



Producer Notice

Model Code for Pigs sow stall conditions mandatory from 20 April 2017

8 February 2017

Information

On 20 April 2017, the mandatory requirements for sow stalls within the Model Code for Animal Welfare: Pigs (Model Code for Pigs) comes into effect for all states except NSW, which commences on 1 July 2017.

This means that your pig facilities must comply with the sow stall requirement of a maximum of six weeks confinement during each pregnancy. Producers should also bear in mind that other key mandatory requirements have already come into effect, i.e. skills training and space allowances. The diagram on the following page shows the Model Code requirements for sow stalls, along with the industry voluntary gestation stall initiative and the Coles standard, which remain voluntary APIQ standards.

What you need to do

Ensure that you understand the requirements in the Model Code (check reference documents below), and check your facilities are compliant. If in doubt, please contact your vet in the first instance.

Where can I get the model code?

The Model Code for Pigs can be downloaded from the [PigPass website](#).

The Companion Handbook can be downloaded from the [APL website](#). This reference book is a practical guide for producers to interpret and implement the Model Code standards.

What happens if I am not compliant?

From 29 April 2017 (and from 1 July 2017 for NSW only), your property may be inspected and you can be prosecuted by either the state department of agriculture or primary industries, and in some states, by the RSPCA, if your facilities are not compliant.

What if I comply with the industry's voluntary gestation stall initiative?

If you have already implemented the industry's voluntary GSF initiative, and limit the use of stalls to no more than five days, you are already compliant with the Model Code. However, you should ensure that your pig production facilities comply with all aspects of the Model Code, including space allowances.

What happens if I am an APIQ[✓] accredited producer?

APIQ[✓] Standard 3.3A requires that APIQ[✓] accredited producers are compliant with the Model Code for Pigs. If producers are not compliant with the Model Code, they will not be compliant with the APIQ[✓] Standards, jeopardising their accreditation.

Key APL Contacts

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