

A photograph of a piglet standing on a slatted floor in a farm setting. The piglet is white with a small dark spot on its back. It is looking towards the right. In the background, other piglets are visible, some resting on a green mat. The lighting is bright and natural.

Sick Pig Identification Guide

PIC Wean to Finish Team

Global-PIC-Technical-Services@genusplc.com

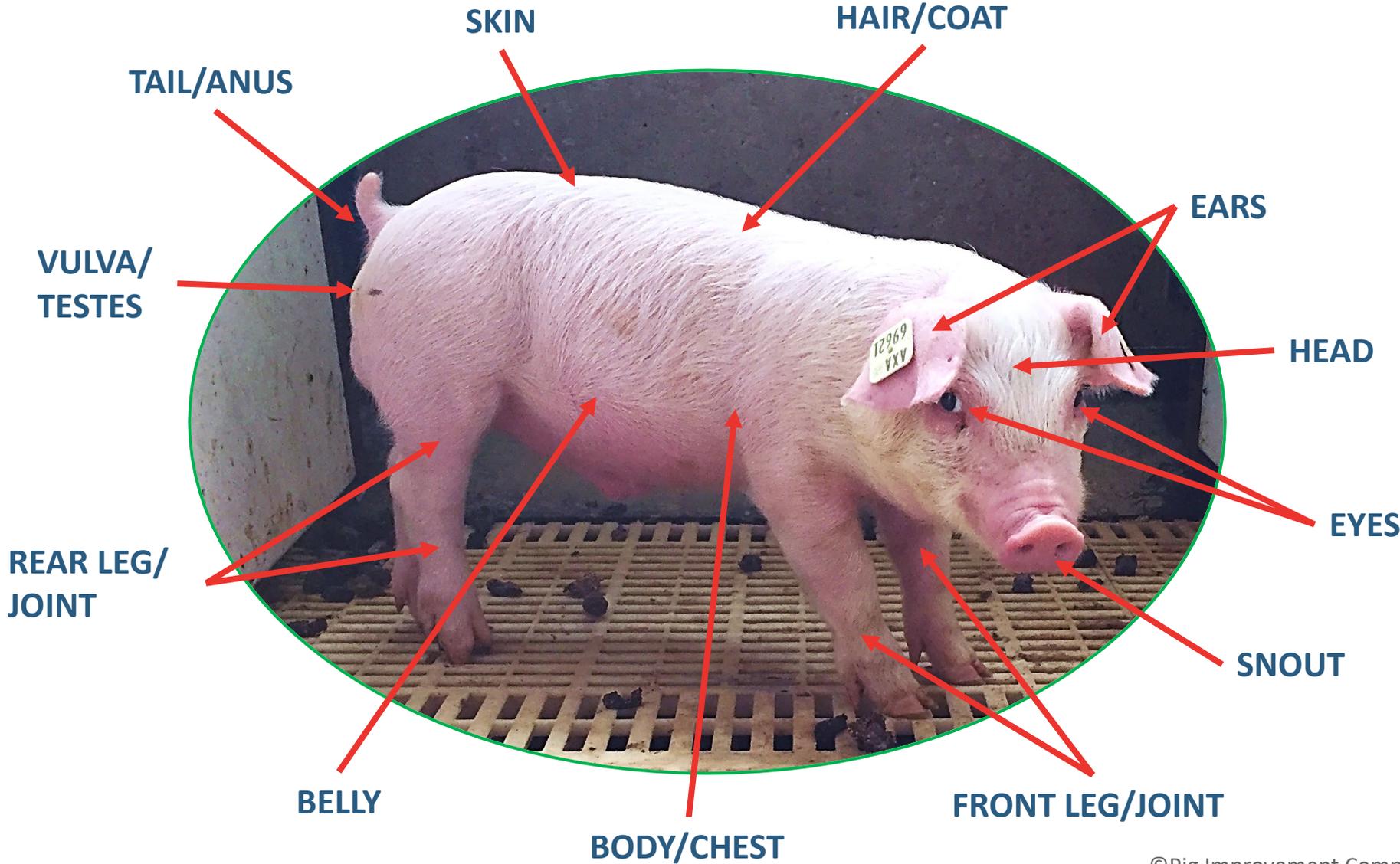
For questions regarding treatment plans please consult your site manager and herd veterinarian. This tool is only to help in identifying pigs that might need further attention or treatment.

Directions for Use:

To use this tool: select presentation mode. From there, select a part of the body, the arrow pointing to it, or the word itself to direct you to the slide showing tips for identifying sick pigs.

