

Animal welfare in the production of pork

- 1 Present the information on the production of pork (M 1) in form of a time line.
- 2 Give additional products in whose production animal welfare is an important aspect.
- 3 Prepare a presentation on animal welfare for a mixed group (M 1, M 2). Use your time line.

M 1 Information on the production of pork

Pork is Germany's most important type of meat. Many typically German types of sausage contain pork, for example Mettwurst, Teewurst, salami, ham and mortadella.

Schweinefleisch
beinhalten

Germany is one of the four largest producers of pork worldwide. Around 21 % of the value of all German animal products are based on pig farming. Most of the pigs in Germany are kept for fattening. It is cheapest to keep as many pigs as possible on as little space as possible, and to only keep pigs of the same age.

Most pigs are transported at least three times because the production of pork is highly specialized: Piglets are born on a sow farm. At the age of about 21 days, they are transported to a piglet rearing farm. At the age of about 63 days, they are transported to a fattening farm. At the age of about 160 days, which is less than half a year, they are transported to the slaughterhouse.

mindestens
Ferkel; Sauen-
farm; Ferkel-
aufzuchtbetrieb

Most pigs are transported over long distances because the different specialized farms are in different countries. Transporting live pigs is cheaper than transporting cooled pork. In the EU, animal transports may not take longer than eight hours. It is allowed to transport pigs for more than eight hours if they can drink in the truck.

To increase efficiency even further, the hormone PMSG is used. PMSG can be given to sows. Thousands of sows treated with PMSG get pregnant and give birth at the same time. This reduces transportation costs.

PMSG is more valuable than gold: In 2017, 100 g sold for 900.000 \$. PMSG is a hormone which is produced by pregnant horses. It is found in their blood. Taking large amounts of blood from pregnant horses has side effects: The animals are wounded and sometimes malnourished. The production and import of PMSG are legal in the EU.

Hormon (biol.
Botenstoff);
schwanger
unterernährt

The advantages of giving PMSG can also be reached by a combination of special light, special food and individual observation or by artificially produced substances that work like PMSG.

künstlich
hergestellt

M 2 Words and phrases for your presentation

Für mich bedeutet... - To me, ...means...
für andere - for other people
wichtiger als..., weil - more important than... because...
Folgen für - consequences for...
jetzt / später - now / later
wenn... dann... - if... then...
man kann... - one can...
leiden - to suffer

man könnte... - one could...
kann man...? - can / may one...?
man darf... - one may...
man darf nicht... - one mustn't...
man muss... - one must...
man braucht nicht... - one needn't...
man sollte... - one should / ought to...
Profit - profit