



Hog Production Evaluation Tool

To be used in conjunction with the Food Alliance Whole Farm/Ranch Inspection Tool

Operation Name:	
Address:	
Evaluation Date:	
Evaluator/Inspector:	

Evaluation Criteria

Fixed: To have hog production certified by Food Alliance, all the following must be met:

1. Feed additive antibiotics or non-therapeutic antibiotic use is not permitted. Animals less than 60 lbs in weight may be treated with antibiotics when necessary for illnesses. Above this weight, sick animals should be treated, but not sold as Food Alliance certified.
2. The use of hormone treatments (including implants) to enhance growth or other growth promotents is not permitted.
3. No feedstuffs containing mammalian-derived and/or poultry-derived materials or products are permitted, with the exception of milk and milk products.
4. Gestation crates are not allowed.
5. Traditional straight, narrow farrowing crates are not allowed. Acceptable farrowing systems include, but are not limited to, turn-around crates, sloped farrowing pens and outdoor pastures with huts. Farrowing pens must be 5 x 7 ft. (1.5 x 2.1 m) or larger.
6. Feeder animals may be purchased and finished on farms and certified by Food Alliance provided they weigh less than 60 lbs at purchase and an affidavit is obtained from the seller that the animals meet the above five criteria.
7. To ensure that good living conditions are maintained, animals must be checked daily for symptoms of stress.
8. All animals are maintained with a normal daylight cycle, using a minimum of 7 hours of light per day.

Scored: To have hog production certified by Food Alliance, an operation must score an average of 3.0 out of 4 overall in each of the four areas listed below:

1. Product Specific Evaluation Criteria for "Healthy and Humane Care for Livestock: Living Conditions":

Breeding Stock: Boars
Breeding Stock: Females

Farrowed Sows and Litters
Wean-to-Finish Pigs

2. Product Specific Evaluation Criteria for “Healthy and Humane Care for Livestock: Other Criteria”:

Animal Handling	Handling and Handling Facilities
Animal Health	Slaughter
Weaning and Castration	

3. Product Specific Evaluation Criteria for “Manure Management”:

Manure Management Plan	Fertilizer and Manure Application
Solid Manure Storage	Fertilizer Usage
Liquid Manure Storage	Application Equipment

4. Other Product Specific Evaluation Criteria:

Food Safety and Bio-security	Animal Pest Management: External Parasites
Transportation	Animal Pest Management: Internal Parasites
Rodents	
Animal Pest Management: Flies	

Instructions for Use

1. Production practices are evaluated according to Food Alliance criteria (listed on the following pages of this document) and then ranked in a four-step process from Level 1 to Level 4: Points are only earned for the highest level achieved.
2. Scoring partial points is allowed. Example: Half of the farm is in a four-year crop rotation, a Level 3 practice. You may score 2.5 points, or half the increase between Level 2 and Level 3 as a result.
3. No points are earned for a criterion that is not applicable (N/A) to the operation or region.
4. For producers reviewing this evaluation tool: The scorecard at the end of this document identifies the minimum number of points required to be considered for certification. This is only a guideline for your use and does not guarantee acceptance of your application.
5. Inspectors should make notes on each criterion describing how they arrived at decisions, including means used to verify all specific producer claims. These notes will provide important background, which will be carefully considered in the final certification decision. A section for notes is also included at the end of this document. Please make note of any sections that were not applicable and the reason. Also include any Best Management Practices (BMPs) implemented by the producer that are not listed in this inspection tool.

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Fixed Criteria

- 1. Feed additive antibiotics or non-therapeutic antibiotic use is not permitted. Animals less than 60 lbs in weight may be treated with antibiotics when necessary for illnesses. Above this weight, sick animals should be treated, but not sold as Food Alliance certified.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

- 2. The use of hormone treatments (including implants) to enhance growth or other growth promotents is not permitted.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

- 3. No feedstuffs containing mammalian-derived and/or poultry-derived materials or products are permitted, with the exception of milk and milk products.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

4. Gestation crates are not allowed.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

5. Traditional straight, narrow farrowing crates are not allowed. (Acceptable farrowing systems include, but are not limited to, turn-around crates, sloped farrowing pens and outdoor pastures with huts. Farrowing pens must be 5 x 7 ft. (1.5 x 2.1 m) or larger).

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

6. Feeder animals may be purchased and finished on farms and certified by Food Alliance provided they weigh less than 60 lbs at purchase and an affidavit is obtained from the seller that the animals meet the above five criteria.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

7. To ensure that good living conditions are maintained, animals must be checked daily for symptoms of stress.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

8. All animals are maintained with a normal daylight cycle, using a minimum of 7 hours of light per day.

Conformance Verified

Notes:

Operation does not conform

Notes:

Scored Criteria

Healthy and Humane Care for Livestock: Living Conditions

Breeding Stock – Boars

Level 1: All legal requirements and industry association standards are met for space/stocking rate, and size and configuration of indoor shelter. Animals are housed entirely indoors. A portion of the floor must be solid enough for the animal to lie down; a portion may be slatted or grated. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements/industry standards.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- The lying area for each animal allows hogs to lay down in full recumbence.
- If floors are partially slatted or grated, waterers are over slatted/grated portion of floor.
- Animals have access to objects they can manipulate, such as chain, ropes, etc.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and check all that apply:

- Lying area is approximately equal to the square of the length of the animal.
- Total living area per animal is at least 1.5 times the lying area.
- Animals can stand, turn around and stretch without difficulty in all housing situations.
- Lying area is kept clean and dry.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: Animals are not housed entirely indoors. Housing facilities are well maintained and managed. Outdoor area can be a dirt lot without forage cover or other hard-surfaced area. Outdoor areas must be designed and operated to capture runoff and prevent soil erosion and water pollution.

