

# EFP PIG MODULE

We were proud to relaunch the European Farm Partnership (EFP) pig module, version 2 released in August 2021. It is the only accredited standard of its kind for Europe and covers the entire supply chain; breeding, rearing, finishing, transport and slaughter. Fundamentally, the standard is for higher welfare systems and takes into account health and welfare factors such as non-confinement, increased space with stimulating environments and avoiding unnecessary mutilations. The standard covers antibiotic usage and medicine, feed, veterinary procedures, biosecurity and pest control.

As a result, all farms which are audited against the pig module (in France, Italy, Spain, Holland and Germany) will meet or exceed current UK supermarket or retail requirements. An extensively and thoroughly researched document, V2 of the EFP standard was revised and adapted by our animal welfare specialists, presented to an expert technical working group and assessed and approved by UKAS. Continuation of the accreditation process involves desk-based reviews, on-farm audits, on-site slaughterhouse audits, scrutiny of report writing and Key Performance Indicators analysis, witness assessing of the auditors: all of which are carried out by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS).

The UKAS-accredited EFP Pig module (UKAS ISO/IEC 17065:2012), is audited by certification body KIWA Agri Food, on behalf of The Compleat Food Group. KIWA have high expectations for the auditors with strict requirements on training, experience and knowledge with thorough report writing and level of information to be recorded.

The Compleat Food Group animal welfare team witness assess all auditors across different farm types and slaughterhouses across the different countries on a regular basis. The European Farm Partnership brings together farmers, suppliers, industry partners and retailers and lays the foundation for the standard. TCFG use Authenticate for supply chain mapping, traceability and transparency. The platform gives total transparency of the continental meats supply chains at individual SKU levels, linking customers through final packer, manufacturer, primary processor and back to farm. The platform links with KIWA to enable all EFP audit reports, certificates and KPI data is collated, managed and reviewed regularly.



THE  
**COMPLEAT**  
**FOOD** GROUP

## KIWA

Lisa Williams  
Kiwa Agri Food, Business Unit Leader

TCFG European Farm Partnership (EFP) Pig Welfare Standard was launched in 2018. The comprehensive EFP standards underpin the pig industry's strength and credibility, as the demand for food traceability and growing consumer awareness of animal welfare continues to rise. The Compleat Food Group is an industry leader in animal health and welfare, enhancing consumer trust in pork products traceability and safety.

## CIWF

Dr Tracey Jones  
Director of Food Business at Compassion in World Farming

The Compleat Food Group (TCFG) have been working with Compassion In World Farming since 2012 in promoting and improving animal welfare practices in the pig industry. Their unique Gold, Silver, Bronze (UKAS accredited ISO:17065) animal welfare certification scheme for their continental meat suppliers has driven welfare improvements helping Winterbotham Darby (now TCFG) to secure cage-free commitments across their European supply chain. This scheme has shown promising results, particularly in countries like Italy, Spain and France with their continental partners leading the way on animal health and welfare. The huge investment and commitment is a major step forward for pig welfare in the Continental meat sector and thanks to TCFG higher welfare is now a commercial reality in Europe.

## TCFG

Maria Murillo-Mariscal  
Group Head of Farm Assurance, TCFG

Through a collaborative effort, working with our supply partners, farmers, customers as well as industry experts and NGO's, we have been able to successfully run the only pig welfare standard of its kind for over 5 years now. While taking into consideration the different production systems, the tiers allow us to encourage farmers to continually improve their standards which reflects our ambition to implement ever higher standards in the sector and advance animal welfare across different regions within Europe.

## AUTHENTICATE

Alex Walters CEO at Authenticate IS

We've had the pleasure of collaborating extensively with TCFG for over 15 years. Throughout this period, they've effectively integrated several of our foundational technologies to achieve profound visibility within their supply chain. This integration has enabled them to efficiently capture a diverse spectrum of mission-critical data throughout the entire chain. They gain real-time access to data spanning all the way back to source, providing them with the capability to comprehend a wide array of essential metrics that support Animal Welfare and allow them to continuously monitor and improve Welfare Standards.



# EFP TIERS & STANDARDS

WD Pig Scheme: The WD pig scheme was developed in 2000 and version 1 was released in 2004. This standard was way ahead of EU legislation with the main higher welfare requirement that stalls were prohibited 4 weeks after insemination. This only came into effect in the EU in 2013.

EFP Pig Module V1: The first pan-European accredited standard for welfare, comprising of three tiers; bronze, silver and gold – launched April 2018. Farms certified to the gold tier operate to the highest welfare standards in Europe. What is unique about our pig module is that our standard covers the entire element of the supply chain; breeding (freedom farrowing, space etc.), rearing, finishing, transport and slaughter. It also takes into account health & welfare – commitment (space, light, no surgical procedures) antibiotic usage & medicine, feed, veterinary procedures, biosecurity, pest control.

EFP Pig Module V2: To continue this development the EFP V2 incorporates 3 levels of certification – Bronze, Silver and Gold for the slaughter house section with revised and new clauses for Bronze, Silver and Gold in the farming sections.

All farms and slaughterhouses are required to meet the Bronze standard but can demonstrate their higher welfare achievements by meeting additional Silver and Gold standards. Individual customer requirements will be included as ‘bolt on modules’ as and when required and will be confidential to the individual sites.

## EFP BRONZE TIER

Based on the previous WD Pig Scheme and EFP V1

The bronze standard is considered to be above legislation and in line with / above Red Tractor standard. The main areas above are as follows:

- Freedom farrowing
- Non-confinement insemination
- No surgical castration
- No teeth clipping / grinding
- No tail docking
- Bedding being provided at all stages

We thought it was important to recognise and reward the farms that had been working to the WD Pig Scheme over past years by having the EFP accredited bronze tier standard equivalent to the WD Pig Scheme Standard.



## EFP SILVER TIER

EFP Bronze plus trials on the aspirational clauses from the WD Pig Scheme.

Significant trials underway for the higher welfare gold tier commitments:

- Moved into farrowing crates 5 days prior to farrow (rather than 7).
- Higher space requirements for sows and gilts.
- Increased daily checks at breeding farms
- Increased vet visits
- The scheme includes the abattoir / stunning / slaughter / killing

In addition the following areas are higher than the EFP Bronze Tier:

- Space requirements at all stages
- Environmental enrichment
- Emergency water supply
- Fallen stock management
- Farm plan requirements
- Bio security plan additions
- Water testing
- Soya, palm and fishmeal specifications
- Increased wet feeding requirements



## EFP GOLD TIER

All higher welfare gold tier requirements in place:

- 100% freedom farrowing
- 100% non-confinement insemination
- 100% no surgical castration
- 100% no teeth clipping / grinding
- 100% no tail docking
- 100% bedding being provided at all stages

In addition the following areas are higher than the EFP Silver Tier:

- Increased space requirements at all stages
- Water testing
- Emergency water supply
- Air testing
- Unit plan and corrective actions
- Strict delivery rules
- Increased welfare during transport (drinkers, ventilation, bedding)
- Increased wet feeding requirements
- Antibiotic usage

