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SHEET 6

Product Specification

'Pork meat from sustainable farming'

pursuant to Article 3 of Ministerial Decree No 646632 of 16 December 2022 'Establishment of the National Animal Husbandry Quality Scheme (SQNZ)'

PRODUCT NAME:

'Pork meat from sustainable farming'

Product class	Product category	Production chain
Fresh meat (and offal)	Meats	Meats

Operator Categories eligible in the SQNZ Control System	/	Product intended for the final consumer
a) Breeders b) Slaughtermen c) Cutters d) Commercial establishments	Breeders	YES

1. Foreword

The product specification for 'Pork meat from sustainable farming' shall apply without prejudice to the provisions deriving from higher-grade sources, in particular with regard to European Union and national legislation on the safety of the food chain, animal health and welfare and the placing of products on the market.
For operators participating in protected schemes, such as PDO/PGI and organic schemes, the requirements set out in these SQNZ specifications must not conflict with the provisions already laid down by those protected schemes.

The 'Pork meat from sustainable farming' specification applies to pork farming and is the result of the development of a multi-stakeholder process involving companies and representatives of the relevant agricultural and livestock supply chain.
The specification proposes a pathway to sustainability for participating farms, according to its definition and its three pillars:

- economic: the ability to generate income and work;
- environmental: the ability to maintain the quality and reproducibility of natural resources;
- social: the ability to ensure conditions conducive to human well-being.

The commitment of breeders undertaken with this specification with regard to "sustainability" is to improve and monitor the conditions of animal welfare and the environment and to promote the launch of a circular economy, leading to the reuse of materials and food waste that are also edible for humans, safeguarding the social and economic conditions of farmers.
Pork produced in accordance with these specifications may be labelled with the words 'from sustainable farming'.
The sustainability requirements in the breeding phase are the result of a materiality analysis carried out

together with different stakeholders of the Italian pork livestock supply chains.
The sustainability requirements in this product specification are mandatory and optional:
the mandatory requirements must all be adopted and complied with by the participating farms throughout the period of membership; every three years, among the optional requirements, farmers must choose at least two to be complied with throughout the membership period.
With a view to improving farming standards and sustainability, as defined in Articles 12 and 46 of Regulation (EC) No 126/2022: every three years from the date of joining, farmers must identify a further two optional requirements, choosing from those set out in Chapter 5.2, to be met within the following three years. If, in relation to an optional requirement, the target set is not met by the end of the three-year reference period, it will be possible, following a careful review, to decide to continue with the improvement measures relating to that requirement, with a view to achieving the improvement.

2. Purpose and scope of application

This standard applies to the primary production of pork meat. This SQNZ specification applies at the rearing stage for the production of pork meat in its various commercial categories (fresh meat, raw material for cured meat products, etc.)

Participating farms may be closed-cycle or open-cycle, and may be dedicated to breeding or fattening.

Member farms are obliged to manage the animals in such a way as to prevent mixing between any different supply chains present on the farm at the same time; therefore, dedicated boxes must be clearly identified.
The product specification applies to all rearing stages listed in Chapter 3.

This production specification can be applied by individual holdings (option 1) or by associated holdings (option 2) organised within the supply chain under a lead entity (chain leader) who assumes responsibility, towards the control body and towards customers, for the compliance of the product with the parameters set out in this document.

The production specifications apply exclusively to the rearing stage (primary production), and information about the product, ‘pork from sustainable farming’, may be stated on the label through the adoption of the ‘chain of custody’ procedure, which ensures that the information is maintained throughout the supply chain, right up to the end consumer, through the implementation of a traceability system.

Cultivation

Farming practices must be ethical and sustainable; therefore, pig housing must ensure the best possible conditions for the animals’ health and welfare, in accordance with the requirements set out in the current welfare regulations.
The specifications apply to and cover all stages of rearing (lactation, weaning, growing, fattening, gestation, etc.) without any restrictions on the age or weight of the animals at slaughter.
All pure genetic lines, crossbreeds and hybrids are permitted.
All operators participating in the SQNZ must meet all sanitary and hygiene requirements and hold all authorisations or permits required by the legislation in force.
The farms shall dispose of their manure in accordance with the legal provisions and with full respect for the environment; fertilisation plans for the use of the manure from the farm shall be applied where possible.

