

Swine

Ohio Livestock Care Standards



Ohio Department of Agriculture
Division of Animal Health
8995 E. Main St.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

614-728-6220
animal@agri.ohio.gov

www.agri.ohio.gov

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
James Zehringer, Director

Ohio | Department of Agriculture

General Housing

- All sows and boars in stalls or pens **must** be able to lie down fully on their sides without their heads having to rest on a feeder or have the rear quarters come in contact with the back of the stall or pen at the same time.
- An animal **must** be allowed to stand up without its back touching the top of the stall or pen.
- Farrowing stalls **must** be designed to maximize piglet welfare.
- Sows farrowing outdoors **must** be provided shade in hot weather, shelter from prevailing winds, or a regular, ample supply of bedding to minimize frost bite in cold weather.

Housing Transition

- Group housing methods for pregnant sows (after confirmation of pregnancy) **must** be used by the end of the year 2025.
- The mixing of animals must be done in a manner which **minimizes** aggression and the risk of injury.
- Gestation stalls for pregnant sows can be used in all existing facilities until December 31, 2025. After that time, gestation stalls can only be used until the confirmation of pregnancy.
- Any new construction or new construction on an existing facility cannot use gestation stalls *except* to maximize embryonic welfare until the confirmation of pregnancy.
- Beginning January 1, 2026, individual stall housing will be permitted only for special circumstances, such as to treat an injury or to separate frail, thin or aggressive swine that jeopardize their own welfare or the welfare of other pigs.

Care, Handling and Transportation

- Tusk trimming is acceptable if performed in a humane manner and care is taken to cut the tusks level with the gums without damaging the gums.
- Only hand-held, 50 volt or less, battery-operated electric prods can be used to facilitate the movement of swine weighing more than 35 lbs.
- When transporting, the animals must be able to stand in their natural position without touching the top of the transport conveyance.
- If it is necessary to transport a sow with her suckling litter, the sow must be segregated from all other animals during transport and the litter must be protected appropriately.

To download a more comprehensive overview of Ohio's livestock care standards, please visit www.ohiolivestockcarestandards.gov