

The three hotspots of the farm - quantify the risk

Focusing on a practical approach to on-farm biosecurity, it is necessary to prioritize the measures to be taken, since in the framework of this project, it is considered crucial for experts to focus on three specific points of pig farms that could congregate most of the risk:

- Weaned piglets pen
- Animal disposal site
- Quarentine zone

In the midst of the fast-paced world of animal husbandry, this project reveals practical strategies to reinforce biosecurity on pig farms. To confirm this, we measured staff movements using Biorisk®. By applying it, the main and most common malpractices are identified and quantified.

The most widespread bad practices observed so far have been visits to hotspots without any biosecurity routines, to weaned piglets before going to the farrowing pen and recurrent movements to dispose of dead animals. It was also observed that higher percentage of risky movements occur in medium-sized farms, compared to small and large size. There are also more irregularities in movements during critical weeks of the batch farrowing system.

By improving these points, farmers can strengthen the protection of their farms against disease threats and ensure the welfare of their livestock, paving the way to a disease-free environment.

The goal is to provide farmers with the essential knowledge needed to achieve maximum results while conserving resources and efforts.



Main recommendations:

- Always leave the visits to quarantine by the end of the day
- Do not go back from the weaned piglets to farrowing sows
- Dispose of the dead animals the fewer times possible, ideally first thing in the morning and at the end of the day

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