

**Pig Farming Terms**

**Sow:** a mother pig, who has already given birth to at least one set of piglets.

**Gilt**: a girl pig who has not had piglets yet.

**Boar:** a male pig.

**Gestation:** the period when a sow is pregnant from breeding until farrowing, easily remembered as 3 months, 3 weeks, 3 days.

**Individual Gestation stalls:** individual housing for sows to keep them protected during the beginning of their pregnancy

**Farrowing:** giving birth to a litter of pigs.

**Farrowing stall:** individual housing where a sow (mother pig) gives birth. It allows space for the sow while also preventing her from unknowingly laying on her piglets.

**Weaning:** the process of removing the pigs from the sow and moving them to the nursery.

**Nursery:** the growing phase from weaning until they enter the finishing phase.

**Farrow to wean:** a farm specializing in the breeding, gestation (pregnancy) and farrowing (birthing) of sows.

**Farrow to finish:** a farm that contains all growing phases, from breeding to gestation to farrowing to nursery to finishing (growing) to market.

**Finisher pig:** growing phase between the nursery stage and market.

**Finishing:** the time it takes feeder pigs to reach market weight of 240 to 260 lbs., typically taking between 14-16 weeks.

**Biosecurity:** strict isolation and sanitation program practiced throughout farms to prevent the spread of disease between herds.