) Less than 21 heads of adult and zero head of young (1-20 heads adult and zero young and below);
b) Less than 41 heads of young animals (1-40 heads young and below); or Less than 10 heads of adult and 22 heads of young (1-9 heads adult and 1-21 heads young and below) (DA, 2021)

3.3
commercial farm
any farm with a swine population that exceeds the definition of backyard farm. In high density areas, commercial farms are further classified into (DA, 2021):

3.3.1 Semi-commercial farm which refers to at least one of the following:
a) between 10-50 sow level
b) between 41-500 fatteners

3.3.2 Commercial farm which refers to at least one of the following:
a) 51 sow level and above
b) 501 fatteners and above

3.4
competent authority
entity/agency which has the knowledge, expertise, and authority as designated by law

3.5
conventional house
pig house where conditions vary according to its surrounding; also referred to as opened house

3.6
enclosed house
a pig house where conditions such as temperature, humidity, ventilation, and light are appropriately controlled; also referred to as environmentally controlled house

3.7
feed additives
any intentionally added ingredients not normally consumed as feed by itself, whether or not it has a nutritional value which affects the characteristics of feed or animal products

3.8
fomites
any nonliving object or substance capable of carrying infectious organisms or parasites which may be transferred from one animal to another

3.9
hazard
biological, chemical, or physical agent, in or condition of, food with the potential to cause an adverse effect

3.10
metaphylactic treatment
administration of antimicrobial agents to the group of animals containing sick and healthy individuals (presumed to be infected), to minimize or resolve clinical signs and to prevent further spread of the disease

3.11
pig
swine
animals in the family of Suidae with the scientific name *Sus domesticus*

3.12
pig farm
any establishment where pigs are raised. This covers the pig house, feed storage and preparation area, carcass disposal area, wastewater and waste treatment, and other relevant structures

3.13
prophylactic treatment
administration of antimicrobial agents to an individual or a group of animals at risk of acquiring a specific infection or in a specific situation where infectious disease is likely to occur if the antimicrobial agent is not administered

3.14
swill feeding
feeding of food scraps/food waste/leftovers to pigs

3.15
therapeutic treatment
administration of antimicrobial agents for the treatment, control/metaphylaxis, and prevention/prophylaxis of disease

3.16
vector
animal and/or insect that can transmit pathogenic agents to pigs

3.17
vermin
animals that are believed to be harmful to farm animals or which carry disease such as but not limited to rats and insects and does not include those worms produced for natural feeding

4 Farm Establishment

The establishment of the farm should be compliant with related laws and regulations of the competent authority, including local government units (LGU). This covers the management of environmental issues, farm location,

animal welfare requirements, disease control, production of wholesome food, and occupational hazards in animal farming.

5 Location

5.1 The farm should be strategically located within the approved land use of the local government and compliant with the DENR regulations and other regulations as prescribed by law (e.g., Laguna Lake Development Authority).

5.2 The distance of the farms from the center of the national highway shall be three kilometers for commercial swine farms. However, with the application of advanced waste management technology, exceptions may be granted.

5.3 The farm shall have a distance of at least 1 km from each other and from the boundary of built-up areas.

5.4 The farm should have a continuous supply of adequate electrical power.

5.5 The farm should be located in the areas where there is no risk of contamination with physical, chemical, and biological hazards.

5.6 The farm should be located at least 5 km away from the slaughterhouse and animal holding facilities. Otherwise, the farm shall have proper disease control measures in place.

5.7 The farm shall not be prone to flooding. Perimeter canals connected to a closed lagoon may be constructed to prevent runoff from contaminating bodies of water and/or adjacent farms.

5.8 If there is available data/information from relevant government agencies or organizations on the prior land use, then they should be used as references to ensure that the site is not a possible source of physical, chemical, and microbiological hazards. However, when data/information are not available and uncertainty exists as to the suitability of the land for agricultural use, it is recommended to have the soil and/or water analyzed for heavy metal contamination and other contamination.

6 Layout and Infrastructure of the Farm

6.1 The farm should be well designed by locating and arranging areas, such as areas for pig raising, feed storage, isolation and treatment of sick pigs, carcass destruction, and pig selling.

