

National quality system criteria	Legislation requirements (reference)	Sikava's voluntary measures/actions	Documents and data of the quality system
1) Sikava as a tool in preventive health management among the swine farms	-	Maintenance, implementation, and development of a health monitoring system for swineherds	Quality in Finnish pork production Sikava's quality manual, registry description and rules
2) Health classification of swineherds	-	Classification of swineherds to basic, national or SPF level. The health classification is updated based on the data collected in Sikava	Health classification of swineherds is recorded in the database Sikava. It includes e.g. data from farm visits, health plan, laboratory results, meat inspection data and monitoring of medicine usage.
3) Terms of the national level	-	Voluntary measures that exceed the legal requirements	Introduction in English
4) Freedom from enzootic pneumonia	Obligation to notify (MMM regulation 325/2021)	Freedom from enzootic pneumonia must be demonstrated by sampling. Monitoring of signs at each farm visit in all swineherds. Entry of cough signs leads to a notification in the register.	Laboratory analysis results and farm visits in Sikava
5) Zero-tolerance for salmonella	Obligation to resist and notify (MMM regulation 325/2021). National control program, sampling focuses on slaughterhouses and cutting plants.	Freedom from salmonella demonstrated with on farm fecal sampling and follow-up sampling every 3 years, monitoring of signs at each farm visit	Laboratory analysis results and farm visits in Sikava
6) Sarcoptic mange, swine dysentery and atrophic rhinitis	Sarcoptic mange, atrophic rhinitis, and swine dysentery: no control measures mentioned in the legislation other than obligation to notify (MMM regulation 325/2021).	Freedom from dysentery, sarcoptic mange and atrophic rhinitis based on clinical examination when joining Sikava and monitoring of signs during farm visit	Laboratory analysis results and farm visits in the Sikava
7) Monitoring the presence of signs of the most common swine diseases	Obligation to notify diseases (MMM regulation 325/2021)	Monitoring each age group or production phase separately during each farm visit. A) SPF level requirements: Freedom from PMWS, and <i>Cl. perfringens</i> type C B) Monitoring diseases potentially affecting animal transportation (Swine influenza A, APP, and swine erysipelas) C) Monitoring infections affecting production (e.g., coccidiosis)	Data of the farm visits in Sikava
8) Parameters for responsible pork production	-	Mortality and partial or whole carcass condemnations of the sows and finishers are used as indicators of responsible pork production. If any of these indicators exceed limit values, actions are taken to improve the situation. Documentation of medicines used is monitored.	Data is collected from the register every six months and the exceedance of the limit values is shown in red in Sikava

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9) Health management agreement	A contract with a veterinarian is required only when veterinary medicines are dispensed to the farmer. No additional requirements to the veterinarian.	The agreement is always required when a farm joins Sikava. The veterinarian is required to attend a course arranged by the Sikava.	Sikava health management agreement in the register. List of veterinarians who have participated in the Sikava register training is available on the Sikava's website.
10) Authorization	-	In the health management agreement, the farmer authorizes other users (veterinarian(s), slaughterhouse users, advisors and Sikava's staff) to view the farm's data in Sikava.	Registry description Health management agreement and register
11) Frequency of farm visits	Frequency of the farm visits is determined by the decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMMa 17/14) if veterinary medicines are dispensed to the farmer.	Regular farm visits are required for all swineherds at the national level: Frequency of visits in farrowing farms is at least four times a year and in finishing farms three times a year or once / batch. The system will notify you if visits are not made regularly. If the visit is 7 weeks late, the health classification level is lowered to the basic level.	Sikava's rules Criteria for Health classification
12) Content of the farm visit	The content of the farm visit is defined for farms in the decree MMM 17/14 if medicines are dispensed. These requirements include less data than the Sikava's farm visit	During the visit, the health management veterinarian observes the circumstances and routines on the farms and the health and well-being of the animals. In addition, the veterinarian makes observations on the behavior of the animals and the success of pest control methods.	The herd veterinarian enters observations and remarks in Sikava.
13) Health plan	The content of the health management plan is defined for farms in the decree MMM 17/14 if medicines are dispensed.	Health plan for all farms at national level, updated in 2021. The annually updated plan includes data on animal welfare, disease control, medication, sampling, and production monitoring.	The health management veterinarian saves the health management plan in Sikava.
14) Setting an alert situation for the farm	Act on animal diseases (Act 76/2021) Obligation to notify animal diseases includes sarcoptic mange, atrophic rhinitis, swine dysentery, enzootic pneumonia, and salmonella.	In addition to an alert situation set for the farm, a notification is sent to the instances authorized by the farmer, in case of detected or suspected diseases related to the national level requirements or other alert situations. Notification is sent either by email, SMS message or as a message within the register. Lowering of the health classification is done if needed and proper measures are taken to normalize the situation.	Information on alert situations in Sikava, documentation of corrective actions
15) Protecting the farm from infectious diseases	Act on animal diseases 76/2021 a written description of the procedures at the primary production site	Biosecurity of the farms is evaluated at least once a year when preparing the health management plan and during the Biocheck-visit. It is recommended that persons taking care of the pigs do not hunt wild boar. ETT guidance, counseling, and information.	Sikava's health plan, ETT guidelines www.ett.fi , Sikava's news