Facilities that are deep-bedded must have impermeable flooring or be otherwise designed and operated to protect groundwater quality. Check all that apply:

- Free access to the outdoors is available at all times.
- Outdoor area has shelter from heat, cold and wind.
- Outdoor area has shade provided.
- Bedding is provided indoors, in sufficient amounts to maintain dryness.
- Both the shelter(s) and the shade area(s), which may be one and the same, must be able to accommodate the entire herd while resting.
- Housing facilities and outdoor areas and shelters are clean and dry.
- Temperature, humidity and sunlight levels in housing areas remain within reasonable limits during weather extremes.
- Air movement is adequate to prevent humidity, dust or ammonia buildup.
- Noise levels are acceptable, causing no visible signs of stress in animals.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- Handlers are scheduled to check on animals at appropriate intervals to detect and resolve problems before undue stress occurs.
- Animals are maintained within sight of other swine.
- Natural behaviors are accommodated, such as social contact, scratching, rooting and nesting.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and housing is innovative and incorporates year-round access to the outdoors. Animals are given access to pasture when seasonally appropriate.

Two or more of the following practices are evident. Check all that apply:

- Animals are housed on pasture and able to forage or are in deep-bedded hoop house situations.
- Housing and shelters have “doors” that allow animals to pass at their will.
- Outdoor shelter or hoop house is always bedded as necessary to maintain at least 50% surface area dryness .
- Pasture is maintained with at least 35% forage cover.

- A wallow or mister is provided in the summer. Wallow or misting areas must be managed to prevent soil erosion and water pollution.
- Rotation of grazing allows pastures to rest at least one year between use.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Breeding Stock—Females

Level 1: All legal requirements and industry association standards are met for space/stocking rate, and size and configuration of indoor shelter. Animals are housed entirely indoors. A portion of the floor must be solid enough for the animal to lie down; a portion may be slatted or grated. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements/industry standards.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- The lying area for each animal allows hogs to lay down in full recumbence.
- If floors are partially slatted or grated, waterers are over slatted/grated portion of floor.
- Animals have access to objects they can manipulate, such as chain, ropes, etc.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and check all that apply:

- Lying area is approximately equal to the square of the length of the animal.
- Total living area per animal is at least 1.5 times the lying area.
- Animals can stand, turn around and stretch without difficulty in all housing situations.
- Lying area is kept clean and dry.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: Animals are not housed entirely indoors. Housing facilities are well maintained and managed. Outdoor area can be a dirt lot without forage cover or other hard-surfaced area. Outdoor areas must be designed and operated to capture runoff and prevent soil erosion and water pollution. Facilities that are deep-bedded must have impermeable flooring or be otherwise designed and operated to protect groundwater quality. Check all that apply:

- Free access to the outdoors is available at all times.
- Outdoor area has shelter from heat, cold and wind.

- Outdoor area has shade provided.
- Bedding is provided indoors, in sufficient amounts to maintain dryness.
- Both the shelter(s) and the shade area(s), which may be one and the same, must be able to accommodate the entire herd while resting.
- Housing facilities and outdoor areas and shelters are clean and dry.
- Temperature, humidity and sunlight levels in housing areas remain within reasonable limits during weather extremes.
- Air movement is adequate to prevent humidity, dust or ammonia buildup.
- Noise levels are acceptable, causing no visible signs of stress in animals.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- Handlers are scheduled to check on animals at appropriate intervals to detect and resolve problems before undue stress occurs.
- Natural behaviors are accommodated, such as social contact, scratching, rooting and nesting.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and housing is innovative and incorporates year-round access to the outdoors. Two or more of the following practices are evident. Check all that apply:

- Animals are housed on pasture and able to forage or are in deep-bedded hoop house situations.
- Housing and shelters have “doors” that allow animals to pass at their will.
- Outdoor shelter or hoop house is bedded as necessary to maintain at least 50% surface area dryness at all times.
- Pasture is maintained with at least 35% forage cover.
- A wallow or mister is provided in the summer. Wallow or misting areas must be managed to prevent soil erosion and water pollution.
- Rotation of grazing allows pastures to rest at least one year between use.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Farrowed Sows and Litters

Level 1: All legal requirements and industry association standards are met for space/stocking rate, and size and configuration of indoor shelter. Animals are housed entirely indoors. A portion of the floor must be solid enough for the sow to lie down; a portion may be slatted.

Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements/industry standards.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- The lying area for each animal allows hogs to lay down in full recumbence.
- If floors are partially slatted or grated, waterers are over slatted/grated portion of floor.
- Temperatures are monitored, and supplemental heat is provided to piglets if necessary.
- A protective area is provided to the piglets that can accommodate the entire litter, such as a creep area, and side bars and/or barriers are installed to help prevent crushing.
- Animals have access to objects which they can manipulate, such as chains, ropes, etc.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and check all that apply:

- Lying area is approximately equal to the square of the length of the animal.
- Total living area per animal is at least 1.5 times the lying area.
- Animals can stand, turn around and stretch without difficulty in all housing situations.
- Lying area is kept clean and dry.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: Animals are not housed entirely indoors. Housing facilities are well maintained and managed. Outdoor area can be a dirt lot without forage cover or other hard-surfaced area. Outdoor areas must be designed and operated to capture runoff and prevent soil erosion and water pollution. Facilities that are deep-bedded must have impermeable flooring or be otherwise designed and operated to protect groundwater quality. Check all that apply:

- Free access to the outdoors is available at all times.
- Outdoor area has shelter from heat, cold and wind.
- Outdoor area has shade provided.
- Bedding is provided indoors, in sufficient amounts to maintain dryness.
- Both the shelter(s) and the shade area(s), which may be one and the same, must be able to accommodate the entire herd while resting.
- Housing facilities and outdoor areas and shelters are clean and dry.
- Temperature, humidity and sunlight levels in housing areas remain within reasonable limits during weather extremes.
- Air movement is adequate to prevent humidity, dust or ammonia buildup.
- Noise levels are acceptable, causing no visible signs of stress in animals.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- Handlers are scheduled to check on animals at appropriate intervals to detect and resolve problems before undue stress occurs.

- Natural behaviors are accommodated, such as social contact, scratching, rooting and nesting.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and housing is innovative and incorporates year-round access to the outdoors. Two or more of the following practices are evident. Check all that apply:

- Animals are housed on pasture and able to forage or are in deep-bedded hoop house situations.
- Housing and shelters have “doors” that allow animals to pass at their will.
- Outdoor shelter or hoop house is bedded as necessary to maintain at least 50% surface area dryness at all times.
- Pasture is maintained with at least 35% forage cover.
- A wallow or mister is provided in the summer. Wallow or misting areas must be managed to prevent soil erosion and water pollution.
- Rotation of grazing allows pastures to rest at least one year between use.
- The outdoor area has a shelter (or multiple shelters) which provides protection from heat, cold and wind. It must be able to accommodate the entire herd. This is not the same as the farrowing accommodations. The shelter is bedded as necessary to maintain dryness at all times
- Both the shelter(s) and the shade area(s), which can be one in the same, must be able to accommodate the entire heard while resting.
- Rotation of grazing allows pastures to rest at least one year between use.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Wean-to-Finish Pigs

Level 1: All legal requirements and industry association standards are met for space/stocking rate, and size and configuration of indoor shelter. Animals are entirely indoors. A portion of the floor must be solid enough for the pigs to lie down; a portion may be slatted or grated. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements/industry standards.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- When group-housed the bedded lying are must be able to allow all animals to lie in a lateral position at the same time.
- If floors are partially slatted or grated, waterers are over slatted/grated portion of floor.
- Supplemental heat is provided if necessary to keep the animals within their thermal comfort zone.

- Free access is provided to both feed and water.
- Animals have access to objects they can manipulate, such as chain, ropes, etc.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and check all that apply :

- Lying area is approximately equal to the square of the length of the animal.
- Total living area per animal is at least 1.5 times the lying area.
- Animals can stand, turn around and stretch without difficulty in all housing situations.
- Lying area is kept clean and dry.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: Animals are not housed entirely indoors. Housing facilities are well maintained and managed. Outdoor area can be a dirt lot without forage cover or other hard-surfaced area. Outdoor areas must be designed and operated to capture runoff and prevent soil erosion and water pollution. Facilities that are deep-bedded must have impermeable flooring or be otherwise designed and operated to protect groundwater quality. Check all that apply:

- Free access to the outdoors is available at all times.
- Outdoor area has shelter from heat, cold and wind.
- Outdoor area has shade provided.
- Bedding is provided indoors, in sufficient amounts to maintain dryness.
- Housing facilities and outdoor areas and shelters are clean and dry.
- Temperature, humidity and sunlight levels in housing areas remain within reasonable limits during weather extremes.
- Air movement is adequate to prevent humidity, dust or ammonia buildup.
- Noise levels are acceptable, causing no visible signs of stress in animals.
- Structures are designed and maintained to prevent injury.
- Handlers are scheduled to check on animals at appropriate intervals to detect and resolve problems before undue stress occurs.
- Natural behaviors are accommodated, such as social contact, scratching, rooting and nesting.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and housing is innovative and incorporates year-round access to the outdoors. Two or more of the following practices are evident. Check all that apply:

- Animals are housed on pasture and able to forage or are in deep-bedded hoop house situations.
- Housing and shelters have “doors” that allow animals to pass at their will.
- Outdoor shelter or hoop house is bedded as necessary to maintain at least 50% surface area dryness at all times.
- Pasture is maintained with at least 35% forage cover.