6.2 The farm should have enough area to facilitate the design of the farm layout, such as the distance between pig houses and the arrangement of working areas. The appropriate farm layout shall:

a) provide good ventilation;
b) serve as a preventive measure for disease spread between pig houses and other areas; and
c) promote farm sanitation as well as the control, prevention, and eradication of diseases within the farm.

6.3 The farm should be well designed and all working areas should be clearly located in order to facilitate the efficiency of farm management on pig raising, transportation, and pig selling and to prevent cross-contamination between working areas.

6.4 The farm should have proper routes to transport equipment, feed, and pig products within the farm; with appropriate width; and without any obstruction for the convenience of practice.

6.5 The following working areas should be included but not limited to:

a) office building, parking area, and dormitory;
b) changing and shower rooms;
c) water resource;
d) pig houses;
e) feed storage, feed mixing;
f) pig quarantine pen;
g) area for sick pigs;
h) area for destruction and disposal of pig carcasses;
i) area for waste and trash collection;
j) area for waste water and solid waste treatment; and
k) area for selling pigs.

6.6 The farm should have perimeter fences or natural barriers that are able to control entry of man, animals, and possible disease vector into farm (BAFS-DA, 2019; DA, 2021).

6.7 The fence, including its posts and gates, should be effectively designed to prevent the entry of stray animals (e.g., cattle, buffaloes, dogs, cats, etc.), and escape or injury of the farm animals. If an electric fence is used, it should be operated as per the manufacturer's instructions.

6.8 Farm shall have necessary measures to separate the production and non-production areas to prevent cross contamination and entry of stray animals into the production areas and control the entry and exit of personnel through designated entry/exit points (Cutler & Holyoake, 2007).

6.9 There should be sufficient space for waste water treatment, carcass disposal and solid waste management.

7 Pig Houses

7.1 The farm building should be designed and constructed appropriately for the intended purpose and should provide proper ventilation, easy maintenance, and cleaning.

7.2 The building intended for keeping animals should be constructed in an orientation that minimizes the adverse effects on animal performance and eliminates possible hazards to its surroundings.

7.3 Pig houses and its equipment shall be hygienic and well maintained in good condition for the safety of both pigs and personnel (National Farm Animal Care Council [NFACC], 2014).

7.4 The building should be designed and constructed using materials that:

a) should not cause any injury or impart hazard to the welfare of the animal;
b) provide comfort;
c) can be easily cleaned and disinfected;
d) can be easily replaced when damaged;
e) create efficient stock management; and
f) enhance biosecurity.

7.5 Painting materials used for the building and facilities should not be hazardous to the animals.

7.6 There should be an effective drainage system in place at the building.

7.7 Pens and pathways should be:

a) designed and constructed to prevent animals from escaping; and
b) free from protruding objects or structures (e.g. nails and bolts) that may cause injury to the animals and farm operators and farm workers.

7.8 Housing design (particularly roof height and sides) should provide proper ventilation (whether natural or artificial) to maintain a comfortable environment.

7.9 Animal buildings should have adequate lighting to ensure that animals can be thoroughly inspected as required.

7.10 Electrical installations and wirings should be protected and should not be accessible to animals.

7.11 Floors and pathways used by the animals should be made from non-slippery materials, safe, stable, and well-lighted to prevent injury or abnormal gait to the animals.

7.12 The design of alleys and chutes should allow effective management of the animals. In addition:

a) Floors of alleys and chutes should be properly built to provide good footing, preventing slippage and injuries; and
b) Alleys and chutes should have sides of sufficient height to prevent animals from jumping off or falling.

7.13 The farm should provide effective and appropriate facilities to restrain or handle animals without causing undue stress and injury to both animals and farm workers.

7.14 The premises should be kept clean at all times to prevent disease occurrence, establishment of breeding ground for pests, and avoid environmental degradation.

7.15 Pig housing should be secured from stray animals and birds.

7.16 Pig house should have sufficient space for pig raising and good environment condition within the house. It should take into consideration pig breed, size, and age.

