

Dry and warm pig facility

A pig facility must be dry and warm when pigs are transferred. If it is cold and wet, the pigs will use body heat, and thereby feed, to dry the room. This weakens their immune defence, which in turn increases the risk of disease.

Drying

- Remove visible water and turn up the heat after wash and disinfection. Use a heat cannon to supplement room and floor heat
- A heat cannon uses approx. **0.5 litre oil per m²**
- Set the temperature as high as possible, preferably above 30°C
- Set ventilation output to 5-15% of maximum ventilation
- Heat cannon must be equipped with thermostat (set to 1-2°C below room temperature)

Hours for drying (guiding)	Heat cannon (output)	
	25,000 kcal/h 29 kW	38,000 kcal/h 44 kW
Section size (example)		
300 weaners 160 m ²	20 hrs	13 hrs
400 finishers 300 m ²	36 hrs	24 hrs

Is the facility dry?

- Floor/slat temperature must be identical to room temperature; use a surface thermometer
- Place a piece of plastic on the floor: if the floor underneath is still wet 1 hour later, the room is not dry

Adjust the temperature to the size of the pigs before transfer

Guiding temperatures in weaner accommodation

Weight (kg)	Temperature under cover (°C)	Floor under cover (°C)	Room temperature* (°C)
5.5	31-32	32	25-26
6.0	30-31	32	24
7.0	29-30	32	24
8.5	28-29	32	23
11.0	27-28	32	22
15.0	26-27	-	21
25.0	24-25	-	16-18

* Adjust room temperature to achieve the desired temperature under the cover.



Drying with a heat cannon



When the facility is dry and the temperature right, weaners lie under the cover in one layer facing the pen

A wet floor feels cold

If the pigs lie on a wet floor, temperature must be increased by 5-10°C

Efficient drying

- Warm air holds more water than cold air
- Drying must take place at **high** temperatures and **low** ventilation output