

# SAFE HANDLING OF PIGS

**Safe handling has to be learned. Talk to new as well as experienced employees about good practices**

## Be calm, but ready to react

Walk calmly and be ready to pull back a bit, to prevent the animals from being scared and feeling pressured

## Do not turn the boar into a pet

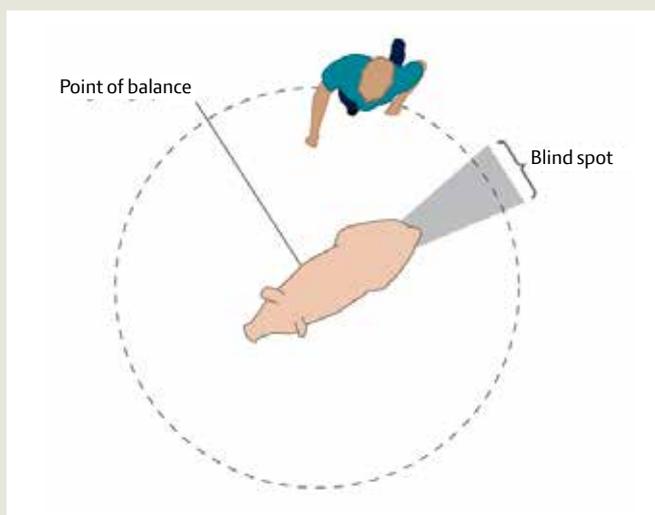
The boar has to know that you are the boss. A good boar can react surprisingly violent, if you suddenly take charge and have not done so before – eg if you need to separate him from a group of sows

**27 %**  
of all work-related accidents at pig farms occur when moving large farm animals!

## TYPICAL ACCIDENTS

- Crushed or pinned between animal and equipment
- Bitten or hit by the boars head
- Run down

## Keep your distance



When driving the animals, you should keep your distance. You are too close, if you can touch the rear animal, and if you pat or push it, it will turn around stopping the momentum. Walk behind the animals to one side, thus enabling the rear animals to see you all the time.

Respect the **flight zone** when you are moving the animals. Animals prefer to walk with a certain distance to you. This distance is called the animal's flight zone. The distance varies depending on the situation and the animal's experience with you. When you walk with a distance, it calms the animal and increases your own safety.

To make an animal move forward, the handler must be behind the point of balance at the shoulder. To get the animal to move backwards, the handler must stand in front of the point of balance. Stay out of the **blind spot**, unless you want the animal to turn around. It prefers being able to see you all the time.



See short videos and good tips on this theme page. Keep updated on working environment and agriculture on Facebook/AgriSafety and [landbrugogsikkerhed.dk](http://landbrugogsikkerhed.dk)

# GAIN USEFUL INFORMATION FROM THE ACCIDENT

## "It was a random accident!" – or was it?

We can learn far more from accidents and near-by accidents than you would think. Why did it go wrong – exactly this time? What was different?

### EXAMINE IT. MAYBE THERE WERE SEVERAL REASONS FOR THE ACCIDENT:

Start by having everyone present as it happened describe the accident. What happened and why? Examine the reasons step by step.



### EXAMPLE

Jens fell 3 m from a ladder when looking into the feed mixer.

He broke an ankle and sprained his wrist – total absence 5 weeks. Risk of permanent injuries. Could this be avoided? Let's examine it!

WHY?	EXPLANATION	SOLUTION
Why was he on the ladder?	He wanted to see if the feed mixture was ready.	Camera monitoring
Why did the ladder fall over?	The ladder slipped on the floor where straw residues were spilled.	Sweep up before the ladder is set up
The ladder was set with too much angle and it was not fastened at the top. Why was the ladder set with too much angle?	The ladder was a little too long – it would have hit the roof construction standing more vertical.	Use a shorter ladder
Why wasn't the ladder fastened?	The ladder is moved away when not in use.	Hooks for quick fastening

**Choose the realistic solutions and make clear agreements on how to do it**

### STEPS OF ACCIDENT PREVENTION

Assess how to prevent the causes of the accident



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