

H13 - Weighing pigs



Weight close to the floor



The pigs are squeezed together



The pigs are led onto the weight individually



The pig's weight is written on its back.

1. Try to weigh pigs for slaughter at the same time of the day and have the same person doing it.
2. Do not weigh pigs fed restrictively for slaughter immediately after feeding.
3. Place the weight close to the floor.
4. Weigh the pigs by letting the pigs from one pen into the inspection alley and squeezing them together at the end of the inspection alley. Open the gate to the weight, lead the pigs into the weight, weigh and spray mark them, and let them out in the opposite end. The pigs will run at full speed back to the pen (keep the pen gate open - outwards).
5. Use the table showing the correlation between live-weight and carcase weight and days until slaughter.
6. Pay close attention to current weight limits! Also in specialised productions.
7. Approx. 7-8 weeks after transfer (at 30-32 kg), weigh fast-growing pigs in the section, and spray mark the result on the back of the pig. Use these pigs as indicators of when pigs from this batch can be delivered for slaughter.
8. Weighing for slaughter in the coming week: weigh 2-3 pigs in each pen and spray mark their weight in their back. Use these pigs as "benchmark pigs" and count the other pigs ready for slaughter in the pen **or** weigh all pigs in the pens in question and spray mark them.
9. It is also possible to weigh for 2 weeks' delivery: weigh all pigs and not just "benchmark pigs". Use different colours spray mark to be able to tell pigs for the different weeks apart. Do not use red colour spray as that wears off fairly fast.
10. Use a tattoo hammer with disinfected, sharp needles and ink.
11. Respirators are recommended.



- Exclusively determining pigs' weight by eye is expensive! Often, too few pigs have reached the optimum slaughter weight. Deductions for overweight or underweight are expensive.

| Additional comments - Weighing pigs | |
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| 1. | <p>Delivery to Danish Crown: slaughter information is available by telephone the day after delivery or via the website 'Landmandsportalen'.</p> <p>Delivery to other slaughterhouses in Denmark or to Germany: make an agreement with the slaughterhouse or exporter to receive slaughter information from the previous delivery before deciding on the next one. This information is important before the next weighing.</p> |
| 2. | Weigh pigs 2-3 hours after feeding as the earliest. |
| 3. | If the difference in levels between floor and weight is too high, it may be difficult to get the pigs to walk onto the weight. |
| 4. | The optimum slaughter weight depends on the settlement model / slaughter company, pig price and feed price. Your pig advisor will help calculate the optimum slaughter weight and slaughter strategy. |
| 5. | The result can be correlated with a guiding table illustrating the correlation between live weight and slaughtered weight and days until pick-up for slaughter. |
| 6. | Changes in weight limits in connection with, for instance, holidays may affect the weight limit for 4-6 weeks around the holidays. |
| 10. | It is important that the tattoos are placed correctly on both hams of the pig. Illegible or missing tattoos will result in deductions from the settlement price. Check that all needles in the numbers of the tattoo hammer are intact. |