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Top visual indicators of illness/anomaly in pigs



Downer Pigs

Abnormal Postures

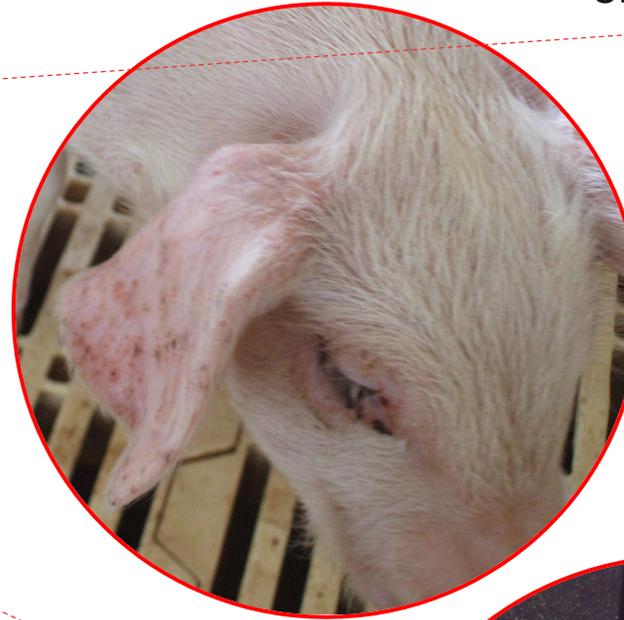
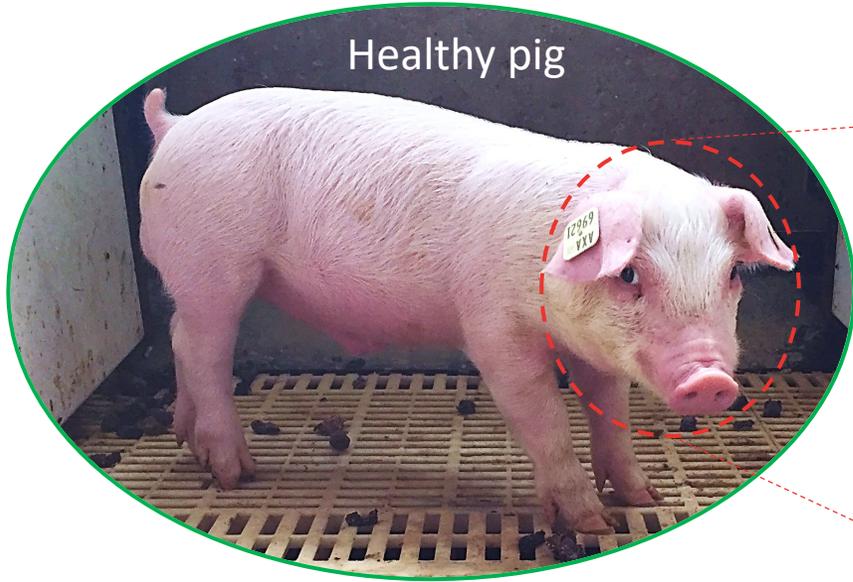
Diarrhea



HEAD

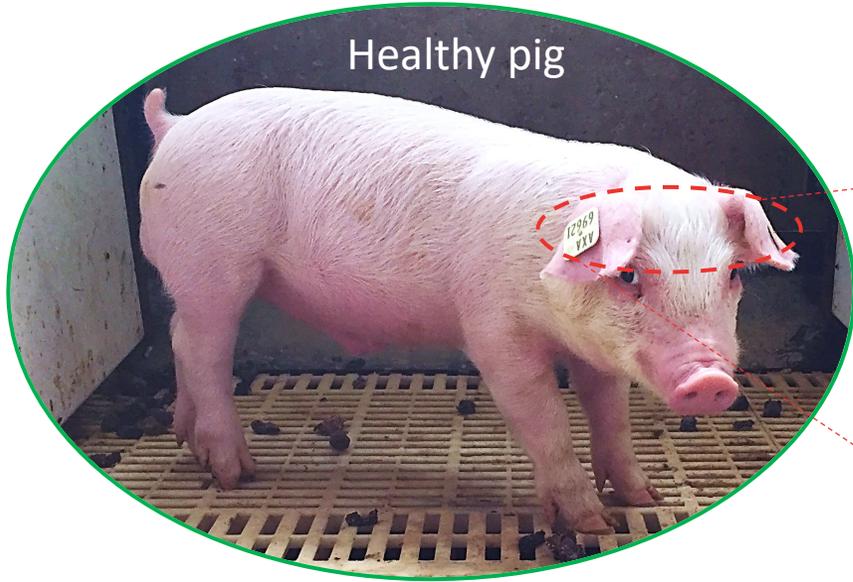
SICK PIG

Healthy pig



- Healthy Pig:
 - Holds head straight and alert
- Sick pig:
 - Holds head down or drooped/sad looking
 - May hide in the back of pen
 - Any signs of inflammation, injuries, abscesses
 - Any signs of neurological issues (head tilting or frequent shaking)