- The outdoor area has a shelter (or multiple shelters) which provides protection from heat, cold and wind. It must be able to accommodate the entire herd. This is not the same as the farrowing accommodations. The shelter is bedded as necessary to maintain dryness at all times.
- A wallow or mister is provided in the summer. Wallow or misting areas must be managed to prevent soil erosion and water pollution.
- Rotation of grazing allows pastures to rest at least one year between use.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Healthy and Humane Care for Livestock: Other Criteria

Animal Nutrition

Level 1: Basic necessities and all legal requirements for water and feed supply quantity and quality are met. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Feed and water supplies are fresh and clean.
- Water supplies are freely available to all animals at all times.
- Piglets always have access to water.
- Wean to Finish pigs must have free access to feed at all times.
- Breeding stock – boars and females, and farrowed sows – must have free access to their allotment of feed daily.
- Livestock appear well fed with good body fitness.
- Records indicate breeding stock experience normal reproductive potential and life span for the species and region.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and food and water supplies are adequately managed to preserve feed quality and avoid animal competition and stress. Check all that apply:

- Feeding and watering equipment size and spacing is adequate for the maximum number of livestock present at any one time.
- If used, forage on grazing land is of good quality and quantity and is managed to prevent toxic weeds in grazing areas.
- Changes in feed type or amount are made gradually.
- Competition is minimal among feeding/watering animals.
- Food stores are at proper temperature and moisture to maintain optimum quality.
- Food stores are free of mold and insect, bird and rodent infestation.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: As per Level 2, and feed rations and water supplies are adjusted to meet age-specific livestock needs. Check all that apply:

- Producer can describe age-specific nutrition requirements.
- Producer can describe and/or demonstrate how feed rations and water supplies are adjusted to meet age-specific needs of livestock.
- Separate feeding facilities are present where necessary.
- Ration is evaluated regularly.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and all livestock feed is sustainably raised and certified by Food Alliance or another sustainable/organic certifier. Check all that apply:

- Food Alliance certification.
- Other certification program (please specify):
- Animals are raised on pasture when season permits.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Animal Health

Level 1: All legal requirements for livestock health are met. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Livestock appear healthy and free of disease and parasites.
- Records indicate compliance with legal requirements for vaccinations, administration of medicines and record keeping.

- All animals are checked daily.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and livestock are regularly monitored for injury, disease or abnormal behaviors. Any indications are addressed promptly and adequately, including isolation, professional veterinary assistance and correction of causal factors when necessary.

Check all that apply:

- No evidence of unresolved health issues.
- Facilities for isolating sick animals are available and adequate to allow normal movement.
- Urine and feces from infected animals are handled without spreading the infection.
- Records indicate veterinary consultation occurs when appropriate.
- In areas where there are feral pigs, double fences are installed to prevent snout-to-snout disease transmission.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: As per Level 2, and facilities are well designed and maintained to promote health and reduce injuries. Check all that apply:

- Records indicate newly acquired animals are screened for health issues and/or quarantined before being added to stock.
- Facilities design allows for effective cleaning of surfaces and there is a regular program of facility cleaning and disinfection in place.
- Potentially slippery surfaces are grooved or otherwise provided with traction.
- Equipment and surfaces are well maintained to avoid sharp edges, protruding nails or other sources of injury.
- Breed selection is appropriate for climate and conditions.
- Handler can explain how timing and practice for potentially injurious procedures minimize risk, fear and stress.
- Animal identifiers (e.g., bands, tags) are applied carefully by trained personnel and checked regularly to avoid animal discomfort.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and a written health plan exists and is implemented. Producer can describe or document the effectiveness of the written plan. The plan contains all the components listed below. Check all that apply:

- Policies/practices for low-stress handling and use of preventative health measures.
- Justification for stressful or potentially injurious, procedures such as tail docking, castration, weaning, etc.
- Discussion of ways to make the above less stressful or least likely to injure.
- Policy calling for regular maintenance and repair of facilities to prevent injury.

- Policy and procedure to regularly evaluate and monitor herd health.
- Tabulation of written records show low incidence of injury or disease or need for veterinary intervention.
- Other (please specify):

In addition, livestock health and fitness appear excellent and animals appear calm. Check all that apply:

- Operator can produce records verifying that animals have never been treated with antibiotics.
- Animals that have been treated with antibiotics are distinguished from other animals through the use of identification or are kept completely separate from other animals.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Weaning and Castration

Level 1: No planning or policy for weaning and castration is in place.

Level 2: Castration takes place within the first 2 weeks of birth. Weaning must not occur before the third week.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and weaning occurs after the fourth week.

Level 4: As per Level 3, and weaning occurs after the sixth week.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Handling and Handling Facilities

Level 1: Animals are handled aggressively. Sticks and electric prods may be used to move animals. Handling facilities (pens, chutes, ramps, stalls, etc.) do not consider natural behaviors and may be slippery and potentially injurious.

