



Swine Innovation Porc



Centre de développement du porc du Québec inc.



PRAIRIE SWINE CENTRE | 25 YEARS

Six Simple Criteria for Choosing Enrichment

Safe

- No sharp edges
- No tires
- No poisonous wood or wood that may have been preserved, or any other toxic material
- No staples or fixings in wood
- No materials that may be toxic to pigs
- Limbs and/or other body parts cannot become trapped
- If the enrichment can be broken or dismantled by the animals, the fragments must not pose a safety risk
- The enrichment should not be able to be used to injure pen-mates or damage the pen

Sanitary

- Materials should not be fouled
- Materials should be easily cleaned or sterilized to prevent disease transmission

Simple

- Anything too complex can cause frustration and could actually lead to vice
- A number of simple items is better than one multifaceted item, and allows more pigs to gain access at one time.

Soft

- For the pigs to slowly destroy the object, it must be malleable (adds to the novelty factor)

Suspended

- Provides extended novelty factor
- Avoids fouling
- Allows more pigs to gain access to the object if it is suspended in a central location

Site

- Do not site toys over lying, drinking or feeding areas
- Dunging areas prove the optimum position
- Switch sites regularly to help maintain novelty

Effective Enrichment Includes

Complex

Chewable

Malleable

Ingestible

Destructible

Encourages foraging and exploratory behaviour

All enrichment objects must meet requirements contained in National Swine Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard, and the section on Biosecurity in CQA® for Canadian Hog Producers.

Pigs must be provided with multiple forms of enrichment that aim to improve the welfare of the animals through the enhancement of their physical and social environments.

Source: Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs, 2014

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