

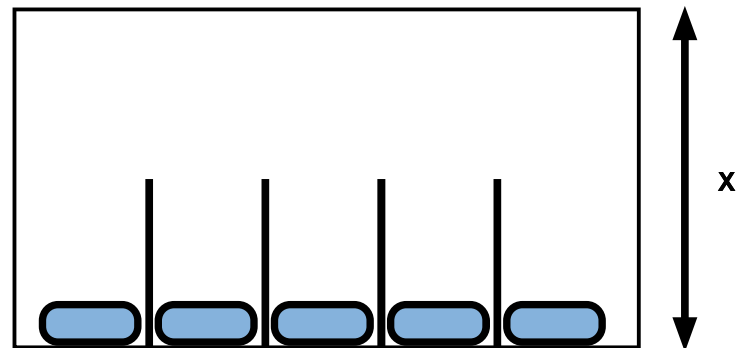
DRY SOW HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

It is a legal requirement of the Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007 and a requirement of Red Tractor that pens housing a group of sows/gilts must have sides longer than 2.8m, except where there are six or fewer sows/gilts in which case the sides must be no less than 2.4m in length.

It is also a legal requirement that a pig must be free to turn around without difficulty at all times, and this should be borne in mind when considering whether the pen size for a group of sows is sufficient.

What measurements are needed for pens housing groups of sows/gilts?

When auditing this requirement Red Tractor assessors will measure pen sides only (X) and not the ends (pen width). Measurements will be taken along the internal length of the pen side without subtracting any furniture such as stalls or feed troughs.



Pen divisions

If the pen is divided in any way, but is capable of allowing the free movement of sows and gilts then it is appropriate to measure the total pen side length (X). If a gate is used to separate areas of the pen, for example during cleaning, assessors will check that all the pigs can lie down at the same time in the area they are temporarily separated into.