Level 2: Animals are handled calmly. Sticks, if used, are extensions of the arms only; electric prods, goads and striking animals with sticks is not permitted. No evidence of raised voices or aggressive actions is evident during inspection.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and animal handlers are well-trained and understand the natural behaviors and factors that cause stress or injury to the livestock under his or her care. Training and understanding are verified through demonstration, discussion and/or documentation. Facility maintenance and design are effective in matching animal natural behaviors and reducing fear, stress and injury. Check all that apply:

- Handler can discuss natural behaviors to consider, like balking at shadows, changes in flooring, trash in ramps and chutes, “the flight zone”, movement towards light, balking at flapping objects like a shirt hanging on a fencepost, etc.
- Handler can discuss stress factors to watch out for, such as agitated movements, vocalizations, and fear.
- Handler can discuss facility maintenance and design such as cleanliness, protruding sharp edges, slippery flooring, etc. that may result in injury to animals.
- Animals are not showing fear or stress, e.g., rushing to escape or running into each other during handling or transport operations, excessive vocalization, etc.
- Inspection of chutes, ramps and fencing shows no sharp protruding edges. If electric fencing is used, voltage and placement is such that only momentary discomfort occurs.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and new or renovated handling and transport facilities are present (with advanced design features to match natural behaviors of the animals) and handler can discuss the features. Check at least two of the following:

- Lighting to prevent shadows.
- Lighting in rooms at ends of chutes to draw animals in.
- Curved chutes, with smooth edges and solid sides.
- Uniform flooring to prevent balking.
- Quiet fans, pumps, etc. to prevent high pitch noise.
- Rubber stops on gates to prevent noise when closing.
- Handlers are aware of and respect animal flight distances during routine maintenance and other facility management work to avoid undue stress on the animals.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

On-Farm Slaughter

Level 1: All legal requirements for on-farm casualty and harvested animal slaughter and disposal are met. Check all that apply:

- Animals are rendered insensible to pain before being shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast away, or cut.
- Insensibility must come from a single blow or gunshot or an electrical, chemical or other means that is rapid and effective.
- Non-ambulatory animals are never dragged to slaughter.
- Non-ambulatory, dying, diseased and disabled swine are provided shelter, food and water.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and handler can discuss assessment of insensibility to ensure animals are in fact rendered insensible during on-farm slaughter. Check all that apply:

- Handler discusses methods of testing for insensibility, such as limp tongue, blank stare, limp back, no rhythmic breathing (gasping OK), no response to painful stimulus, no vocalizations, etc.
- Handler discusses optimum location on the head for applying captive bolt (forehead).
- Handler discusses proper amperage to use with electric stunning in order to create grand mal seizure (1.25 amps for market weight hogs, greater for larger animals).
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: As per Level 2, and handler can discuss guidelines for deciding when a casualty animal should be treated vs. slaughtered. Check all that apply:

- Handler can explain decision making regarding casualty animals, including examples of how they are followed.
- Non-ambulatory, dying, diseased and disabled swine are separated from healthy animals and provided with a covered pen sufficient to protect them from temperature stress while awaiting disposition.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and careful records are kept of casualty slaughter incidents and causes, and effective corrective measures are put in place to minimize reoccurrence. Check all that apply:

- Records of casualty slaughter including cause, procedures and disposition of carcass are legible and complete.
- Handler can report corrective actions taken.
- Animal casualty rate is very low or non-existent.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Manure Management

Manure Management Plan

Level 1: All legal requirements are met for collection, storage, treatment and application of manure. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and manure is managed to minimize risks to surface and ground water, and animal health. Check all that apply:

- Manure from the operation is not present on roads around the farm.
- Livestock are effectively excluded from manure storage areas.
- Excess manure is not allowed to accumulate in confinement or feeding areas.
- Manure is removed from confinement areas weekly or more often.
- Manure storage capacity is adequate to contain all manure produced when application is not appropriate (e.g., frozen or saturated soils).
- A written Nutrient Management Plan documents the generation, collection, treatment, storage and agronomic use of all manure and includes a mass nutrient balance for the major crop nutrients (N, P and K) that takes into account inputs from water, soil amendments, nitrogen-fixing crops, existing soil and plant tissue.
- The plan specifically includes nutrient management strategies for preventing erosion and water pollution resulting from wallows, woodlands, dry lots and other areas associated with outdoor production, where applicable.

- The plan specifically includes provisions for safeguarding manure storage areas from consequences of significant flood events.
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: As per Level 2, and manure is managed for its nutrient value and to minimize nuisance. Check all that apply:

- Excess manure, if any, is put to good use off farm. Records are kept documenting the amount of manure exported and the name and address of individual receiving the manure.
- Soil and manure testing is conducted annually on the farm, with all fields being tested within a three-year period.
- Field records include manure and commercial fertilizer nutrients.
- Manure nutrients from pastured animals are accounted for in budgeting and pasturing is rotated among fields/paddocks.
- Nuisance level manure odors are not detectable in neighboring off-farm locations where people are present.
- Fly populations are at acceptable levels both on and off-farm, without use of insecticides labeled "Warning" or "Danger."
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and farm demonstrates exceptional commitment to manure management. Check two or more of the following:

- No liquid manure is produced on the farm.
- All manure produced by confined animals is composted.
- Other pathogen-reduction practices are in place (please specify and verify effectiveness).
- Records of crop yields are used to monitor and adapt nutrient management plan.
- Farm participates in local surface and/or ground water testing.
- Within the past 5 years, farm has been involved in testing or demonstrating innovative manure management techniques.
- Exhaust fans, if present, direct discharge away from sensitive areas.
- Other management practices are in place to reduce odors (please specify and verify effectiveness).
- Off-site and/or groundwater monitoring is conducted to test for nutrient contamination.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Solid Manure Storage

Level 1: Solid manure storage is greater than 100 ft from surface water (or farther if required by law/local ordinance) and not in areas subject to flooding. Storage is adequate to contain manure production when application is not appropriate.