7.17 Animals should be provided with sufficient floor space suitable for their age and condition, body weight, and size to allow animals to feed and drink comfortably.

7.18 The feeding and drinking equipment and facilities should conform with the standards/requirements for swine and should be constructed and conspicuously placed such that:

a) Animals are allowed to eat and drink freely, allowing them to behave normally; and
b) Contamination with animal feces and urine is minimized.

7.19 Controlled environment housing shall have an alarm system in case of a power failure and/or significant temperature variance. An alternative ventilation system shall be available.

8 Feeds and Nutrition

8.1 The farm operator should:

8.1.1 Ensure that animals are provided with an optimum level of nutrition at all times, as required for their respective functions and well-being;

8.1.2 Provide the animals with safe, clean, and adequate rations or feeding materials suited for pigs;

8.1.3 If animals are provided with commercial feed, ensure that the source or feed mill has been officially registered with the Animal Feeds, Veterinary Drugs and Biologicals Control Division (AFVDBCD) of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI);

8.1.4 Keep feed mixing equipment clean at all times and with regular preventive maintenance;

8.1.5 Provide daily feeding management or schedule;

8.1.6 Swill feeding should not be allowed. However, if it can't be avoided, the swill feed shall be heated to 90°C for 60 minutes with continuous stirring or the swill should be maintained at a temperature of at least 121°C for at least 10 minutes at an absolute pressure of 3 bar;

8.1.7 Procurement documents of feed concentrates should be kept and updated properly to include:

a) supplier or source of feed concentrate and its registration number;
b) type of feed and supplements;
c) quantity;
d) declaration of ingredients;
e) document of feed analysis;
f) date of delivery; and
g) date of manufacturing and batch number.

8.1.8 Record the type and quantity of ration being fed to the animals.

8.2 The use of medicated feed should be under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian and should be stored separately from the non-medicated feed with clear label/signage.

8.2.1 In the case of farm-mixed feed formulation, farm operators should only use ingredients from reputable and traceable suppliers. Records of purchases should be kept.

8.2.2 Banned drugs, feed additives, supplements, and any form of medication in the diet of the animals, including those disallowed by the authorities or importing countries, shall not be allowed.

8.2.3 For medicated feed, instructions for the medication shall be strictly followed, paying special attention to the withdrawal period of each specific drug being administered before the animals are sent to market.

8.3 Feeds and raw materials for feed shall be kept in the way to prevent contamination and deterioration. In addition:

8.3.1 Feed storage facilities should be kept clean at all times.

8.3.2 Feed storage should have adequate ventilation, adequate protection from moisture to prevent the development of molds, and should be vermin-proof.

8.3.3 "First in – first out" rule should be practiced.

8.3.4 Machinery, equipment and other toxic chemicals should be stored separately from feeds to prevent contamination.

9 Water for Pig

9.1 Water shall be clean, potable, sufficient, and free from any hazardous substances. In addition:

9.1.1 The farm should have a continuous supply of clean and potable water.

9.1.2 Water quality should be tested at least once at the beginning of production and during the time when water quality is suspicious. Test results should be recorded and maintained.

9.2 Water should be adequate for all pigs to drink. In addition:

9.2.1 The drinking equipment and facilities should be properly designed, constructed, and conspicuously placed to allow animals to drink freely, prevent contamination with animal feces and urine, and conform with the standards/requirements for each species.

9.2.2 In the case of nipple drinkers, the water pressure should be set at an appropriate level and no sediment should exist to cause pipe obstruction. Water pipes should be routinely cleaned to avoid biofilm and sediment build-up.

9.2.3 Hazardous substances including animal manure, should be handled and stored properly to avoid contamination of water source (Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians, 2021).

10 Farm Manual for Farm Management

10.1 The farm manual should demonstrate the details of important farm operations such as pig husbandry, feeding and watering, and cleaning of houses and equipment.

10.2 Procedures for disease prevention and control like quarantine procedures for newly purchased and/or transferred pigs prior to entry and contingency plans for disease outbreaks should also be included in the manual.

