

1XXXXX

Implement pig feeding programmes

Kaupae   Level	4
Whiwhinga   Credit	20
Whāinga   Purpose	<p>People with this skill standard will be able to describe and carry out effective feeding regimes that meet the nutritional needs of pigs at different production stages. Learners who are awarded this standard will use pig nutrition knowledge to appropriately feed pigs, manage feeding systems, and monitor consumption to support health, production, and growth while complying with welfare standards.</p> <p>This skill standard has been developed to align with the New Zealand Certificate in Pork Production (Management)with an optional strand in Pig Farm Production Planning (Level 4) [Ref: 4222]</p>

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako   Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai   Assessment criteria
1. Plan nutritional requirements according to on farm procedures.	a. Determine dietary nutrient requirements for specific pig production stages.
	b. Select appropriate feed ingredients and commercial feeds to meet those requirements.
2. Manage feed ingredients on hand and prevent waste, maintain stocktake, carry out logistics, ordering and delivery.	a. Feed ingredient levels are recorded and monitored to meet production needs.
	b. Feed is stored and rotated to prevent spoilage and waste.
	c. Feed orders and deliveries are managed to maintain supply.
3. Implement a feeding programme, including diet formulation, mixing or selection of feeds, and scheduling of feeding.	a. Prepare diets and or set up feeders to deliver the planned diet in correct proportions.
	b. Schedule feeding times and or frequencies, observe and adjust delivery mechanisms so each pig has access to adequate feed.
	c. Describe the consequences of an unbalanced diet being fed to growing pigs.
4. Adjust feeding strategies to support reproductive performance and sale	a. Explain how nutrition affects reproductive success in breeding animals.

Commented [AT1]: Add new learning outcome 2. Inventory control:

Commented [AT2R1]: Kirsty added to chat Manage feed ingredients on hand (prevent waste, maintain stocktake, carry out logistics (ordering and delivery).

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Hua o te ako   Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai   Assessment criteria
readiness, while promoting pig health and productivity.	b. Modify feeding regimes to enhance fertility and litter performance in breeding sows and boars.  c. Optimise nutrition to achieve the best market return relative to the costs of whole-of-life production.  d. Collaborate with veterinary or nutrition experts to maintain productivity.
5. Monitor feed provision and pig body condition to ensure feed intake meets target growth or production goals.	a. Observe pigs during feeding to check that dominant pigs are not excluding others and adjust feeder and drinker space/number as needed.  b. Monitor pig health and growth to identify nutrition-related performance issues and respond with appropriate feed adjustments.
6. Maintain feeding equipment and facilities, adjust to prevent competition or waste.	a. Inspect and maintain feeding equipment and clean troughs to prevent mould or spoilage.  b. Adjust the feeding programme in response to feed intake, performance data or changing group sizes.

**Commented [AT1]:** Add new learning outcome 2. Inventory control:

**Commented [AT2R1]:** Kirsty added to chat Manage feed ingredients on hand (prevent waste, maintain stocktake, carry out logistics (ordering and delivery).

#### Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

##### Assessment specifications:

All evidence presented in this skill standard must be in accordance veterinary guidelines and farm procedures.

Ākonga/learners' evidence must be collected using naturally occurring evidence.

All activities and evidence must meet the requirements of farm procedures, accepted industry practice, legislation and any subsequent amendments.

All activities relevant to this standard should reflect ngā kaupapa (the principles) o te Tiriti o Waitangi.

All activities should, as relevant to candidates and/or this standard, reflect the peoples of other cultures, and their world views.

##### Range

Access to feed analysis information, farm feeding guides or feed formulation software may be provided. Standard equipment (scales, feeders) and feeding instructions should be available.

This assessment will be conducted over a defined period, based on the size of the farm and the availability of equipment. On-farm verification may be required.

Methods include practical demonstration of feed preparation and delivery, scrutiny of ration calculations or feeding logs, oral or written questioning on nutrition principles, and observation of pig feeding behaviour.

#### **Definitions**

*Veterinary guidelines* advice received directly from veterinarians, or literature recommended by veterinarians.

*Farm procedures* refer to the policies and procedures set out in a verbal or written form by the employer or organisation.

*Accepted industry practice* refers to approved codes of practice and standardised procedures accepted by the wider industries as examples of best practice.

#### **Recommended skills and knowledge**

It is recommended that people complete New Zealand Certificate in Pork Production (Stockperson) with an optional strand in Farrowing Care (Level 3) [Ref: 2525]

#### **Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available**

Achieved

#### **Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content**

##### **Assess Nutritional Requirements & Feed Types**

- Determine six essential nutrients: water, carbohydrates, fats, proteins (amino acids), minerals, vitamins.
- Specify stage-specific needs: weaner (high energy/protein), grower (balanced feed), finisher (energy-dense), breeder (reproductive support).
- Select feed formats: creep, pellets/mash, liquid/by-products; balance fibre to avoid dilution.