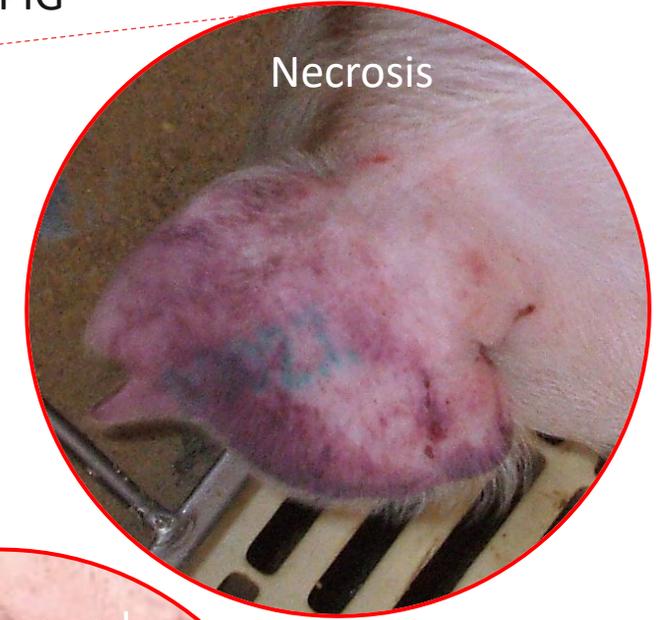
Healthy pig



SICK PIG



Swelling



Necrosis

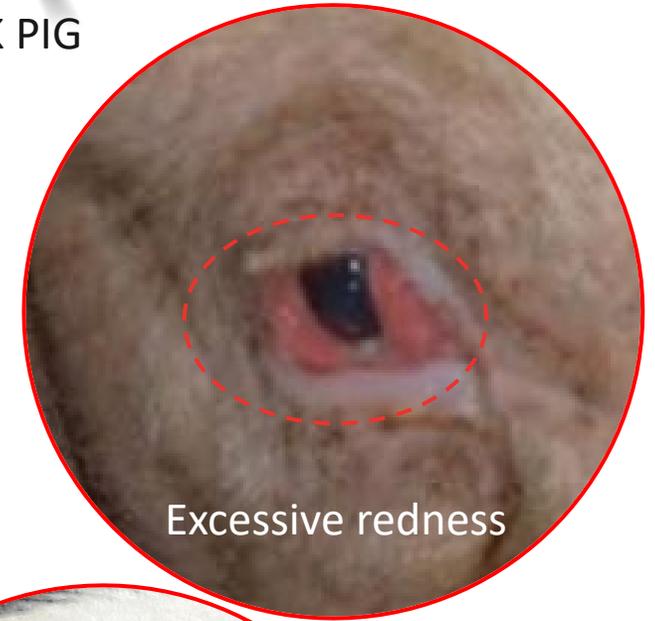
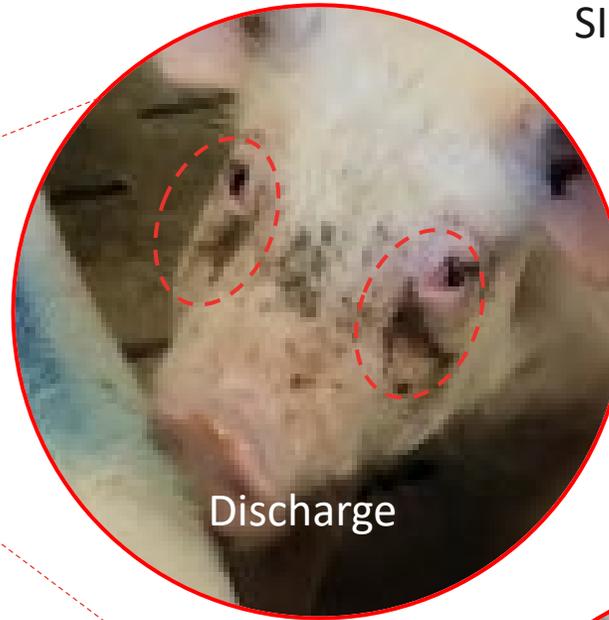
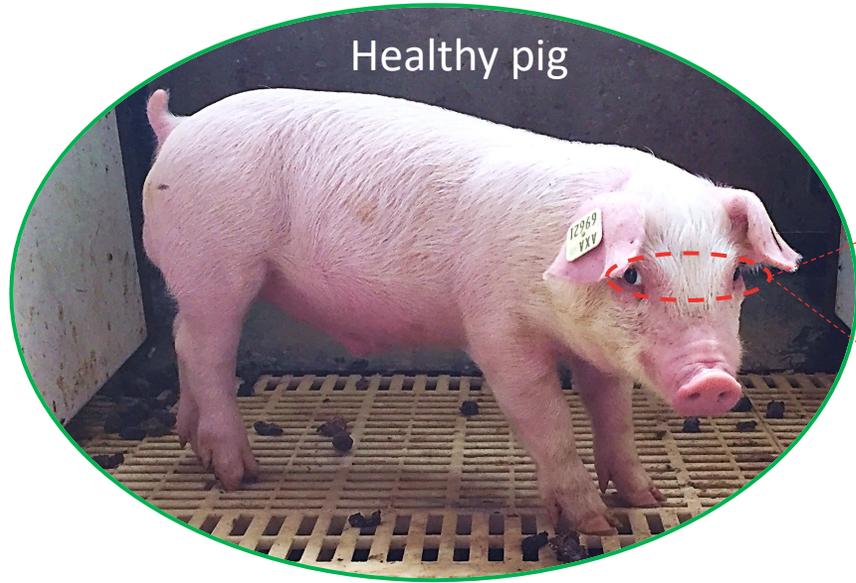