3. Minimum breeding period

The objective of this specification is to reduce the environmental impact of pig farming and improve animal welfare at all stages of farming listed in Chapter 3.
The environmental impact of farms dedicated solely to the fattening phase (lasting 3–4 months) and of breeding farms is characterised by high resource consumption, increased production of greenhouse gases (mainly methane and ammonia) and higher volumes of slurry, which, if not treated properly, can be highly polluted.
Therefore, in order to ensure the product complies with the requirements, the minimum rearing period must not be less than four consecutive months, i.e. the period corresponding to the fattening phase of the light pig. For breeding boars and sows, however, the period must be extended until the end of the reproductive career.

4. Terms and definitions

Subject to the definitions set out in Ministerial Decree No 646632 of 16 December 2022 establishing the National Animal Husbandry Quality Scheme and the related provisions on food chain safety, animal health and welfare, and the placing of products on the market as laid down in European Union and national legislation, the following definitions shall apply:

Open-cycle farming: a holding where one or more production stages characterising pig farming, such as breeding and fattening, are present.

Closed-cycle farm: a farm where all the production stages involved in pig farming take place, from birth to slaughter.

Breeding farm: a holding specialising in the management of breeding pigs, at all its stages: mating, pregnancy, childbirth and rearing of young animals until weaning.

Fattening farm: a farm specialising in the fattening of pigs from the post-weaning stage until they reach slaughter weight.

Agri-food supply chain: the collective term for the organisations (or operators) and their associated material flows that contribute to the production, distribution, marketing and supply of an agri-food product. In this context, the term ‘supply chain’ refers to all activities and flows that are critically important to the characteristics of the product.

Mass balance: activities aimed at verifying, by comparison, the compatibility of the incoming and outgoing material flows of the traceability system (for primary production it is preferable to use the term ‘production yield’).

Bat Tool**:** software for calculating ammonia and greenhouse gas emissions from cattle, pig and poultry farms, developed as part of the integrated European Life project PREPAIR..

LCA: Life Cycle Assessment, consisting of an objective method of evaluation and quantification of energy and environmental loads and potential impacts associated with a product/process/activity throughout the life cycle, from pre-production (extraction and production of materials), production, distribution, use (including reuse and maintenance), recycling and final disposal (within the scope of this specification, with a so-called ‘from cradle to grave’ approach).

Chain leader: an entity requiring certification and assuming responsibility for ensuring compliance with the requirements of this production specification over time. The chain leader is responsible for

coordinating the entire supply chain involved in the production of the product in accordance with this specification up to the point at which its responsibility ceases (e.g. delivery to the customer).

Traceability: the ability to trace the path of an agricultural product, foodstuff or ingredient through all stages of production, processing and distribution, through an appropriate system for recording and storing related information.

Traceability: the ability to trace and follow a food, feed, food-producing animal or substance intended to be, or expected to be, incorporated into a food or feed, through all stages of production, processing and distribution (Regulation (EC) No 178/2002);

Circular economy: a model of production and consumption that involves sharing, lending, reusing, repairing, reconditioning and recycling existing materials and products for as long as possible.

Former foodstuffs: refers to foodstuffs, other than kitchen and catering waste, which have been manufactured for human consumption in full compliance with EU food law, but which are no longer intended for human consumption for practical or logistical reasons, or due to manufacturing issues, packaging defects or other problems, and which do not pose any health risk when used as feed (Regulation (EU) 2022/1104).

GHG: this is the acronym for Greenhouse Gas, which translates into Italian as 'gas a effetto serra'. These gases, like carbon dioxide (CO_2) and methane (CH_4), trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, causing the greenhouse effect and contributing to climate change.

5. Mandatory enhancement requirements

The mandatory value-adding requirements are additional to the provisions laid down in higher-grade sources, in particular with regard to European Union and national legislation on the safety of the food chain, animal health and welfare and the placing of products on the market.

The mandatory valorisation requirements are the essential elements of this product specification and are subject to self-assessment by the operator and verification by the control body.

