

Hospital pens

According to the law hospital pens should be present in all herds. Experience shows that it is necessary that the number of hospital pens corresponds to min. 2 % of the total number of place units.

Requirements for hospital pens:

- Minimum one hospital pen must at all times be ready for use.
- Min. 2/3 of the total minimum floor area must have soft bedding. The soft bed may consist of a rubber mat or sufficient amounts of bedding (that prevent the animals from getting into contact with the floor).
- Hospital pens for sows and gilts can hold up to three animals.
- The pen must have cooling facilities and a source of heat - draughts must be avoided.
- Minimum floor area as listed below:

GROUP OF ANIMALS	MINIMUM FLOOR AREA, M ² PER ANIMAL	
	One animal	More than one animal
Sows and gilts	3,50	2,80
7-15 kg	0,41	0,36
15-30 kg	0,69	0,58
30-60 kg	1,14	0,91
60-100 kg	1,70	1,29
100- 130 kg	2,05	1,53
210-150 kg	2,28	1,69



Hospital pen for sows/gilts where a mat is used as soft bedding.

- Due to practical reasons, these hospital pens should be located in the gestation/service facility.
- Cooling facilities can be established through a sprinkling system or a cool, solid concrete floor on which the animals can lie.



Hospital pen for weaners/finishers where straw is used as soft bedding.

- Hospital pens should be located in a separate facility.
- The pigs must have easy access to feed and water in the pen. To maintain a high level of hygiene, dry feed should be used.