

PIG UNIT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

AWARD OBJECTIVE

To recognise producers achieving outstanding productivity, efficiency and technical performance.

ENTRY CRITERIA, APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND JUDGING PROCESS

OVERVIEW

The FBD Pig Farming Awards 2026 have been established to recognise excellence, innovation, leadership and best practice across Ireland's important pig industry.

The awards aim to:

- » Recognise outstanding producers and industry professionals
- » Promote continuous improvement and innovation
- » Highlight excellence in animal welfare and environmental stewardship
- » Encourage knowledge transfer and leadership within the industry
- » Showcase the positive contribution of the Irish pig sector

All entries will be assessed by an independent judging panel comprising industry and technical experts.

GENERAL ENTRY INFORMATION REQUIRED (ALL CATEGORIES)

SECTION 1: BUSINESS DETAILS

Name of farm/business

Breeding/finishing

Contact person

Number of employees

Position/Role

Years in operation

Address

Please indicate which quality assurance, environmental, or industry schemes your business currently participates in (e.g. Bord Bia Piguemeat Quality Assurance Scheme, Origin Green, ACRES, Teagasc discussion groups, breed society membership, or other)

Telephone number

Email address

SECTION 2: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. In no more than 250 words, please explain:

- » Why you believe you should be considered for this award
- » What distinguishes your operation from others
- » State your most significant achievement during the past three years

B. Have you shared your knowledge or experience with other farmers or contributed to the wider pig industry during the past three years?

(Maximum 200 words)

Examples might include participation in Teagasc discussion groups, mentoring, involvement in producer organisations/IFA Pigs Committee, or contributions to industry events or media activities.

SECTION 3: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Entrants may upload supporting evidence including:

- » Production records
- » Benchmarking reports
- » Veterinary reports
- » Environmental records
- » Certification records
- » Photographs
- » Media coverage
- » Other relevant supporting documentation

ENTRY QUESTIONS

1. Describe your farm's environmental strategy.

(Maximum 500 words)

2. What actions have you taken to improve resource efficiency?

(Maximum 500 words)

Examples may include:

- » Energy management
- » Water conservation
- » Feed efficiency
- » Waste management
- » Nutrient management
- » Slurry storage and management
- » Ammonia emission reduction
- » Participation in recognised certification schemes

3. Have you undertaken any carbon reduction or environmental improvement projects?

(Maximum 300 words)

4. How do you measure and monitor environmental performance?

(Maximum 300 words)

5. What are your future sustainability goals?

Please identify at least one specific, measurable environmental target your business is working toward, including the actions you are taking and your expected timeline for achieving it.

(Maximum 300 words)

6. How do you manage slurry and nutrients on your farm? Please describe your slurry storage capacity, spreading practices, and how you comply with the requirements of the Nitrates Action Programme. Include any steps taken to reduce ammonia emissions or improve nutrient use efficiency.

(Maximum 300 words)

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

- » Sustainability reports
- » Environmental certifications
- » Energy audits
- » Water usage records
- » Carbon assessments
- » Project photographs
- » Nitrates derogation records (if applicable)
- » Bord Bia audit records
- » ACRES or Agri-environment scheme participation records

JUDGING CRITERIA

- » Environmental impact and outcomes – 35%
- » Resource efficiency – 25%
- » Innovation – 20%
- » Long-term sustainability strategy – 20%

MAKE SURE TO FILL OUT THE COMPLIANCE & ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION ON THE NEXT PAGE BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

COMPLIANCE & ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION

Please confirm the following:

The business complies with all relevant animal welfare legislation.

The business complies with all relevant environmental regulations and licensing requirements.

The business complies with all relevant health and safety legislation.

The information provided in this application is accurate and may be verified by the judging panel.

The entrant agrees to participate in publicity associated with the awards should they be shortlisted or selected as a finalist or winner.

ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION

I confirm that neither I, nor the business entered, is currently subject to any ongoing regulatory investigation, prosecution or enforcement action relating to animal welfare, environmental compliance or health and safety. I agree to notify the organisers immediately should such circumstances arise after submission of this entry.

Signed:

Date:

JUDGING PROCESS

All entries will be assessed by an independent judging panel comprising industry and technical experts.

The judging panel reserves the right to:

- » Request additional supporting documentation
- » Seek clarification on information submitted
- » Verify information provided within an application
- » Shortlisted entrants may be invited to participate in an interview as part of the judging process.
- » This interview will allow judges to verify information submitted and gain a deeper understanding of the entrant's operation, management practices and achievements.
- » The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the outcome.