

Sanitation and hygiene of Piggery farm

Farm sanitation aims to break infection cycles, lower pig stress, and protect workers and neighbors. These include

- (1) clean design and drainage,
- (2) daily cleanliness (pens, feed, water),
- (3) disinfection and vector control, and
- (4) people/process discipline.

Site layout and drainage

A hygienic farm starts with placement. Pens should be on slightly elevated, well-drained ground, with concrete floors laid to a 1–2% slope leading to a covered drain that empties into a manure pit/biogas plant.

Pen hygiene: a standard cleaning cycle :

1. Dry clean: Leftover feed, manure, bedding, and dust should be removed with scrapers/brushes.
2. Detergent wash: Low-pressure soaking, then scrubbing with a farm detergent loosens biofilms. Rinse from top to bottom.
3. Disinfect: Effective groups include oxidizing agents (e.g., peroxygen/peracetic acid), chlorine (freshly made hypochlorite), iodophors etc.
4. Drying/downtime: Pens should be allowed to dry fully. Sunlight and dryness are natural disinfectants.

Water hygiene :

Dirty waterlines spread scours and respiratory disease. Use of nipple drinkers to minimize contamination and spillage is recommended. Maintenance of free chlorine at ~2–4 ppm in drinking water is recommended.. Tanks should be covered and elevated, clean quarterly, and should be protected from bird droppings and leaves.

Feed hygiene and storage

Feed is a frequent vehicle for pathogens and toxins. We should Buy fresh, mold-free ingredients. We should keep sacks off the floor on pallets; ensure rooms are dry, ventilated, and rodent-proof.

Vector and vermin control

Flies, mosquitoes, rodents, and stray animals are sanitation failures in disguise. Surroundings should be kept weed-free, drains flowing, and surfaces dry. Use of bait stations along walls for rats, hanging fly traps and use of approved larvicides in soak pits are recommended

Waste handling and effluent

Manure is a resource if managed, a pathogen pump if not. Slurry should be directed to a covered biogas unit or lined compost pit. Solid manure can be composted and the stabilized compost used on fields or sold. Effluent must pass a settling and treatment step before discharge. Raw effluent should not be allowed to reach streams

Disinfectant selection and use :

- Chlorine (bleach): Strong, cheap; inactivated by organic matter; make fresh daily.
- Peroxygen/peracetic acid: Excellent against a wide range, good in cool water, penetrates biofilms.
- Iodophors: Good on clean surfaces, gentle on equipment.
