



## NOTE NUMBER 3

### PIGS



Pigs

**This technical note involves animal welfare and care at Skjetlein upper secondary school.**

Skjetlein upper secondary school has a farm with 35 sows for production of meat. In this technical note we write about animal welfare for PIGS:

- The animals must live in a hen, not in a pigeonhole
- They need good enough space.
- They need flee opportunities against bullies.
- They need a dry couchette
- And the need free access to water.
- Piglets should have a corner where they can escape from the mother, so she cannot settle on them.



By keeping pigs the owner has to take care of the animals' behavioral and physiological needs. The animals must be protected against the danger of undue stress, pain and suffering. Breeding should promote good function and health of the animals.

Operating modes shall be arranged so that they provide swine opportunities for movement, exercise and normal behavior. Animal rooms should be designed and furnished in a way that animals can not hurt others or be injured when they live together.

Pigs shall have access to a comfortable, clean, dry and draft-lying place with the right temperature. The animals should be able to lie down, rest and get up normally.

Sows and gilts shall be kept in groups during the period of at least 4 weeks after mating before up to a week before the expected farrowing. This does not apply to holdings with less than 10 gilts and / or sows. Single pens must be large enough for the animal to easily turn around.



In feed bins without fixation there should be room enough that the sow can lie down on the floor and easy to turn around. One has to use plenty of grit in the feed bins. The reason for this is that three days before expected farrowing, sow shall have suitable material to build a nest. There will be an open space behind the sow to facilitate assisted or natural birth. Piglets should have its own place in the maternity pen where they are protected for the sow.