Open wound

- Healthy Pig:
 - Ears are alert and pointed up or forward
 - No swelling, parasites, frequent shaking, or injury due to environment or pen conditions
- Sick Pig:
 - Swollen ears
 - Injuries (abscesses, open wounds, etc.)
 - Necrotic (dead) tissue

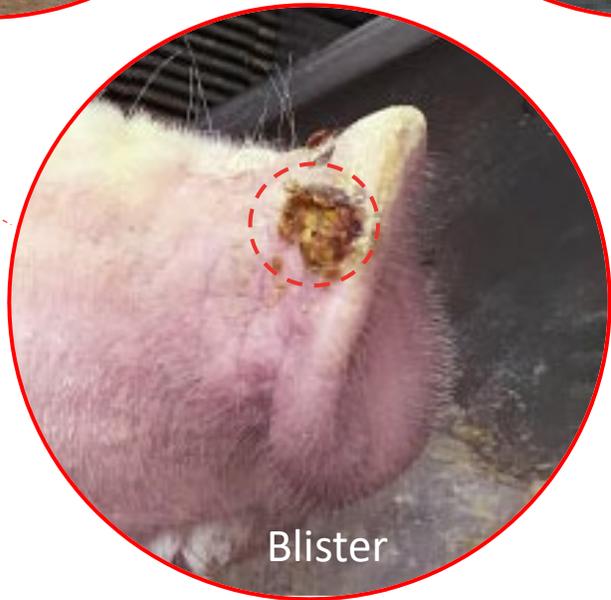
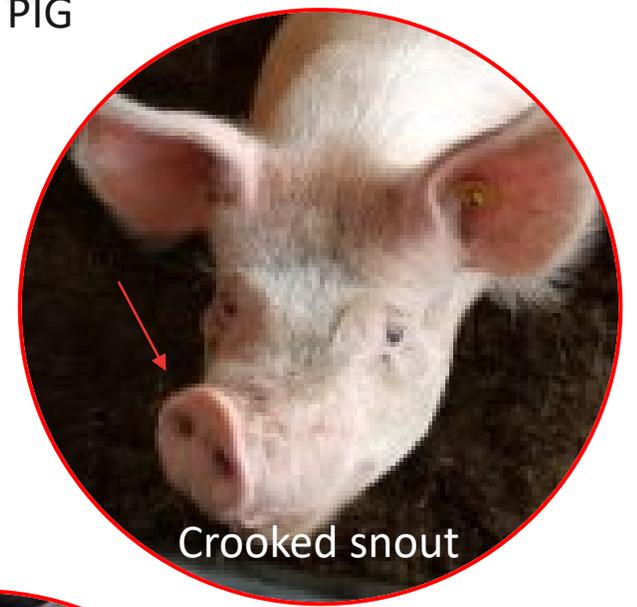
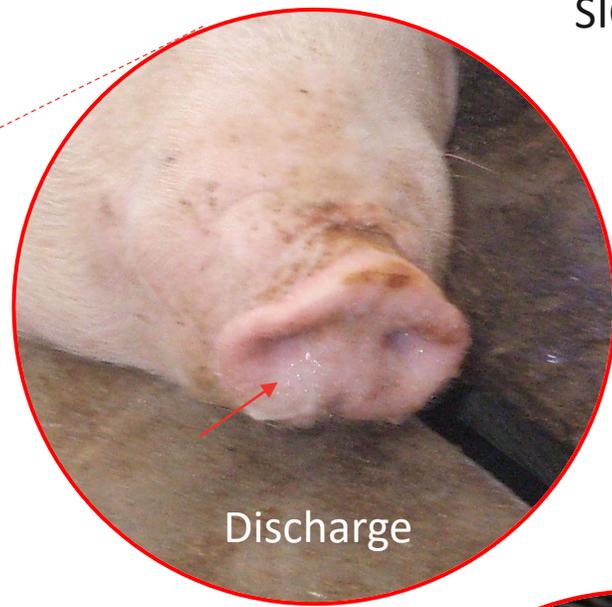
EYES

SICK PIG



- Healthy Pig:
 - Bright, open eyes with pink eyelids
- Sick Pigs:
 - Dull, sunken, cloudy, twitching or irritated eyes
 - Excessive redness in the eyes, inflammation, discharge, loss of hair and might lack color around the eyes
 - White or yellow (purulent) eye discharge is often observed when respiratory challenges are present, stains from the tear duct

SNOUT



SICK PIG

- Healthy Pig
 - Straight snout, no deviation to either side
 - Cool to the touch, free of discharge, moist
- Sick Pig
 - Lesions or blisters
 - Abnormal discharge

