

# Use the following guidelines to select your sample.

## Step 1: sample size

How big is the unit?	How many pigs should be assessed?
< 20 finishers	→ All finishers
20-60 finishers	→ 20 finishers
> 60 finishers	→ 1/3 of all finishers (max 50)

Randomly assess individual pigs from across each of the selected pens. If there are fewer than 4 pens, alter the strategy to achieve the required number of finishers.

***3 or more finishers should be assessed jointly with the stockperson (only record the assessor's score).***

## Step 2: sample weight

Randomly select 4-5 pens which include animals from 50kg upwards.	if this gives insufficient pigs for the total sample ↓
Select (or make up the total with) those of 30kg upwards.	if this gives insufficient pigs for the total sample ↓
Select (or make up the total with) those of the greatest weight present.	<b><i>Please record the weight/weight range of the animals sampled.</i></b>
<b><u>Do:</u></b> Include at least one pen of the oldest finishing pigs on site.	<b><u>Don't:</u></b> choose hospital pens or pens in which pigs have been newly mixed (within 1 week) or treated (as a batch).

# Discuss your assessment with the farmer using the following guidance.

To remain compliant with the **EU directive 2008/120/EC**, during conversations with farmers, assessors must not:



- Give specific prescriptive advice
- Provide instruction on possible solutions

Assessors can discuss or do the following:



- Justification of a standard
- Description of a problem
- Encourage interest and awareness of the problem
- Refer farmer to other advisors; information sources; technical guides approved by the scheme
- Advocate the value of advice (from others)
- Explain that other farmers have solved this problem
- Explain benefits of solving the problem

Important elements of a discussion to encourage behaviour change

- Positive encouragement and understanding from the assessor
- A knowledgeable and competent assessor
- Show interest in farm situation