##### **Manage feed**

- Methods for recording and tracking feed inventory (e.g., spreadsheets, apps, manual logs)
- Stocktake procedures and frequency
- Storage requirements for different feed types (e.g., dry, bulk, medicated)
- Feed rotation principles (e.g., FIFO – first in, first out)
- Signs of spoilage, contamination, or pest damage
- Ordering processes and supplier communication
- Scheduling deliveries to avoid shortages or overstocking
- Contingency planning for delivery delays or supply issues

##### **Plan & Implement Feeding Programme**

- Formulate diets using feed tables or software to meet target nutrient consultant's profiles.
- Choose and mix feeds; schedule feeding frequency.
- Apply ad libitum or restricted strategies; integrate contingencies for system limits.
- Weaners (3~6 Weeks)

Sudden dietary changes can cause post-weaning diarrhoea and growth checks.

Inadequate nutrients impair gut health and slow early development.

- Growers (6 Weeks to ~3 Months)

Excess energy with low protein leads to fat gain over muscle.

Amino acid deficiencies result in poor muscle development and feed inefficiency.

- Finishers (~3 Months to Market Weight)

Low protein reduces lean meat yield; excess energy causes obesity.

Imbalanced diets affect carcass quality and market value.

- Breeding Sows (Gestation and Lactation)

Overfeeding in early gestation can cause embryonic loss.

Underfeeding during lactation reduces milk output, affecting piglet growth.

#### Feed Adjustments

- Sows: increase nutrient density in late gestation/lactation to support milk production and reduce body condition loss.
- Boars: provide balanced rations to maintain libido and sperm quality.
- Effects of underfeeding or imbalance: delayed return to oestrus, low birth weights, poor conception, conception rates, gestation, and lactation performance.
- Adjust feed for finishers to optimise fat-to-lean ratio and meet market specifications.
- Manage feed withdrawal before transport to minimise stress and contamination.
- Recognise feed-related issues such as scouring, reduced growth, or poor coat condition.
- Track metrics like Average Daily Gain (ADG), Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR), and condition scores; correlate with health records.
- Switch or supplement feeds in response to poor performance.
- Use veterinary diagnostics or feed analysis to confirm causes.

#### Monitor Feed Delivery & Body Condition

- Use Body Condition Scoring (1–5) to assess fat/muscle balance.
- Track performance: average daily gain and feed conversion ratio.
- Adjust intake to meet growth or production targets; identify issues early.

#### Maintain Equipment & Facilities

- Inspect and service feeders, lines and mixers: clean, calibrate, clear blockages.
- Design to minimise competition and waste: space allocation and feeder type.
- Store feeds in clean, dry, pest-free environment to preserve quality.

#### Rauemi | Resources

Legislation relevant to this skill standard includes but is not limited to:

- NZ Pork Guidelines are available on request from NZ Pork. [www.nzpork.co.nz](http://www.nzpork.co.nz).
  - NZPork Guidelines for developing Biosecurity farm plans
  - NZPork Transport Biosecurity Guidelines
- Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 [Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 No 87 \(as at 30 November 2022\)](#), [Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
- MPI Code of Welfare: Pigs 2018 [Code of Welfare – Pigs](#)
- Biosecurity Act 1993 [Biosecurity Act 1993 No 95 \(as at 05 April 2025\)](#), [Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 No 70 \(as at 05 April 2025\)](#), [Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
- Biosecurity (Meat and Food Waste for Pigs) Regulations 2005
- Animal Status Declaration forms for pigs

and any subsequent amendments or replacements.

**Pārongo Whakaū Kōunga** | Quality assurance information

<b>Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa</b>   Standard Setting Body	Muka Tangata – People Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council
<b>Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai</b>   DASS classification	Pork Production > Pig Husbandry
<b>Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga</b>   CMR	0052

<b>Hātepe</b>   Process	<b>Putanga</b>   Version	<b>Rā whakaputa</b>   Review Date	<b>Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai</b>   Last date for assessment
<b>Rēhitatanga</b>   Registration	<type here>	[dd mm yyyy]	[dd mm yyyy]
<b>Arotakenga</b>   Review	<type here>	[dd mm yyyy]	[dd mm yyyy]
<b>Kōrero whakakapinga</b>   Replacement information	This skill standard will replace Unit standard		
<b>Rā arotake</b>   Planned review date	31 December 2030		

Please contact Muka Tangata – People Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council at [qualifications@mukatangata.nz](mailto:qualifications@mukatangata.nz) to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.