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16) Instructions for purchasing animals in Finland	-	Farrowing herds (and farrow-to-finish herds) buy breeding animals from SPF level farms. Finisher herds take piglets only from herds at national level.	Health classification information in Sikava. Stricter health and biosecurity requirements for SPF level holdings. A public list of the SPF level farms in Sikava.
17) Data documentation and monitoring	Coverage in animal welfare control (3% of Finnish pig farms), cross-compliance control (1% of all subsidies), feed control (0.5% of all subsidies)	Centralized health classification register, Sikava, on the web, with up-to-date database and coverage of 97% of the commercial pork production	The history of health management activities is registered in a system from which information can be retrieved with various parameters
18) Audit of farm visits	-	Farm visits are audited by an internal independent body and by an external third party based on sampling.	Audit plan, audit reports
19) Farm-level notification system for animal health and welfare	-	Farm visit form has specific questions (including conditions) that can be set to send a notification if it is evaluated as poor.	Guidelines for alert situations and their follow-up. Reporting and preventive measures
20) Monitoring the use of medicines	Obligation to keep records of medicines used (MMM Regulation 21/14)	Medicine usage monitoring in Sikava. Annual summaries.	Medicine usage data in Sikava
21) Treatments codes for pigs	-	Sikava must use treatment codes for the reasons for using medicine.	Sikava maintains a list of treatments codes for pigs, which are used by, among others, veterinary and production monitoring programs through the Sikava interface.
22) Ensuring feed safety	Feed hygiene is monitored in Finland by the Finnish Food Authority.	A positive list is a voluntary way for the animal feed companies to minimize the spread of salmonella through feed to animals. The producer receives information from the ETT positive list of animal feed companies who operate above the legal level for salmonella and PED. Sikava requires the holding to comply with the ETT´s instructions in its own feed imports (internal market trade and third country imports). As of 6 November 2014, companies on the positive list have committed not to import pig plasma or feed containing it (PED risk).	The Positive list is an open list of animal feed companies, which fulfill additional criteria to ensure the safety of their products. The positive list is published on the ETT website and regularly in Maaseudun Tulevaisuus and Landsbygden Folk newspapers
23) Use of farm-specific health data as a tool for traceability	Food chain information (EY) N:o 853/2004	Sikava combines traceable data for the slaughterhouses to use.	Information on the health status of the holdings.