11 Personnel

11.1 Farm operator/owner and workers

11.1.1 Farm personnel shall practice good personal hygiene to prevent contamination.

11.1.2 The farm operator/owner should be responsible for the welfare of the workers giving adequate provisions so that they are able to perform their responsibilities efficiently.

11.1.3 In cases of housed staff, the farm operator/owner should provide adequate accommodation for the workers.

11.1.4 The farm operator/owner should always promote safe and healthy working conditions on the farm. Accident and emergency procedures should be available with clear instructions for all workers. First aid kits and fire extinguishers should be easily available at all times and placed conspicuously in strategic locations.

11.1.5 Farm personnel to animal ratio should be stated in the farm operation manual, including the services of a farm supervisor/manager and veterinarian (Expert Working Group [EWG]-ASEAN GAHP, 2018).

11.2 Training

11.2.1 Farm personnel should be continuously trained on the necessary knowledge and skills about basic procedures of farm management including the correct handling of the animal, routine management practices, and usage of farm tools or equipment.

11.2.2 Training certificates of farm personnel should be properly recorded and kept.

11.3 Farm personnel hygiene

11.3.1 Farm personnel shall practice good personal hygiene as part of biosecurity measures (EWG-ASEAN GAHP, 2018).

11.3.2 All persons entering the farm should take a shower, have their hair washed, and wear protective clothing supplied by the farm. The procedure for the shower to cloth changing should be shown at the entrance of the farm.

11.3.3 The farm operator/owner should provide workers with appropriate attire and footwear for protective measures.

11.3.4 Appropriate working uniform/attire and footwear should be provided to visitors who need to be at the production areas, as may be deemed necessary.

11.3.5 Farm personnel should undergo annual routine health check-ups/medical examinations.

11.3.6 Farm personnel who have been sick such as fever, or respiratory or gastrointestinal infection should not be allowed to enter the farm unless they have been recovered.

12 Biosecurity and Farm Sanitation

12.1 Biosecurity measures

12.1.1 The farm should have a written protocol of biosecurity measures. Proper warning signage should be provided.

12.1.2 Biosecurity procedures should be well implemented and continuously monitored to prevent the introduction of disease into the farm and/or to control its spread within the farm.

12.1.3 The biosecurity measures should be in place and should take into consideration the relevant diseases identified by local regulations/authorities.

12.1.4 The farm should have the appropriate and functional layout and infrastructure to ensure effective implementation of the biosecurity measures. This should include facilities for disinfection of vehicles at the entry/exit point of the farm and before the entrance of the production areas.

12.1.5 Preventive measure and disease control measure for vehicles, equipment, and persons prior to entry and exit of farm shall be implemented and continuously monitored to prevent introduction of disease into the farm and/or to control its spread within the farm. If applicable, measures may include:

a) Footbaths should be placed at the front of every pig house, with suitable disinfectants.
b) Footbath should be replaced regularly to ensure effectiveness of disinfection.

12.1.6 Disease prevention and control measure shall be documented and be under the supervision of a farm veterinarian or a person appointed by the farm veterinarian.

12.1.7 All incoming animals should undergo the appropriate quarantine measures.

12.1.8 Stray animals should not be allowed within the premises.

12.1.9 Imported live animals and animal by-products should be accompanied by official documentation from the competent authority.

12.2 Farm sanitation and environmental management program

12.2.1 The farm should have a written hygiene and sanitation program that includes integrated pest management.

12.2.2 The farm should have a proper and functional drainage system toward a water treatment facility. Solid and liquid waste should be managed and disposed of according to existing relevant guidelines imposed by competent authorities.

12.2.3 The farm operator should take necessary measures to ensure that activities related to livestock farming do not contribute to the degradation of the environment (i.e., land, water, air) and cause destruction to biodiversity.

12.2.4 Farm premises should be kept clean and free of potential conditions conducive to the breeding of pests, animal parasites, and disease outbreaks. This is to avoid negative effects on the landscape, environment, and animal welfare.

12.2.5 The farm operator should maintain and display clear instructions on the procedure for disposal of farm solid wastes and farm chemical wastes (e.g., expired pesticides/weedicides and their containers, paint, etc.).