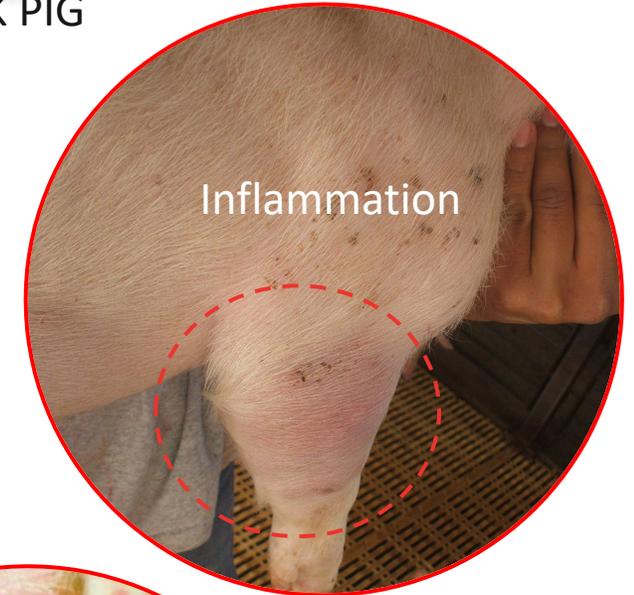
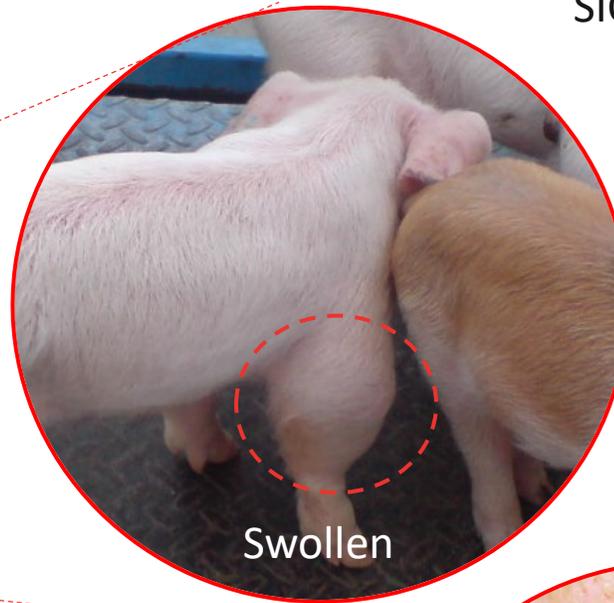
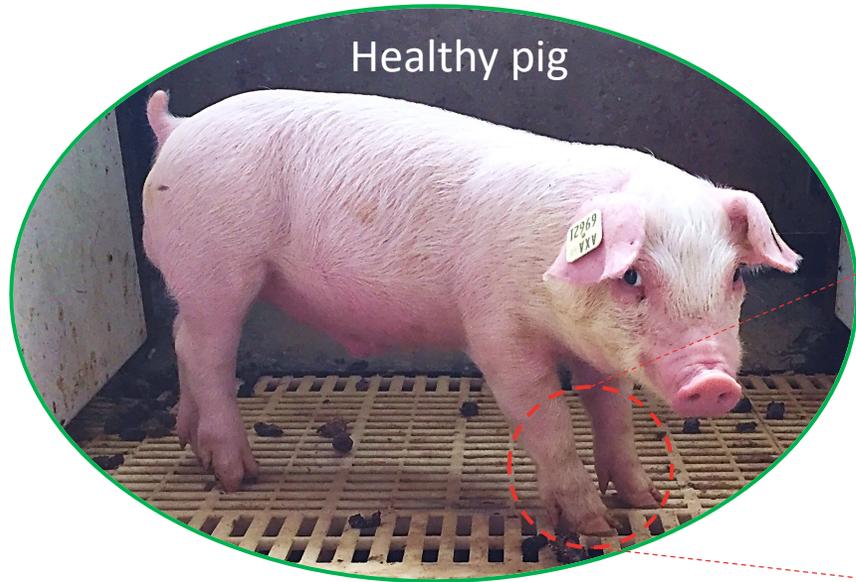


