

ABC Farms: Checklist for Farrowing Barn Approved by: Date Reviewed _____	Corresponding requirements: ISO 14001 4.4.6
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Checklist for Farrowing

Significant Aspects:

Catastrophic Mortality
Excess Sludge Accumulation

Potential Environmental Impacts:

Land, surface water, ground water, air quality

Work activities seek to protect against animal stress or loss, reduce lagoon loading, improve indoor air quality, and seek to prevent emergencies such as fire.

Report anything unusual to farm manager unless otherwise noted. Examples include leaking waterers, sows off feed or constipated, inoperable fans and heaters.

SOW MANURE

- ❑ Scrape manure and after-birth from behind sows into pile and collect into cart daily. This reduces odor and flies and reduces lagoon loading. This also helps maintain a clean, warm, dry environment around baby pigs to minimize stress and disease.
- ❑ Carry to gestation for feed-back. This reduces disease on the farm and improves herd health.

WATERERS

Check for water leaks on nipples frequently. If leaks found, the farrowing barn manager is responsible for repairs.

FEEDER CLEAN OUT

As needed, clean out feeder, noticing corners. Excess feed can get wet and sour resulting in wasted feed and potential animal stress.



FEEDERS

Use scoop to measure feed for sows. This amount changes over time depending on when sows farrow and stage of lactation. Look for signs such as interest in feeding, lack of bowel movements or dry, hard appearance, swollen udders, etc. Farm manager will prescribe feeding regimen and actions to take if sows are off feed.

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SYRINGES

Wash and sterilize syringes in hot water bath after each use. This allows them to be reused.

NEEDLES

- Collect sharps (needles) and dispose in a puncture-proof container (legal requirement).
- When container full of needles, seal container and put into dumpster.



HEAT LAMPS

- After sows are brought in, hang heat lamps but don't plug in. To protect baby pigs, hang light to the rear and to the side away from sow to protect baby pigs from being crushed.
- When sow begins farrowing, plug in heat lamp. This keeps pigs comfortable and minimizes energy use. Run lamp first day only unless needed longer based on employee training.

HEAT MATS

Check mats often by placing hand on mat to make sure operating and not burned out.

Farm manager sets controls on mats. If pigs seem uncomfortable, see farm manager. Photo shows pigs well spread-out and comfortable.



HEATERS

Inspect heaters in winter to see if working properly – running and pilot light on.

DEAD

Collect dead and dispose in dead box within 24 hours. This is a legal requirement and reduces potential odor. Carcasses go to rendering and are made into feed protein and other products.

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RODENTS

As needed, put out bait blocks to reduce rodents, control disease and reduce feed waste.

FANS

At least monthly, clean fans, shutters and inlets inside and outside of the building to maintain a comfortable environment for the animals, maintain fan efficiency, and prevent dust fires.



LIGHT BULBS

Replace any nonworking light bulbs and dispose in trash can.

COOL CELLS

Once during the year or as needed, cool cell pads should be cleaned using bleach and hosed down with fresh water. This reduces dust and mildew and improves cool cell efficiency.

When finished cleaning, dump recycle reservoir and put in fresh new water. Put piece of copper tubing in reservoir to prevent algae growth.

Farm manager set cool cell timers to allow for cool cells to dry out daily to prolong cell life.