Level 2: As per Level 1, and check two or more of the following:

- Some portion of the farm's stored manure is composted.
- All manure is stored with a significant buffer from surface waters.
- All manure and compost are stored on an impermeable surface.
- Compost is mixed, and a proper blend of Carbon and Nitrogen sources is available for microbial action.
- Storage is designed so that runoff from the storage site is contained and utilized.
- In high rainfall areas a roof is used to prevent runoff from the manure and over saturation of composting manure.
- Animal mortalities are composted separately from the bulk of manure and the resulting compost is also stored and handled separately.
- Manure is stored downwind of sensitive areas.

Level 3: At least 4 practices from Level 2 apply. Storage structures are monitored and inspected annually, and maintenance action taken to repair cracks and other faults that may lead to contamination of ground or surface water.

Level 4: As per Level 3, and all the farm's stored manure is composted. Composting material is mixed, turned and monitored to a high standard including temperature and airflow. Clear separation exists between piles of raw materials, working compost and finished compost. No raw manure leaves the farm without composting.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Liquid Manure Storage

Level 1: Liquid manure is stored in earthen lagoons. Storage is adequate to contain manure production when application is not appropriate.

Level 2: Check all that apply:

- Lagoons have been designed and certified to NRCS standards.
- No individual lagoon exceeds 3.25 million gallons (10 acre feet).
- Inspection of the lagoon shows no signs of bank erosion.
- Lagoon floor is above winter high water table.
- Manure collection (scrape) tank has adequate storage to contain storm event rainfall without overflow from slab.
- Access to lagoons is controlled, and warning signs are posted.
- Vegetation on lagoon banks is well maintained; there is no woody vegetation on the earthen banks.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and at least 4 of the following are applicable. Check all that apply:

- Access ramps of either stone or concrete are built into the lagoon
- Erosion control structures are included to prevent incoming manure flow from damaging the lagoon integrity.
- Manure is agitated at pump out.
- Twin lagoons are utilized to help manage phosphorus and/or crop scorch.
- Lagoon is lined with packed clay, bentonite or a butyl liner.
- The lagoon is covered to reduce rainfall impact on storage capacity or to collect methane.
- A device is in place to measure manure volume in the lagoon.
- A manure separator is used to reduce solids accumulation in the lagoon.
- Groundwater testing wells around the lagoon are monitored regularly and records of water quality are kept.
- Manure is stored downwind of sensitive areas.

Level 4: At least 6 practices from Level 3 apply or all manure is stored in an above ground steel or concrete structure.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Fertilizer and Manure Applications

Level 1: Fertilizers are applied on a regular schedule or routine basis, without regard to nutrient testing of soil or crop requirements. Testing fulfills state standards.

Level 2: Soils are tested regularly in a program determined with a local agronomist or state agency. Check all that apply:

- Nutrient management records are maintained annually for each field.
- Fertilizers and manure are applied according to test results for all major plant nutrients.
- Manure is not spread within 50 ft. of surface water, or within 100 ft. of wells used for domestic water supplies.
- Manure is not applied to frozen or saturated ground.
- Manure is not spread on steep slopes.
- Manure is not applied to bare ground in the fall.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and check all that apply:

- All manure on the farm is applied in accordance with a Nutrient Management Plan for the farm written to NRCS or other county/state standards designed to protect surface and ground waters.
- Nutrient requirements for the cropping year are considered in depth before application for the season begins.
- Soil Organic Matter level is determined, and the nitrogen release is included in fertilizer planning for the year.
- Manure is not spread within 100 ft. of surface water, or within 300 ft. of wells used for domestic water supplies.
- Applications are timed to optimize effectiveness at the lowest possible rates.
- Applications are monitored closely to avoid odor nuisance issues with neighbors.
- Manure applied to bare ground is incorporated within 24 hours.
- Application records are kept in accordance with the plan.

Level 4: Fertilizers are applied as per Level 3, and check all that apply:

- Soil quality, including organic matter content and pH, is established at planting and maintained at optimum levels to maximize the availability of existing soil nutrients.
- Off-farm applications are under the control of a manure agreement that guides applications through accompanied manure test results.
- A long-range plan is in place that considers the full range of crop nutrients in the soil and addresses the over-accumulation of some nutrients and the depletion of others.
- Manure is managed to allow differentiation between manures with different characteristics (e.g., Carbon rich shavings from hospital pens or Phosphorus rich sludge from the base of undisturbed lagoons).
- Producer schedules manure spreading to reduce impacts to neighbors. Producer applies manure early in the day and not on weekends or holidays, and/or can provide evidence of good faith attempts to coordinate manure applications with the schedules of neighbors.
- Producer does not apply manure when wind conditions are likely to move odors to sensitive areas.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Fertilizer Usage

Level 1: Fertilization for feed production is part of the farm's manure management plan. Manure fertilization is credited according to typical values for similar, local farms or by actual testing and analysis.

