

**1XXXXX****Support pig welfare, behaviour and handling**

<b>Kaupae   Level</b>	3
<b>Whiwhinga   Credit</b>	15
<b>Whāinga   Purpose</b>	<p>People credited with this skill standard are able to describe pig behaviour and welfare indicators, demonstrate safe and low-stress pig handling techniques, and carry out routine husbandry procedures in accordance with regulatory and welfare requirements. They will also understand their responsibilities under the Animal Welfare Act and the Code of Welfare.</p> <p>This skill standard has been developed to align with the New Zealand Certificate in Pork Production (Stockperson) with an optional strand in Farrowing Care (Level 3) [Ref: 2525]</p>

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

<b>Hua o te ako   Learning outcomes</b>	<b>Paearu aromatawai   Assessment criteria</b>
1. Describe the range of pig behaviours	a. Describe physical characteristics of pigs.
	b. Describe abnormal or undesirable behaviours for pigs and possible causes.
2. Demonstrate low stress and safe handling techniques	a. Check and prepare the planned route before moving pigs.
	b. Demonstrate use of handling aides.
	c. Calmly move and/or handle different classes of pigs without injury and minimal stress to the animals and the handler.
	d. Describe and/or demonstrate loading practices in relation to transport.
3. Carry out routine husbandry procedures	a. Perform routine procedures hygienically using the correct equipment and appropriate restraint.
	b. Perform routine procedures in accordance with farm practices.
	c. Carry out observations for any adverse reactions post-procedure, take remedial action, record and report.

Hua o te ako   Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai   Assessment criteria
	d. Maintain equipment, report issues and clean/replace/service when required.
4. Describe and monitor a range of welfare indicators	a. Describe welfare indicators across a range of categories.
	b. Daily observations are recorded for a week across different classes of pigs, corrective actions noted.
	c. Maintain pig welfare in accordance with the Code of Welfare and regulatory requirements.

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

#### *Assessment specifications:*

Assessment samples must provide naturally occurring evidence from real, simulated, or scenario-based activities in a farm context.

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

All activities and evidence must meet the requirements of worksite 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 must, as relevant to candidates and/or this standard, reflect the peoples of the Pacific and other cultures, and their world views.

#### *Definitions*

Categories of welfare indicators – Welfare indicators across different categories. Categories include Physical environment, health, nutritional, behavioural. A mixture of animal-based indicators (e.g., play, socialisation, shivering, panting, coughing, wounds, body condition) and environment-based indicators (e.g., temperature, space allowance, air quality, flooring, feeding space).

*Worksite 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.

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

Achieved

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

Categories of behaviour

- Normal and positive behaviour: socialising, play, activity, resting, wallowing, eating, exploring, drinking
- Abnormal/undesirable behaviour: bullying, fighting, tail biting, flank biting, pen soiling
- Physical characteristics: sense of smell, hearing, field of vision, blind spot, point of balance

Low stress and safe handling and restraint

- Planned route ahead of moving ensure clear path, open/close gates, remove distractions
- Move quietly and calmly (Prohand process)
- Use of aides: boards, rattles, paddles, voice
- Restraint: boards, snares, head bail, holding/lifting

#### Routine husbandry procedures

- Supervision: veterinarian, competent skilled senior stockperson/manager
- Hygiene between pigs, well maintained appropriate equipment in good working order (tail docking, ear tagging, injecting, nose rings/clips, foot trimming, tusk trimming)
- Correct technique
- Adverse reaction/outcomes monitored and addressed (bleeding, swelling, infection)

#### Pig welfare indicators

- Direct (animal based): body condition, clinical signs, behaviour, posture, lesions
- Indirect (environment/resource based): dunging patterns, water and feed provision, space allowance, air quality, temperature

#### Rauemi | Resources

Legislation and codes of practice 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 Kounga | 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</b> <b>Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga  </b> CMR	0052

<b>Hātepe   Process</b>	<b>Putanga  </b> Version	<b>Rā whakaputa  </b> Review Date	<b>Rā whakamutunga</b> <b>mō te aromatawai  </b> Last date for assessment
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<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.