



Animal Health and Welfare: Pig

We are committed to the systematic development of sustainable business, both in strategy and actions. Responsibility of our operations applies to the entire supply chain from feed and genetics of animals all the way to the consumer.

Welfare from farm to fork

We work to improve health and welfare of production animals at all stages of the production value chain, in cooperation with authorities, primary producers, transportation partners and slaughterhouses. Treating animals well is important to us for various reasons: it corresponds to our ethical principles and supports sustainable development of our operations, leading to profitable growth.

Both our contract and own production farms are committed to following HKScan guidelines, in addition to the regulations set by the EU and national law. Our pork farms are based in Finland, Sweden and Estonia.

▶ Full traceability - result of our own or contracted production * GOOD ANIMAL CARE AND HIGH ANIMAL WELFARE * HIGH FARM BIOSECURITY * HIGH HYGIENE LEVEL			
PRIMARY PRODUCTION	ANIMAL TRANSPORT	SLAUGHTERING OPERATIONS	
Sufficient space per animal to fulfill their need to move around and explore	Proper climate for pigs thanks to specially designed transport vehicles	Avoidance of stress: silence and minimum contact in slaughterhouse lairages	
Optimal nutritional quality and quantity of feed calculated by farm level	Authorized drivers	Gas stunning carried out in groups to make pigs feel safe	
Low stress level due to good conditions, and enrichment and rooting materials - this decreases tail docking	Short transport distances	Regrouping of pigs avoided	
Pain killers or local anesthetics are required in castration procedures	Average transport time less than 4 hours	Certified, competent personnel. Nominated welfare officer present	
No growth hormones	Washing and disinfection of vehicles after every transportation	Inspected by veterinarian before and after slaughter	
Low usage of antibiotics, allowed only for treatment of sick animals	Humanely and gently treated to avoid stress among pigs		
Salmonella free			

Animal welfare is affected by multiple factors, none of which can be neglected. The HKScan guidelines form a comprehensive list of prerequisites for good pig welfare, and thereby exceeding the central European level of pig welfare.

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Pigs are curious by nature

The welfare of our production animals is important to us. We want to ensure that they have the right living environment and proper conditions. Therefore, we actively follow the most current studies on the behavior of production animals.

Pigs are naturally social animals interested in exploring their environment. Pigs also have an established hierarchy within their group. A special characteristic about pigs is that they are unable to perspire like most mammals, and the

temperature in a pen needs to be set accordingly.

Disharmony between an animal and its care or environment can lead to stress or behavioral abnormalities, such as tail-biting. Tail-biting can be prevented by offering good living conditions and care, such as sufficient space, enrichment materials, high quality feed and preventive health care. In Finland and Sweden tail docking is prohibited, in Estonia tail docking is possible only if animal welfare is under threat by tail biting.

See more information about enrichment materials and tail-biting on EUWelNet: <http://euwelnet.hwnn001.topshare.com/Pages/0>

Disease prevention has resulted in low occurrence of disease outbreaks

Highly infectious and severe animal diseases represent a major threat to animal production as they can occur in epidemics, widespread around the world, and cause huge financial losses. Therefore we are continuously working on the health of our pigs to ensure a high level of biosecurity on HKScan pig farms. The goal of good biosecurity is to prevent the spread of diseases onto the farms, enabling the supply of healthy animals and ensuring a safe and reliable product.

ANIMAL DISEASE	ESTONIA	FINLAND	SWEDEN
African swine fever	Active from 2015*	Not occurring	Not occurring
Classical swine fever	Not occurring	Last occurrence in 1917	Last occurrence in 1944
Aujeszky disease	Not occurring	Not occurring	Last occurrence in 1995
Foot and mouth disease	Not occurring	Not occurring	Not occurring
TGE	Not occurring	Last occurrence in 1981	Not occurring
Brucella suis	Not occurring	Not occurring	Last occurrence in 1957
PRRS	Not occurring	Not occurring	Last occurrence in 2007
Porcine epidemic diarrhoea, PED	Active	Not occurring	Last occurrence in 2001
Swine vesicular disease, SVD	Not occurring	Not occurring	Not occurring

*African swine fever began to spread in Estonia in 2015. The situation in Estonia is under control, and the extensive measures taken have proven to be successful. In Finland and Sweden, preventive work is conducted on a continuous basis.

THE CORNERSTONES OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE AT HKSCAN

Animal welfare is one of the four priorities in our Corporate Responsibility programme, and has been raised as one of the most important topic by our stakeholders.

We are always up-to-date with the latest research within ethics and legislation, and we continuously raise the bar for our animal welfare standards.

We have participated actively in the development of national systems such as Sikava and Laatuvastuu in Finland, and Svensk Sigill in Sweden in order to ensure good quality level and development of animal health and welfare on farms.

HKScan participated in the Welfare Quality -project, where the Welfare Quality®*-principles were created.

These factors are the basis for good animal health and welfare at HKScan:

- Feeding: Freedom from thirst and hunger
- Housing: Thermal comfort, comfort in resting conditions, ease of movement
- Health: No injuries, no disease, no painful management procedures
- Behavior: Expressing social and other behavior, good human-animal relationship, positive emotional state



* Science and society improving animal welfare in the food quality chain, <http://www.welfarequalitynetwork.net/network>