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FRONT LEG/JOINT

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SICK PIG

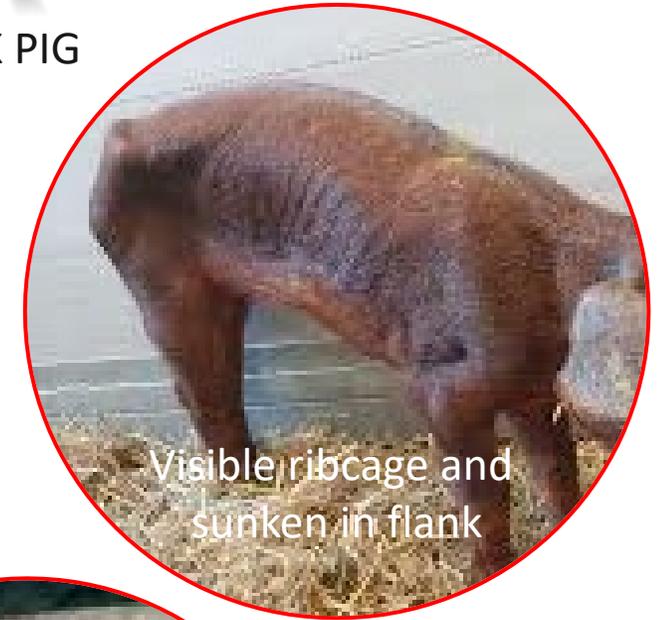
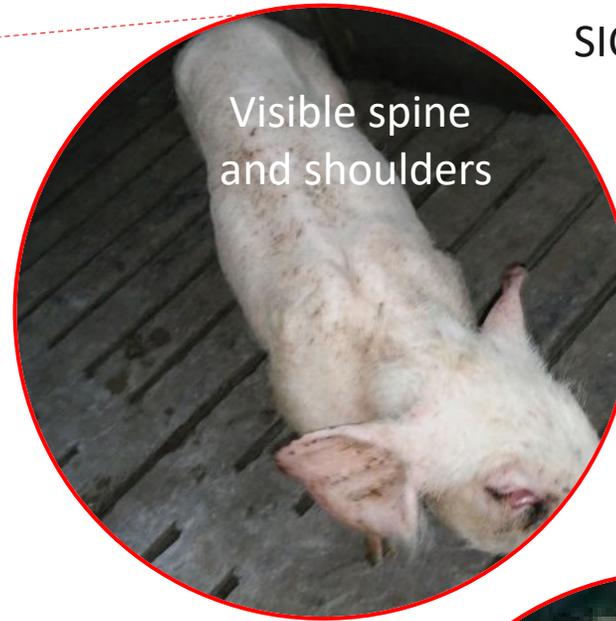
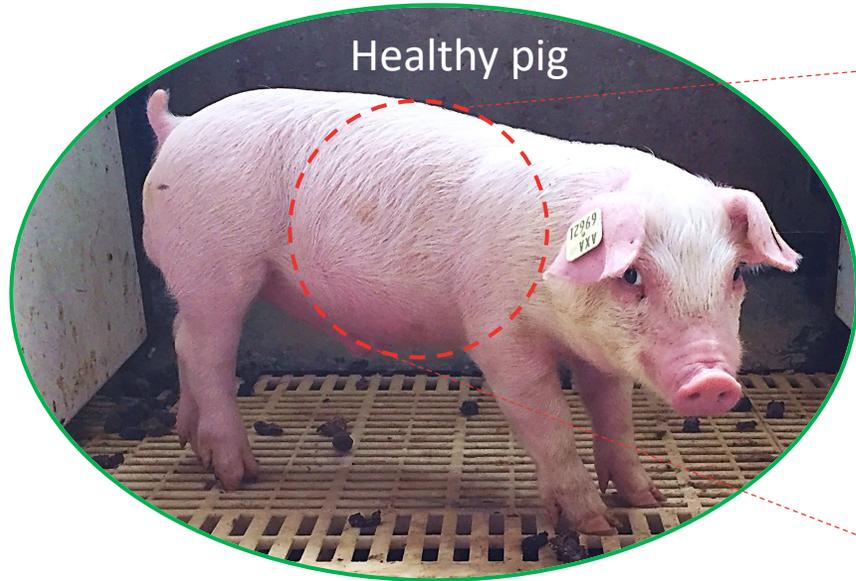


- Healthy Pig:
 - Legs appear taut and slender
 - Free of inflammation (red and warm to the touch), wounds or swelling
- Sick Pig:
 - Swollen joints
 - Blisters, ulcerations on top of hoof
 - Open sores, hoof cracks, lesions
 - Abnormal walking, limping, toe tapping, reluctance to stand or move



