
2019 UPDATES TO THE COMMON SWINE INDUSTRY AUDIT

The U.S. pork industry has successfully implemented the Common Swine Industry Audit since its introduction in October 2014. Every year, the Industry Audit Task Force has reviewed helpful feedback from producers, packers, auditors and customers as a way to help clarify and revise portions of the audit. As before, the Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization (PAACO) has certified the new edition of the audit, which is now available to the public.

The Common Swine Industry Audit serves as a single, common audit platform for the pork industry. The overarching goal of the common audit process remains the same in the revised edition: **to provide consumers greater assurance of the care taken by farmers and pork processors to improve animal well-being and food safety.** The audit tool builds on the existing Pork Quality Assurance® Plus (PQA Plus®) program and is an integral component of the continuous improvement process. The standards within the Common Swine Industry Audit include 27 key aspects of swine care and pre-harvest pork safety through all phases of production. The four areas reviewed during an audit are records, animals, facilities and caretakers. These principles have not changed with the 2019 version of the Common Swine Industry Audit.

The majority of the changes to the Common Swine Industry Audit for 2018 are clarifications to the standard. There are no new questions or required records in this edition. The details of the updated document include:

Animal Observations:



- Information on electric prod use was added to the animal handling section for consistency with the transport/load-out section.
- The term “deep wound” was changed to “open wound” to clarify that these wounds are not serious injuries. The definition remains unchanged.
- The statement, “Electric prods must not be used on suckling piglets or on the day of weaning.” was added to the Animal Abuse section of the audit standard.

Record-keeping:



- The standard for medication storage was modified to clearly indicate a written SOP or written veterinarian recommendation is required for medications stored in a manner inconsistent with the medication’s label.
- The standard for needle usage was modified to clearly indicate that needles found on-farm that do not meet the PQA Plus recommendations require a written SOP or written veterinarian recommendation.
- The standard for internal site assessments was modified to clearly indicate that veterinarians may perform a site’s internal site assessment.

Visit pork.org/commonaudit for access to all of the current Common Swine Industry Audit materials. In addition to the English and Spanish versions of the audit documents, producers will find several resources and training materials to help them prepare for an audit under the Resources tab on pork.org/commonaudit. For questions related to the Common Swine Industry Audit, please call the National Pork Board Service Center at 1-800-456-7675.