



# ANIMAL CARE PROGRAM

## GUIDANCE: PORK PRODUCERS

### Purpose

This guidance explains the requirements of 1) California pork producers<sup>1</sup> keeping a breeding pig<sup>2</sup> for the purpose of producing whole pork meat<sup>3</sup> from the breeding pig or its immediate offspring and 2) pork producers outside of California keeping a breeding pig for the purpose of producing whole pork meat from the breeding pig or its immediate offspring for commercial sale<sup>4</sup> in California.

### Scope

All California pork producers and pork producers outside of California keeping breeding pigs for the purpose of producing whole pork meat from the breeding pig or its immediate offspring for commercial sale in California must confine the covered animal<sup>5</sup> during its production cycle<sup>6</sup> on a certified operation<sup>7</sup> (farm) in compliance with the [Animal Confinement regulations](#).

### Instructions

A pork producer must:

- 1) Meet the confinement requirements for keeping a breeding pig.
- 2) Have a valid Certificate of Compliance<sup>8</sup> for each farm location where breeding pigs are kept.
- 3) Renew Certificate of Compliance annually.

#### 1) Confinement of Breeding Pigs

- Confine a breeding pig in an enclosure<sup>9</sup> that does not prevent the breeding pig from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs<sup>10</sup>, or turning around freely<sup>11</sup>.

### AND

- Confine a breeding pig in an enclosure that provides a minimum of 24 square feet of usable floorspace<sup>12</sup> per breeding pig.
- Exceptions<sup>13</sup> to these confinement requirements.

During examination, testing, individual treatment, or operation for veterinary purposes.

During transportation.

During rodeo exhibitions, state or county fair exhibitions, 4-H programs, and similar exhibitions.

During slaughter.

During temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes for no more than six hours in any 24-hour period, and no more than 24 hours total in any 30-day period.

<sup>1</sup>Pork producer as defined in [3 CCR § 1322\(u\)](#).

<sup>2</sup>Breeding pig as defined in [3 CCR § 1322©](#).

<sup>3</sup>Whole pork meat as defined in [3 CCR § 1322\(ee\)](#).

<sup>4</sup>Commercial sale as defined in [3 CCR § 1322\(f\)](#).

<sup>5</sup>Covered animal as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(h\)](#).

<sup>6</sup>Production cycle as defined in [3 CCR § 1322\(v\)](#).

<sup>7</sup>Certified operation as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(e\)](#).

<sup>8</sup>Certificate of compliance as described in [3 CCR § 1326\(d\)](#) and used throughout Animal Confinement regulations.

<sup>9</sup>Enclosure as defined in [3 CCR § 1322\(n\)](#).

<sup>10</sup>Fully extending its limbs as defined in [HSC § 25991\(k\)](#).

<sup>11</sup>Turning around freely as defined in [HSC § 25991\(q\)](#).

<sup>12</sup>Usable floorspace as defined in [3 CCR § 1322\(dd\)](#).

<sup>13</sup>Exceptions as described in [3 CCR §§ 1324-1324.1](#).



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- Note: there is no requirement for breeding pigs to be kept in groups, but a pork producer may choose to keep breeding pigs in groups which is permitted provided all confinement requirements are met.

### 2) Obtain a Certificate of Compliance

- A valid certification in the form of a Certificate of Compliance issued by an accredited certifying agent<sup>14</sup>, CDFA, or another governmental entity<sup>15</sup>, identifies a farm as confining breeding pigs and maintaining production records in accordance with the Animal Confinement regulations.
- To initiate the process for certification, a pork producer must:
  - Apply for certification
    - Certification may be obtained from an accredited certifying agent, CDFA, or another government entity.
    - Certification is required by January 1, 2024.
  - Pass an on-site inspection<sup>16</sup>
    - The on-site inspection is used to assess whether each farm location complies with the Animal Confinement regulations and to verify information provided on the application for certification of the operation's activities is accurate and truthful.
  - Maintain records<sup>17</sup>
    - For a period of 2 years from their creation to document breeding pigs were confined in compliance with the Animal Confinement regulations.

### 3) Renew Certificate of Compliance Annually

- To continue certification and compliance with Animal Confinement regulations, a pork producer must annually submit renewal information<sup>18</sup> to the certifying agent for the purpose of renewing a Certificate of Compliance.
- An on-site inspection must be conducted by the certifying agent at least once every 12 months for each pork producer location keeping breeding pigs to determine whether certification of the pork producer should continue.

<sup>14</sup>Certifying agent as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(f\)](#).

<sup>15</sup>Governmental entity as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(n\)](#).

<sup>16</sup>On-site inspection as described in [3 CCR § 1326.5](#).

<sup>17</sup>Records as defined in [3 CCR § 1326\(w\)](#) and described in [3 CCR § 1326.2](#).

<sup>18</sup>Renewal information as described in [3 CCR § 1326.8\(a\)](#).