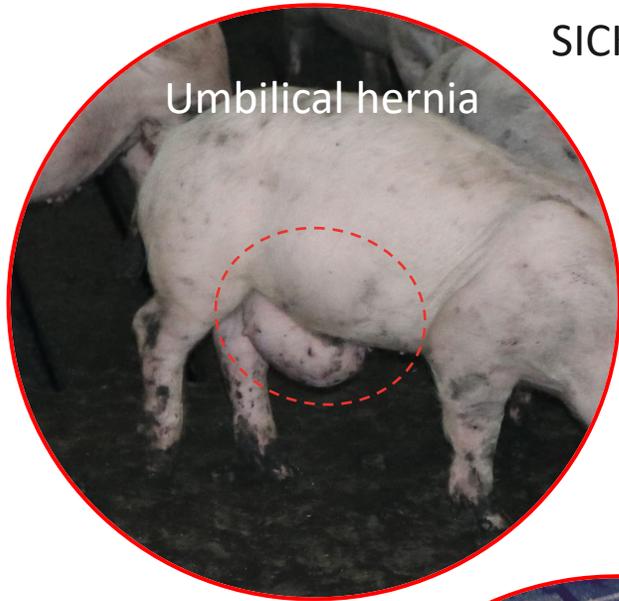
BODY/CHEST

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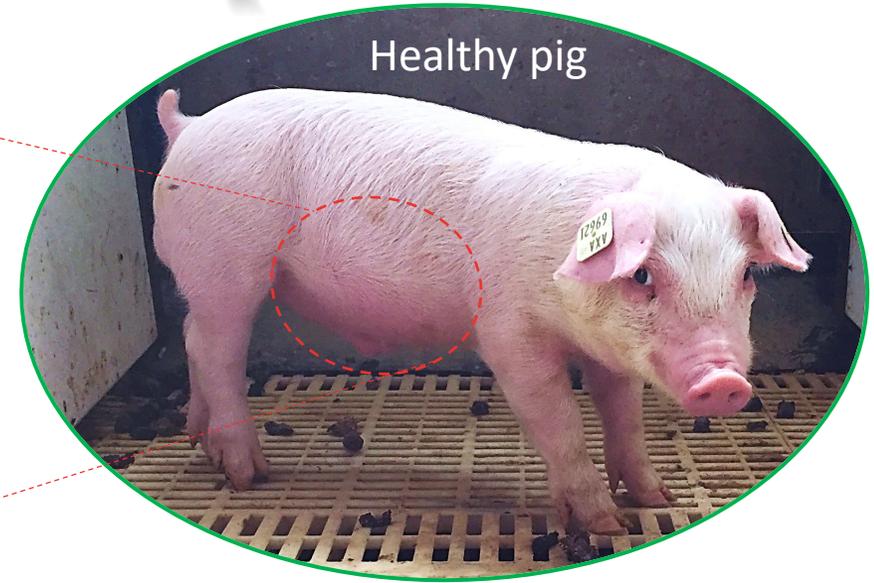
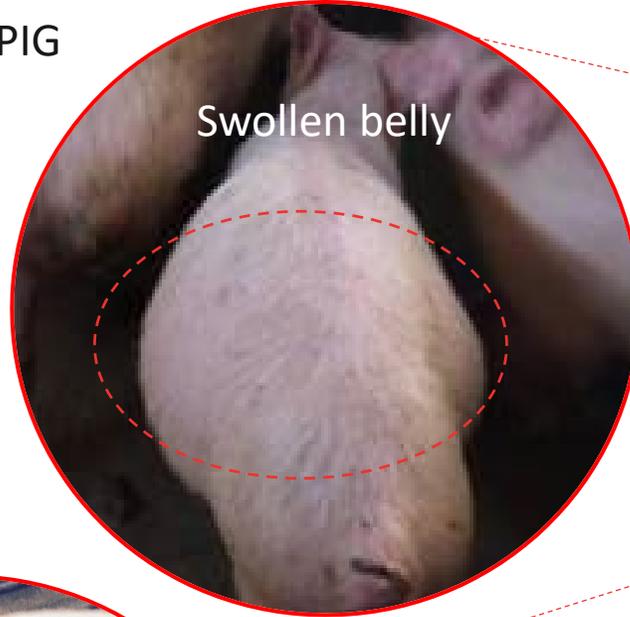


- Healthy Pig:
 - Rounded, full belly, well hydrated
- Sick Pig:
 - Visible spine, shoulder blades or ribcage due to malnutrition
 - Sunken in flank (belly looks empty)
 - Labored or abnormal breathing (thumping)

BODY/BELLY



SICK PIG



- Healthy Pig:
 - Rounded, full belly, well hydrated
- Sick Pig:
 - Sunken in flank (belly looks empty)
 - Disproportioned hanging or swollen belly
 - Umbilical hernias (swollen navel under belly)
 - Flank lesions if excessive (infected, large, not healing)
 - Labored or abnormal breathing (thumping)

SICK PIG



Scaly skin



Reddened and scaly



Greasy appearance



Healthy pig

- Healthy Pig:
 - Clear skin
- Sick Pig:
 - Pale skin or anemic pigs
 - Raised skin lesions, a greasy appearance, or bruising
 - Scaly, reddened or yellow skin
 - Raised areas of skin or cracks (due to irritation) that are open and susceptible to bacterial infection
 - Bumps, sores, necrosis, vesicles (clear blisters)

HAIR/COAT

SICK PIG



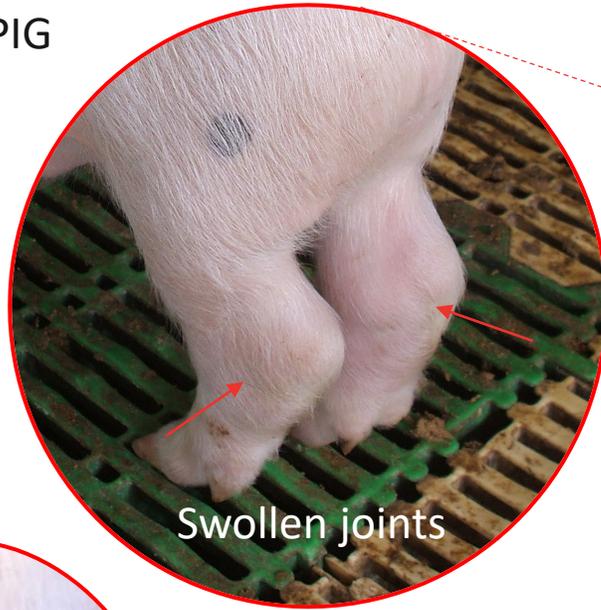
- Healthy Pig:
 - Smooth, clean, flat and uniform hair coat
- Sick Pig:
 - Fuzzy hair coat
 - Bald patches, rough/dull/uneven coat