Level 2: As per Level 1, and previous crops, cover crops, and manure applications are credited when fertilizing. Producer can describe how the operation recycles nutrients, and how their operation balances nutrient inputs with nutrient use.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and records show continuing decrease in per acre inputs of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorous (P), and/or Potassium (K) from nonorganic sources, such synthetic fertilizers.

Level 4: As per Level 3, and for at least half of the rotation two of the three nutrient requirements are met exclusively with organic sources.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Application Equipment

Level 1: Fertilizer and manure application equipment is not calibrated or maintained to prevent spillage.

Level 2: Both of the following must apply. Check all that apply:

- Application equipment is designed and maintained to prevent spillage.
- Application equipment is calibrated to deliver desired amount of material.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and check all that apply::

- Filling sites are designed and maintained to allow effective spill cleanup. Spills are cleaned promptly.
- Liquid manure, if used, is not applied through overhead sprinklers or big guns. Splash plates are located no higher than 4 ft. above the ground.
- All application equipment running on moist soils is fitted with tires designed to minimize soil compaction.

Level 4: As per Level 3, and check all that apply:

- Manure is not tracked onto public ways by equipment.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Other Product Specific Evaluation Criteria

Food Safety and Bio-security

Level 1: All legal requirements are met for food safety and bio-security, including hygiene, sanitation, and fuel, pesticide and medicine storage. Access to facilities and livestock is restricted. Check all that apply:

- Manager is aware of legal requirements.
- Manager can explain how operation meets those requirements.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and a policy addressing procedures, materials for cleaning and disinfecting facilities and equipment, personal protective gear, and limiting risks from contamination and disease is in place. Check all that apply:

- Signage listing procedures and precautions is present where appropriate, e.g., fuel, pesticide, medicine storages; toilet facilities; feed stores.
- Cleaning and disinfecting products are used properly, i.e. anti-microbial disinfectants are not used where cleaning products are appropriate.
- Handlers use clean and appropriate personal protective gear (such as gloves, hairnets, boots, etc.).
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: As per Level 2, and access to facilities, equipment, medicine, fuel and pesticide stores is limited to authorized persons. Check all that apply:

- Medicine, pesticide and fuel storage is locked.
- Entrances to farm and facilities are appropriately marked and secured to discourage/prevent unauthorized entry and/or movement of disease or contaminants into sensitive areas.
- Pesticide, medicine and/or fuel use is tracked in such a way to detect unauthorized use or spillage.
- Pesticide and medicine storage facilities are appropriate to the products stored. Refrigeration is available for medicines. Storage areas are cool and dry.
- Empty containers are rinsed and disposed of appropriately.
- Needles are securely locked away, and old needles are disposed of appropriately.
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and on-farm storage of hazardous materials is minimal. Check all that apply:

- Animal health and preventative pest management, and/or the use of alternative therapies such as homeopathy is adequate such that very little medicine or pesticide is present on farm.

- Pesticide and medicine storage are checked regularly. Out-of-date stock or unviable stock quantities are disposed of properly.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Off Farm Transportation

Level 1: Transportation equipment is in good repair to prevent injury and comply with regulations. Loading is managed to prevent injury. Check all that apply:

- To prevent skin blemishes, trucks are cleaned after each load.
- Truck floors are leak-proof or use bedding to prevent urine and manure from dripping onto the highway.
- Injured animals are not transported off the farm.
- Other (please specify):

Level 2: As per Level 1, and vehicles are properly maintained for fuel efficiency and to meet all applicable emissions standards. Temperature and weather conditions are factored into transportation to reduce thermal stress. The following guidelines must be followed. Check all that apply:

- When the temperature is over 60 degrees F (15 C), wet sand or wet shavings are used to keep swine cool.
- If the temperature is over 80 degrees F (27 C), swine are sprinkled with water prior to loading at the farm.
- When the temperature is below 60 degrees F (15 C), swine are given bedding with straw or deep, dry shavings to keep them warm. In northern regions, approximately half of the air holes in aluminum trailers transporting swine are covered with plywood when the temperature drops to 10 degrees F (-12 C).
- Other (please specify):

Level 3: As per Level 2, and swine are given space to lie down during transportation to reduce psychological stress. The following guidelines must be followed. Check all that apply:

- Transportation spacing for market weight pigs in summer conditions should be at minimum: 200 lbs. (90 kg) = 4.0 sq. ft. At 250 lbs. (113kg) = 5.0 sq. ft.

- Swine are sprayed with a coarse spray while in transit when heat is above 80 degrees F.
- Transportation spacing for market weight pigs in winter conditions should be no less than: 200 lbs. (90 kg) = 3.5 sq. ft. At 250 lbs (113 kg) = 4.26 sq. ft.

Level 4: Impacts of transportation are reduced by one or more of the following. Check all that apply:

- Transportation requirements in the farming system are reduced by implementing a combination of on- farm production and processing, and direct marketing.
- Transportation equipment uses biobased fuels.
- Other (please specify):

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Rodents

Level 1: Rodent control is ongoing, whether or not rodent populations are at a high level.