12.2.6 Organic materials, like pig manure or leftover feeds, should be removed as necessary from contact surfaces (i.e., floors, pen partitions, etc.). Where bedding is used, it should be replaced as necessary.

12.2.7 Garbage and trash should be collected and stored in closed containers and disposed of using appropriate methods for each type of garbage. Hazardous or infected waste should be kept and disposed separately from general garbage to avoid contamination.

12.2.8 The measure for disposing infectious and hazardous waste shall be in place and in accordance with the DENR AO 36, series of 2004 (Procedural manual of title III of Department AO [DAO] 92-29, “Hazardous waste management”).

12.2.9 The farm should take appropriate measures to minimize excessive odor coming from the farm which may be associated with waste decomposition.

12.2.10 The air quality inside the building should be maintained at acceptable levels.

12.2.11 Measures should be in place to keep noise from barns to acceptable levels, particularly if the farm is located close to urban centers.

12.2.12 The farm operator/owner should be familiar with the proper procedure for disposal and schedule of actions to be taken, especially at times of emergency.

12.2.13 The farm should have proper handling and disposal system for sick, injured, and dead animals, and should be in accordance with existing regulations of the authority. In addition:

a) In the case of burial, the area should have enough space, not prone to flooding, and away from water sources. Dead animals should be buried at least 50 centimeters deep, poured with limestone or disinfectant, and with soil added over the burial area of at least 50 centimeters in height to the prevent animal digging.
b) In the case of mortality/carcass pit, the dead animal should be dropped in a specific mortality/carcass pit practicing good hygienic practices.
c) For other methods, it should be done in accordance with the instructions from the competent authority.

12.2.14 The disposal and destruction of pig carcasses shall be under consideration and responsibility of farm veterinarian using appropriate methods (Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians, 2021).

12.2.15 The waste water treatment system shall be in place to improve quality of waste water. The quality of treated wastewater shall in compliance with the DENR) AO 36, series of 2004 (Procedural manual of title III of DAO 92-29, “Hazardous waste management”).

12.3 Post-harvest cleaning

12.3.1 After removing pigs, the house and its equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. The house shall be closed for a certain period of time in accordance with proper pig flow management. Downtime may be adjusted with proper measure in place (BAFS-DA, 2019; Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO], 2010).

12.3.2 The cleaning and disinfection of the pig house and its equipment should be conducted prior to the introduction of a new batch of pigs into the house. If a disease outbreak occurs, the measures specified by competent authority should be followed.

12.3.3 The detergents and disinfectants registered with competent authority should be used, under the supervision of a farm veterinarian. Moreover, the use of such chemicals should be in accordance with the farm operational manual and/or manufacturer’s instruction.

13 Recording

13.1 The farm should keep and maintain complete records of farm operations, management protocols, and animal health records like disease monitoring and medication. These records should be easily retrievable and readily available for inspection.

13.2 Records include, but are not limited to, the following:

13.2.1 Animal identification including applicable data such as sex, breed, date of birth, marking number, birth weight, weaning weight, and sow and boar identification number.

13.2.2 In the case of boar and sow, breeding information like age, weight at mating, time, heat testing, parturition, and weaning.

13.2.3 Data of entry and exit of pigs.

13.2.4 Data of vehicles and visitors' entry and exit.

13.2.5 Animal health records including disease detection and surveillance (e.g., post-mortem findings, mortality and morbidity reports, test results, diagnosis, etc.), and intervention or treatment done (e.g., veterinary products and supplies used in medication, vaccination, deworming, medicated feeds, and another chemical usage including batch number, quantity, number of animals treated, name of the person who administered medicine with a recommendation from a veterinarian or authorized person, date and route of administration, withdrawal period, and identification of animals treated, etc.).

13.2.6 Feed management such as feed receiving, mixing, and feeding.

13.2.7 Procurement records containing date or purchase, product name, batch number, expiry date, name of the supplier, and the quantity purchased.