REAR LEG/JOINT

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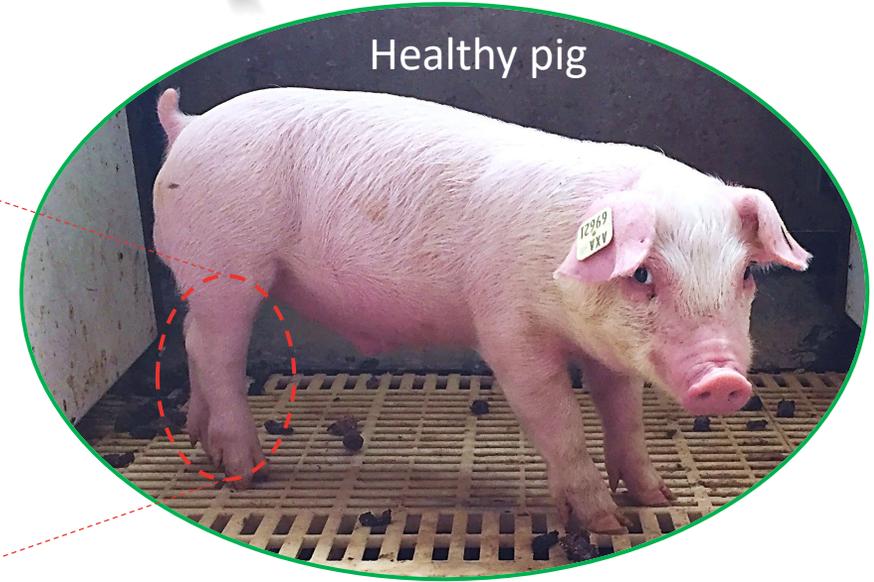
SICK PIG



Swollen joints



Inflamed joint



Healthy pig

- Healthy Pig:
 - Free moving, normal walking, free of inflammation
- Sick Pig:
 - Swollen joints
 - Blisters, ulcerations on top of hoof
 - Open sores, hoof cracks, lesions can lead to infection
 - Abnormal walking, limping, reluctance to stand or move

TAIL/ANUS

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SICK PIG



- Healthy Pig:
 - Tail is clean, free of injuries or tail bites
- Sick Pig:
 - Redness, bleeding, necrosis (dead tissue) or any injury
 - This can trigger tail biting
 - Red colored mucosa of the rectum from the anus
 - This is prone to infections

VULVA/TESTES

SICK PIG



- Healthy Pig:
 - Vulva is shade of surrounding skin or similar
 - Free of swelling and excessive redness
- Sick Pig:
 - Castrated market hogs should not have testicles
 - Abnormal mass in perineal area might lead to scrotal hernia

DOWNER PIGS

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SICK PIG



Healthy pig

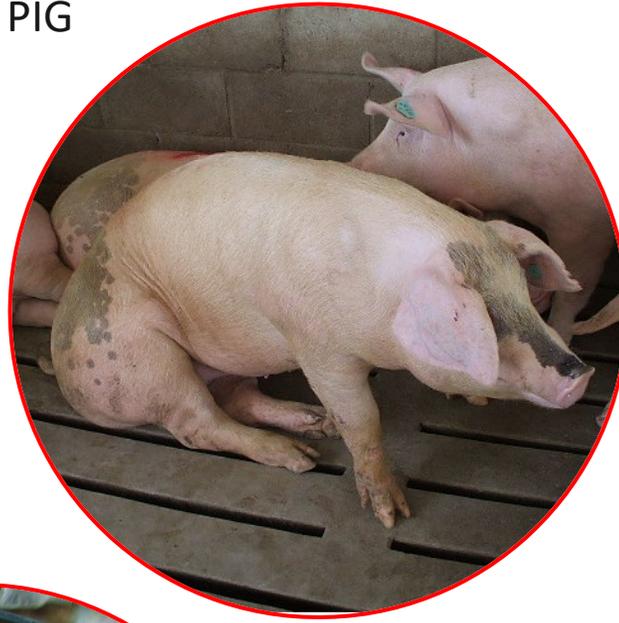


- Watch for pigs who have fallen and cannot get up
- Watch for pigs huddling or shivering
- Fallen down pigs are often isolated from other pigs lying on the belly with drooping ears
- These pigs might look dirtier, since their sick behavior makes them vulnerable

ABNORMAL POSTURES

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SICK PIG



Healthy pig



- Watch for pigs with abnormal postures, like dog sitting, with labored breathing thumping or coughing
 - Sitting like a dog might indicate rear joint issues
- Arching the back or dropping the tail might indicate abdominal pain
 - Check for diarrhea in the pen

DIARRRHEA

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- Diarrhea can be easy to spot, be attentive to floors and the rear of pigs

Thank you!

For additional resources, visit PIC.com/resources or contact Global-PIC-Technical-Services@genusplc.com

The logo consists of the letters "PIC" in a white, serif font, positioned on a solid red rectangular background.