Level 2: Rodenticides are used only when rodents are over acceptable levels.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and bait stations are employed to reduce the use of broadcast rodenticides. If anticoagulants are used, first generation/multiple dose anticoagulants are given preference over second generation/single dose anticoagulants until and unless first generation/multiple dose anticoagulants are proven ineffective. Producer must substantiate claims that first generation/multiple dose anticoagulants have proven ineffective.

Level 4: As per Level 3, and rodents are suppressed by traps, barriers and/or encouraging predators in lieu of rodenticides.

Score

Verification methods and notes:

Animal Pest Management: Flies

Level 1: Fly control occurs on an ongoing, regularly scheduled basis.

Level 2: As per Level 1, but thresholds for treatment are established. Fly control appears adequate.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and insecticide use is reduced by employing cultural controls. Check all that apply:

- Movement of feeding sites
- Trapping
- Sanitation
- Manure composting
- Fly control appears good
- Other (please specify):

Level 4: As per Level 3, and fly control relies on cultural controls; no insecticides are used without demonstrated application of cultural controls and documented failure of those controls to be effective.

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Animal Pest Management: External Parasites

Level 1: External parasites are treated for on a regular schedule whether or not identification of an infestation has been made.

Level 2: Livestock insect and mite pests are correctly identified. Insecticides are properly selected and used only when the target pest is over acceptable levels. Sick, overheated or stressed (recent transport, castration, weaning) animals are not treated with insecticides.

Level 3: As per Level 2 and insecticide use is reduced by segregating and treating purchased feeder animals before introduction to the herd, or by running a closed herd such that no new pests are introduced.

Level 4: As per Level 3, and preventative measures and/or cultural controls are routinely used in lieu of insecticides and miticides (e.g., movement of animals, sanitation, composting, parasites, closed herds). No insecticides or miticides are used without demonstrated application of preventative measures/cultural controls and documented failure of those controls to be effective. Animals are free to choose and move to habitats that are most comfortable (e.g., shady areas, windy spots, wallows).

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Animal Pest Management: Internal Parasites

Level 1: Internal parasites are treated for on a regular schedule whether or not identification of an infestation has been made.

Level 2: Treatments for internal parasites are made as needed.

Level 3: As per Level 2, and insecticide use is reduced by segregating and treating purchased feeder animals before introduction to the herd, or by running a closed herd such that no new pests are introduced.

Level 4: Parasites are controlled using preventative measures, cultural controls, and nutritional controls. Where beneficial, fecal tests are used to monitor parasites and to develop an effective control program. No insecticides are used without demonstrated application of cultural controls and documented failure of those controls to be effective

Score:

Verification methods and notes:

Scorecard

CRITERIA				SCORE/LEVEL
Healthy and Humane Care for Livestock: Living Conditions				
Animal Category	# of Animals	Category score	(# of animals) X (Category score) = SCORE/LEVEL	
Breeding Stock: Boars				
Breeding Stock: Females				
Farrowed Sows & Litters				
Wean-to-Finish Pigs				
Total # of animals				
Add 4 category scores				
Divide by total number of animals				
(1) TOTAL POINTS EARNED =				
Total Points Available				16
- Minus Total Points Not Applicable				
(2) TOTAL APPLICABLE POINTS=				
(3) AVERAGE SCORE=				

CRITERIA		SCORE/LEVEL
Healthy and Humane Care for Livestock: Other Criteria		
Animal Nutrition		
Animal Health		
Weaning and Castration		
Handling and Handling Facilities		
Slaughter		
(1) TOTAL POINTS EARNED =		
Total Points Available		20
- Minus Total Points Not Applicable		
(2) TOTAL APPLICABLE POINTS=		
(3) AVERAGE SCORE=		

CRITERIA	SCORE/LEVEL
Manure Management	
Manure Management Plan	
Solid Manure Storage	
Liquid Manure Storage	
Fertilizer and Manure Application	
Fertilizer Usage	
Application Equipment	
(1) TOTAL POINTS EARNED =	
Total Points Available	24
- Minus Total Points Not Applicable	
(2) TOTAL APPLICABLE POINTS=	
(3) AVERAGE SCORE=	

CRITERIA	SCORE/LEVEL
Other Product Specific Evaluation Criteria	
Food Safety and Bio-security	
Transportation	
Rodents	
Animal Pest Management: Flies	
Animal Pest Management: External Parasites	
Animal Pest Management: Internal Parasites	
(1) TOTAL POINTS EARNED =	
Total Points Available	24
- Minus Total Points Not Applicable	
(2) TOTAL APPLICABLE POINTS=	
(3) AVERAGE SCORE=	

Acknowledgements:

1. Website: www.grandin.com produced by Dr. Temple Grandin
2. Website: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OA/congress/hh_att4.htm "Comparison of USDA and Industry Humane Slaughter Requirements". USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, August 2001
3. Midwest Food Alliance: Pork Standards / Evaluation Criteria, test-market draft 5.5
4. Dr. Thomas Green, IPM Institute of North America, Inc., Madison, WI
5. Dr. Donald Lay, Jr. and Dr. Jeremy Marchant-Forde, USDA-ARS, West Lafayette, IN
6. David Haggith, N3, Bellingham, WA