



# Target

# Farm

# Action

A monthly digest of practical advice for pig farmers from BPEX

## Protect pigs, prevent injury

Tired buildings, the destructive nature of pigs and lack of time can mean internal fixtures and fittings become an injury risk, to both pigs and staff. Producers should make sure time is spent checking and maintaining their pig buildings to prevent injuries occurring.

This is especially important in continuous flow buildings. Keeping on top of maintenance is part of assurance scheme standards; there should be no sharp or potentially hazardous fittings that could lead

to injury - and potentially hospitalisation and loss of production.

Start by making a simple plan to improve maintenance and reduce risk of injury. Think about the following:

How does your system work now? Do you have a maintenance person? Is it the department heads responsibility or does the person cleaning and disinfecting check the building? Talk to your team today to improve your system; stock people will have the best idea of where the risk areas are.



## How to save shed loads of time...



Getting organised on farm can save a lot of time, improve efficiency and increase work place motivation. To deal with a space issue in the farrowing department, one unit purchased a self assembly shed for just over £160 from a building trade supplier and located it at the end of the farrowing houses.

This store holds the consumables required for farrowings, such as paper bedding, gloves and lube. Having a desk means the store shed also doubles up as an administration area where all the records can be updated quickly and easily.

"I was very impressed with this idea and it has added a sense of professionalism to the newly invested farrowing department. It means everyone knows where all the required kit is to make life a lot simpler and improve biosecurity," says Helen Thoday, BPEX KT Manager.

## Farm tours, training and trips overseas

### BPEX Autumn Calendar begins

Autumn is upon us and the BPEX Calendar is filling up fast with over 60 events across England. The diverse programme will feature:

- Stockman training events
- Benchmarking groups
- Overseas trips
- Virtual and actual farm tours
- Man management training

The events are run at various times of the day

and are designed for all members of the pig business, so there should be something for everyone.

The wide-ranging topics include: Designing an outdoor unit, Back to Basics and straw based finisher management.

Video footage will be a new feature for many of our meetings.

The KT Team has been out over the summer to capture videos of the innovation

funds, farm visits, new pieces of equipment and best practice, which bring producers one step closer to seeing these things for themselves.

If you would like to get involved, please speak to your regional KT Manager, look at the BPEX calendar or check out the producer group interactive map in the practical advice area of the BPEX website.



### Productivity carousel

The BPEX Action for Productivity series is now online in a brand new 'carousel' library, so practical production advice is much more visible and easy to find. You will have fun using the new interactive web format and find lots of practical tips on a range of pig production topics.

Also look out for new Action for Productivity sheets to be added soon, focusing on: farrowing; live weight gain and post-weaning mortality; pigs born alive and pre-weaning mortality. To browse the library visit the publications area of the BPEX website: <http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/archives/bpex/>

For more information contact Miriam Drewett on 0247 647 8794 email [miriam.drewett@bpex.org.uk](mailto:miriam.drewett@bpex.org.uk)

