

Deliverables of the COREPIG project are management tools based on the HACCP principle (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points). These tools help farmers (in a farm specific way) to solve and prevent problems with endoparasites, reproduction and farrowing problems, weaning diarrhoea and suckling piglet mortality. They are available as Microsoft Excel® files. We recommend that the tools be used by the farmer together with the farm's advisor or veterinarian.

Each tool contains instructions for use and consists of three parts:

- i) a questionnaire for the farmer,
- ii) a check list to be used in the barn and
- iii) the farm specific report.

## Description of the HACCP tool

The **questionnaire** collects information on the farm conditions and farm management that are relevant to weaning diarrhoea.

management			
weaning	Do piglets stay in suckling area for >48 hours after weaning?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no
weaning	Do you wean piglets <8 kg?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no
weaning	Do you separate weak piglets / runts in an extra pen?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no
mixing	Do you mix weaners of different litters at weaning?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no

The **checklist** serves to record the situation in the barn.

weaner husbandry			
space	Are pens big enough? (>40 days and until 30 kg: 0.6 sqm total area indoors plus 0.4 sqm outdoor run)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no
comfort	Do weaners have a nest of at least 0.2 sqm / piglet?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no
comfort	Is the nest bedded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input type="checkbox"/>	no
comfort	Is the weaner lying area drafty?	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no

The farm specific **report** has three parts.

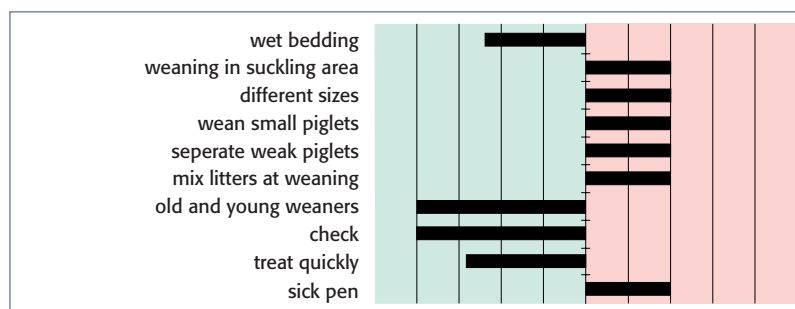
### 1) List of preventive measures already implemented on the farm (with explanation of their causal relationship)

Area	Category	Key-word	Reasoning / causation
Weaner husbandry	infections	weaners separate	Separate housing promotes hygiene, as germs from older animals can not be directly transmitted.
Weaner husbandry	space	pen size	The more space available the less stress there will be from aggressive encounters. It also promotes exercise and general health, and reduces pressure of infectious diseases. Organic EC-guidelines recommend: piglets >40 days and up to 30 kg: 0,6 m <sup>2</sup> total indoor area plus 0,4 m <sup>2</sup> outdoor run
Weaner husbandry	comfort	heated nest	Warm nests encourage piglets to lie down and rest which boosts the immune system.

### 2) List of high impact hazards which should be changed (plus recommendations for improvement)

Area	Category	Current situation	Reasoning / causation	Solutions
Management	wean small piglets	Do you wean piglets <8 kg? - yes	Very lightweight piglets are more susceptible to diseases. They are among the first to become sick and then pose a health hazard to other piglets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If possible adapt weaning age to piglet weight, but don't forget sow body condition.</li> <li>▶ Separate small piglets at weaning.</li> </ul>
Management	old and young weaners	Do you mix weaners of different ages? - no	Older piglets can transfer diseases unto younger ones. In addition, younger piglets are usually displaced from resources (feed, water, lying space).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Leave piglets in groups of same age.</li> </ul>

### 3) Overview of the farm's 'strengths and weaknesses' (regarding weaning diarrhoea)



Bars to the left (green) indicate preventive measures already being applied while bars to the right (red) point out aspects which increase weaning diarrhoea on the farm. The longer the bar the stronger the impact.