

# Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018: Pigs



## Regulations issued by the Ministry for Primary Industries as of 1 October 2018

### Regulations relevant to on-farm practices

#### Regulation 24\*: Pigs must have access to shelter and a dry lying area

- (1) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig must ensure that -
  - a) the pig has access at all times to a ventilated shelter that provides protection from extremes of heat and cold; and
  - b) the pig has access at all times when it is not in a farrowing crate or a stall to a dry area that is large enough to allow the pig to stand up, turn around, and lie down in a natural position; and
  - c) faeces or urine do not accumulate in any area in which the pig is kept to an extent that may pose a threat to the health or welfare of the pig.
- (2) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$900.

The offence in subclause (2) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$300.

**Minimum Standard being amended:**  
Minimum Standard No. 5 – Shelter for Pigs Outdoors

#### Regulation 25: Minimum lying space for grower pigs

- (1) The owner of, and every person in charge of, grower pigs must ensure that, at all times, each pig has an unobstructed floor space in which it can lie down of no less than the area calculated using the following formula:  $a = 0.03 \times b^{0.67}$  where -

a is the minimum area (in m<sup>2</sup>)  
b is the liveweight of the pig (in kg).

- (2) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction, -
  - a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$2,000; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$15,000.
- (3) In this regulation, -  
**grower pig** means a weaned pig that -
  - a) weighs 30 kg or more; and
  - b) is being raised for the primary purpose of meat or for transfer to a breeding herd

**Unobstructed floor space** includes unobstructed feeding or dunging floor space.

**Minimum Standard being amended:**  
Minimum Standard No. 6 – Housing and Equipment

#### Regulation 26: Farrowing crate requirements

- (1) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig must not keep the pig in a farrowing crate unless the crate allows the pig to avoid all of the following:
  - a) touching both sides of the crate simultaneously; and
  - b) touching the front and back of the crate simultaneously; and
  - c) touching the top of the crate when standing.
- (2) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction, -
  - a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$3,000; or in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$15,000.

**Minimum Standard being amended:**  
Minimum Standard No. 10: Managing Interactions between Sows and Piglets

#### Regulation 27\*: Prohibition of stalls other than for mating

- (1) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig must not confine the pig, or allow the pig to be confined, to a stall unless -
  - a) the pig is confined to the stall for the purpose of mating; and
  - b) the confinement is for no more than 7 days per reproductive cycle; and
  - c) the pig is released from the stall as soon as practicable after mating.
- (2) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig that is confined to a stall must keep records that document compliance with subclause (1).
- (3) A person who fails to comply with subclause (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction, -
  - a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$25,000.

#### Regulation 52: Docking pigs' tails

- (1) A person who docks the tail of a pig that is under 7 days of age must ensure that the procedure creates a clean cut and does not tear the tissue.
- (2) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig that is under 7 days of age must not allow the pig's tail to be docked in breach of subclause (1).
- (3) A person must not dock the tail of a pig that is 7 days of age or over unless—
  - a) the person is a veterinarian, or a veterinary student under the direct supervision of a veterinarian throughout the procedure; and
  - b) the pig is given pain relief at the time of the procedure.
- (4) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig that is 7 days of age or over must not allow the pig's tail to be docked in breach of subclause (3).
- (5) A person who docks the tail of a pig must—
  - a) be experienced with, or have received training in, the correct use of the method being used; and
  - b) be able to recognise early signs of significant distress, injury, or ill health so that the person can take prompt remedial action or seek advice.
- (6) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig that is to have its tail docked must ensure that the health and welfare needs of the pig are met during the procedure and recovery, by ensuring that at all times a person is available who—
  - a) has suitable equipment; and
  - b) has the relevant knowledge, has received relevant training, or is under appropriate supervision.
- (7) A person who fails to comply with subclause (1) or (2) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,500.
- (8) The offence in subclause (7) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.
- (9) A person who fails to comply with subclause (3) or (4) commits an offence and is liable on conviction,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$3,000; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$15,000.

**Minimum Standard being amended:**  
Minimum Standard No. 16: Elective Husbandry Procedures

#### Regulation 55: Castrating pigs

- (1) A person must not castrate a pig unless—
  - a) the person is a veterinarian, or a veterinary student under the direct supervision of a veterinarian throughout the procedure; and
  - b) the pig is given pain relief at the time of the procedure.
- (2) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a pig must not allow the pig to be castrated in breach of subclause (1).
- (3) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$5,000; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$25,000.

### Regulations relevant to transport

#### Regulation 30: Prevention of injury

- (1) A person must not transport a cattle beast, deer, sheep, goat, or pig in a manner that causes acute injury to the animal.
- (2) A person who transports a cattle beast, deer, sheep, goat, or pig must not load the animal onto a vehicle, or unload the animal from a vehicle, in a manner that causes acute injury to the animal.
- (3) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, \$1,500; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate that has been issued an infringement notice for the offence, \$1,500; or
  - c) in the case of a body corporate that has not been issued an infringement notice for the offence (because proceedings in respect of the infringement offence have been commenced by filing a charging document), \$7,500.
- (4) The offence in subclause (3) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.
- (5) In this regulation, **acute injury**—
  - a) means an injury that is more than minor and is bleeding; but
  - b) does not include back-rub (as defined in regulation 32(4)); and
  - c) does not include an injury from horns or antlers to which regulation 31 applies.



# Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations 2018: Pigs



## Regulations issued by the Ministry for Primary Industries as of 1 October 2018

### Regulations relevant to transport - Continued

#### Regulation 32: Prevention of back rub

- (1) A person must not transport a cattle beast, deer, sheep, goat, or pig in a manner that causes back-rub.
- (2) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, \$1,500; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate that has been issued an infringement notice for the offence, \$1,500; or
  - c) in the case of a body corporate that has not been issued an infringement notice for the offence (because proceedings in respect of the infringement offence have been commenced by filing a charging document), \$7,500.
- (3) The offence in subclause (2) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.
- (4) In this regulation, **back-rub** means a skin abrasion that—
  - a) is bleeding or discharging; and
  - b) is located on the head, hips, neck, spine, or high points on the back; and covers a combined area of more than 50 cm<sup>2</sup>.

#### Regulation 40: Restrictions on transporting lame animals

- (1) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a cattle beast, sheep, deer, pig, or goat that is lame must not transport the animal, or allow the animal to be transported, unless—
  - a) the animal is accompanied by a veterinary certificate that states that the animal is fit for transport; or
  - b) the animal is accompanied by a veterinary certificate that specifies conditions that must be complied with to manage the animal welfare risks associated with the transport and the owner or person in charge complies with all relevant conditions.
- (2) However, the owner of, or person in charge of, the animal may, for the purpose of treatment, transport the animal—
  - a) within the property on which the animal resides; or
  - b) to another property (not being slaughter premises), part or all of which is less than 20 km from the boundary of the property on which the animal resides.
- (3) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, \$1,500; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate that has been issued an infringement notice for the offence, \$1,500; or
  - c) in the case of a body corporate that has not been issued an infringement notice for the offence (because proceedings in respect of the infringement offence have been commenced by filing a charging document), \$7,500.
- (4) The offence in subclause (3) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.
- (5) In this regulation,—
  - a) a cattle beast, deer, or pig is **lame** if—
    - (i) the animal is not weight bearing on 1 or more limbs when moving or standing; or
    - (ii) the animal has a definite limp (shortened stride) that is clearly identifiable to a limb or limbs, with weight placed on the limb or limbs significantly reduced;
  - b) a cattle beast, deer, or pig is not **lame** if the cause of the limp is a nonpainful condition (such as a conformational fault, a gait abnormality, or a healed injury) and the animal is able to bear weight (although not necessarily evenly) on all 4 limbs;
  - c) (c) a sheep or goat is **lame** if—
    - (i) the animal is not weight bearing on 1 or more limbs when moving or standing; or
    - (ii) the animal has difficulty walking and holds its head below its backline almost continuously.

#### Minimum Standard being amended:

Minimum Standard No. 17 – Pre-transport Selection

#### Regulation 41: Restrictions on transporting animals in late pregnancy

- (1) The owner of, and every person in charge of, a cattle beast, sheep, pig, or goat that is in late pregnancy must not transport the animal, or allow the animal to be transported, unless—
  - a) the animal is accompanied by a veterinary certificate that states that the animal is fit for transport; or
  - b) the animal is accompanied by a veterinary certificate that specifies conditions that must be complied with to manage the animal welfare risks associated with the transport and the owner, or person in charge, complies with all relevant conditions.
- (2) Deleted – applies to deer
- (3) Deleted – applies to deer
- (4) A person who fails to comply with subclause (1) or (2) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, \$1,500; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate that has been issued an infringement notice for the offence, \$1,500; or
  - c) in the case of a body corporate that has not been issued an infringement notice for the offence (because proceedings in respect of the infringement offence have been commenced by filing a charging document), \$7,500.
- (5) The offence in subclause (4) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.
- (6) For the purpose of section 162(1) of the Animal Welfare Act 1999, an inspector has reasonable cause to believe that a person has transported an animal that is in late pregnancy if the animal gives birth during transport or within 24 hours after arriving at a slaughter premises or sale yard.
- (7) An infringement notice may not be issued, and a charging document may not be filed, in relation to a failure to comply with subclause (1) unless the animal gives birth during transport or within 24 hours after arriving at a slaughter premises or sale yard.

#### Regulation 48: Use of electric prodders

- (1) A person must not use an electric prodder on any animal, except—
  - a) on cattle that weigh over 150 kg; or
  - b) during loading or unloading for transport, on pigs that weigh over 150 kg; or
  - c) during loading of a stunning pen at any slaughter premises, on pigs that weigh over 150 kg; or
  - d) during loading of a stunning pen at any slaughter premises, on deer of any weight.
- (2) If an electric prodder is used on an animal where permitted by subclause (1),—
  - a) the prodder may be used only on the muscled areas of the animal's hindquarters or forequarters; and
  - b) the animal must have sufficient room to move away from the prodder.
- (3) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding,—
  - a) in the case of an individual, \$1,500; or
  - b) in the case of a body corporate that has been issued an infringement notice for the offence, \$1,500; or
  - c) in the case of a body corporate that has not been issued an infringement notice for the offence (because proceedings in respect of the infringement offence have been commenced by filing a charging document), \$7,500.
- (4) The offence in subclause (3) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.
- (5) In this regulation, **electric prodder**—
  - a) means a device that is capable of delivering an electric shock to make an animal move; but does not include electric stunners used to stun an animal immediately prior to slaughter.

#### Minimum Standard being amended:

Minimum Standard No. 14 – Moving Pigs

#### Regulation 49: Prodding animals in sensitive areas

- (1) A person must not strike or prod an animal with a goad in the udder, anus, genitals, or eyes.
- (2) A person who fails to comply with this regulation commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,500.
- (3) The offence in subclause (2) is an infringement offence with an infringement fee of \$500.

In this regulation, **goad** means an object used to make an animal move, but does not include an electric prodder as defined in regulation 48(5).

#### Minimum Standard being amended:

Minimum Standard No. 7 – Loading and Unloading (from the Code of Welfare: Stock Transport within New Zealand 2016)

\*The wording of regulations 24 and 27 may change slightly – however, the intent of these regulations will not be affected.