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24) Import of animals	<p>EU Animal Health Code 2016/429. Trade in pigs in the internal market is governed by Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/688. Finland has officially Aujezky's disease-free status in accordance with Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/620. In addition, the legislation on artificial insemination (Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/686) must be considered in the internal market trade in artificial insemination boars and semen.</p>	<p>When importing animals, semen and embryos, the farm shall follow the instructions of the Animal Health ETT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imported animals / semen are recommended to be imported only from PRRS-free countries, an exemption can only be granted based on the demonstration of adequate risk management measures with the permission of the ETT Board. - ETT import protocol includes detailed instructions on a case-by-case basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - statements from the farm of origin before the import - vaccination programs, health surveillance, animal transport at the farm of origin, disease control, location, and disease status of nearby pig farms - if applicable, an audit of the farm of origin by ETT - ETT-guided segregation at the farm of origin with sampling - ETT loading permit; only when the necessary documents from the farm of origin / quarantine / research laboratories have been obtained and checked - ETT requirements for domestic quarantine in imports: auditing, requirements for location and staff activities, sampling in domestic quarantine according to ETT guidelines - ETT approves the imported batch when the process has been conducted in accordance with the ETT instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ETT's general guidelines for imports www.ett.fi. - The importer receives import-specific instructions from ETT - ETT statistics on imports and detailed documentation per import lot in the ETT archives - Sikava´s database is used to monitor quarantine and separately the holdings to which semen is imported
25) Utilization of meat inspection data	<p>The decree of MMM 6/EEO/2012 (related to the documentation of the sick animals)</p>	<p>Meat inspection data is reviewed at farm visit, monitored as part of the requirements for responsible production</p>	<p>Meat inspection data in Sikava</p>
26) Informing of disease outbreaks and risks	<p>Information on transmissible animal diseases. Act on animal diseases 76/2021</p>	<p>Targeted internal communication e.g., via text messages, Sikava's website and Sikava's veterinary news</p>	<p>Sikava news / archives</p>
27) Continuous development and expertise of pig healthcare	<p>-</p>	<p>Consultation of the ETU Pig Expert Group on the coordination and development of health management at national level. Maintenance and development of staff expertise in swine health and diseases, and a good knowledge of pig farming in Finland and elsewhere</p>	<p>Meeting memos training for producers and veterinarians, training for staff</p>

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28) Specific crisis management measures	<p>The Animal Diseases Act only applies to listed, other prevented, controlled, or other animal diseases that must be informed to the officials.</p>	<p>In the event of an acute outbreak or suspicion, voluntary actions are done by the industry that go beyond the law on both officially controlled animal diseases and diseases that are voluntarily controlled. Examples of measures to prevent and control the spread of diseases are PED and the avoidance of wild boar hunting due to ASF risk. The industry has its own designated crisis management group.</p>	<p>The health management information on the farms in Sikava enables rapid risk assessment of the situation, traceability and planning and prioritization of sampling (effectiveness). The classification of pigs and their holdings, and the alert situation system are helpful in controlling animal transport organization. Sikava's farm-level notification and communication system enables rapid and targeted information to producers, veterinarians, and slaughterhouses.</p>
29) Biocheck.UGent® scoring tool as part of Sikava	<p>-</p>	<p>The Biocheck.UGent® is a risk-based scoring tool of most important biosecurity measures which has been integrated into the Sikava to assess the level of and to improve the biosecurity on the farm.</p>	<p>The Biocheck assessment can be found in Sikava's farm information under Farm visits and Plans. The result of the farm is compared with the average of the Finnish comparison farms.</p>
30) Welfare index	<p>-</p>	<p>The calculation of the swine welfare index is based on observations made during farm visits and parameters for responsible pork production. The indices are calculated semi-annually using the data from the past year. For comparison to describe the recent trend, an index based on the most recent farm visit is also calculated. The index shows the level of animal welfare on the farm compared to the average of all Sikava farm indices. The result of the index is illustrated in Sikava with a graph describing the level of the index in the colors of traffic lights (green-yellow-red).</p>	<p>The welfare index can be found in Sikava's farm data under Farm visits and Plans. The index shows the level of animal welfare on the farm compared to the average of all Sikava farm indices.</p>