13.2.8 Health examination and training records of farm personnel.

13.3 All pertinent documents such as but not limited to farm operations, management protocols, and animal health records should be kept for at least three years.

14 Animal Health

14.1 Responsibility of the licensed veterinarian

14.1.1 The licensed veterinarian should be the overall responsible person for animal health and welfare management and shall update their license from the competent authority.

14.1.2 The health status of the animals on the farm should be monitored and recorded regularly by the farm, and a veterinary assessment of the establishment should be carried out annually by a licensed veterinarian and/or by a competent authority.

14.1.3 There shall be a written animal health program in place, including vaccination and deworming, that shall be updated regularly and in accordance with the

requirement adopted against the diseases specified by the competent authorities.

14.1.4 Sick, injured or disabled animals should be isolated from the herd and kept in a specific area for treatment and prevention of transmitting the disease to other pigs.

14.2 Use of veterinary products

14.2.1 Veterinary Drug Order (VDO) shall be used to purchase and dispense of antimicrobial drugs that are listed as Prescription VMPs (Veterinary Medicine Products) as advised by the competent authority (DA-Department of Health [DOH], 1991).

14.2.2 Drugs, medicines, and vaccines should be administered appropriately by licensed veterinarians or trained personnel under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

14.2.3 Drugs or medicines should only be used for prophylactic, metaphylactic, and treatment reasons.

14.2.4 The use of illegal and banned medication and vaccines shall be prohibited. Only vaccines and controlled drugs registered with BAI shall be used.

14.2.5 Drugs, medicines, and vaccines should be stored and identified properly. Proper disposal of these items should be followed to prevent contamination of the environment.

14.2.6 The use of a needle during injection should be done in such a way that no part of the broken needle remains in the pig's body. There should be control measures to prevent needle remnants in pigs. These control measures include controlling the number of needles used on the farm by checking needle numbers before and after use and checking the total number of needles used on the farm. The farm should have corrective action for an embedded needle in the pig's body.

14.3 Disease outbreak or suspicion of epidemic disease

14.3.1 In the case of an outbreak of disease or suspicion of epidemic disease, farm shall strictly follow the related laws and/or regulations of the competent authority.

14.3.2 The farm operator/owner and/or veterinarian should report to the relevant authorities immediately or within 24 hours if the morbidity or mortality rate of pigs on the farm is found to be abnormally high or if clinical signs or symptoms are indicative of notifiable disease as mandated by the competent authority.

15 Animal Welfare

15.1 Proper techniques should be applied to handle and restrain animals.

15.2 Animals should always be handled and restrained in such a way as to protect them from fear, stress, pain, and injury.

15.3 Appropriate facilities, equipment, and tools should be provided and used in handling or restraining the animals.

15.4 Appropriate tools, techniques, and skills should be used for the purpose of effective animal management. Farm operators/owners should have appropriate tools, techniques, and skills for effective animal management.

15.5 Tools should be used in a manner that minimizes stress and injury to the animals.

15.6 Tools should be functional for efficient application on the animals by the farm operators/owners.

15.7 For sick, injured or disabled pigs which are considered no longer treatable, euthanasia shall be done humanely by veterinarian or trained personnel under the supervision of veterinarian (Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians, 2021).

16 Animal Transport

16.1 Animals should be transported in appropriate vehicles and in a manner that does not cause stress throughout the travel and does not predispose them to injury and disease.

16.2 Animals being transported should be in a good state of health. However, stressed, sick and pregnant animals, may be transported but with extra-precautionary measures.

16.3 A shipping permit and Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) shall be obtained prior to shipping as required by the competent authority (EWG-ASEAN GAHP, 2018).

16.4 Vehicles used for the transport of animals should be according to the following specifications:

a) Allow easy loading and unloading;
b) Has communication equipment and first aid kit;
c) Ensure the safety of the animals and personnel during transport;
d) Clean and sanitized;
e) Equipped with floors that provide a secure footing;
f) Have proper drainage for collection of urine;

g) Decal/label stating “live animal on board” at the sides and front/back;
h) Registered with BAI as Transport Vehicle Carrier and accompanied by registered livestock handler; and
i) Water available during transport.

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