The mandatory enhancement requirements are:

a) **Introduction of a water supply management and water quality monitoring system that includes:**

- **t**he classification of a food technical manager (veterinarian, food technician, feed industry technician, etc.);
- Annual hygienic and sanitary quality analyses on foods specified by the food specialist, carried out at an accredited laboratory, for the detection of aflatoxins, ochratoxins, fumonisins, etc.;
- the feeding protocol for the different stages of breeding according to the nutritional requirements for the respective life stages;
- A comprehensive annual water analysis carried out in an accredited laboratory (chemical and bacteriological) to check that the water is safe to drink.

b) **Compliance with the quality characteristics of livestock feed as defined in Chapter 7 'Feeding techniques'.**

c) **Animal welfare** assessed according to 'animal welfare assessment systems' recognised by the

Member State (e.g. Classyfarm) with a minimum score of 75%. The control body and the chain leader (in the case of Option 2) must always verify compliance with this percentage by viewing the relevant Classyfarm section via access granted by the farmer at the time of the inspection.

d) **Biosafety** assessed according to animal welfare assessment systems recognised by the Member State (e.g. Classyfarm) with a minimum score of 80%. The control body and the chain leader (in the case of Option 2) must always verify compliance with this percentage value through the viewing of the relevant Classyfarm section by means of access delegated by the farmer during the audit.

e) **Implementation of a pest control system:** drawing up a 'pest control' plan involving the implementation of measures for rodent control and pest eradication, whilst monitoring the interventions by recording the date, the active ingredient used and the amount used per trap. The technical and safety data sheet must be available together with the breeding map with the location of the bait stations used.

f) **Adoption of environmental impact mitigation systems as described in chapter 8 'Environmental impact assessment/waste management'**

g) **Monitoring of the company's electricity consumption and identification of measures for improvement:** operators adhering to these SQNZ guidelines undertake to monitor consumption trends for all the company's electrical installations, with the aim of reducing and optimising electricity use, assessing, where appropriate, potential structural improvements, a change of electricity supplier, or the overhaul/maintenance of the company's electrical systems.
Monitoring is carried out annually with the aim of identifying energy-saving measures, the effects of which can be observed over the three-year period. The company's performance against its set targets is reviewed annually; during the annual review, these targets may be revised.

h) **Adoption of an emergency management and evacuation plan** as explained in Chapter 9 'Emergency management and evacuation'

i) **Adoption of a training plan** for farmers covering animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental protection, as described in Chapter 10, 'Training'.

j) **Adoption of a management system to demonstrate compliance with** this product specification in accordance with the requirements set out in 'Chapter 12 Management and control system'.

k) **Recording and retention, in digital or paper form, of** all operations and the documentation required to demonstrate compliance with the mandatory and optional requirements of these SQNZ specifications. For the sole purpose of providing a few examples, here is a list of some transactions and documents that are subject to registration:
   - animal movements;
   - purchase/sales of livestock;
   - feeding protocol;
   - laboratory report on the analysis of water and feed;
   - etc…

l) **Application of at least 2 optional enhancement requirements (**among those defined in Chapter 11 'Optional enhancement requirements').

6. Optional enhancement requirements

Optional enhancement requirements are additional to the mandatory ones previously indicated; they are defined as optional because the operator has the right to choose which of them to apply, taking into account that upon adhering to the standard and in subsequent years, the operator is obliged to ensure compliance with at least 2 of them in order to obtain or maintain the certification.

The optional requirements will be reviewed annually, with a view to implementing improvement measures based on three-year targets.

In order to maintain certification every three years after accession, each individual operator must identify additional optional requirements, choosing two further from among those provided for in this chapter.

The proposed optional enhancement requirements are as follows:

1. the facilities are equipped with a forced and/or automatic ventilation system, complete with an alarm system to be triggered in the event of a power cut or if the set temperature thresholds are exceeded;
2. fortnightly monitoring and recording of temperature and humidity levels inside the facilities, with a view to identifying any areas for improvement in the management of the barn microclimate;
3. presence of an automatic Temperature and Humidity Data Detection System (THI) and management of the manure microclimate;
4. presence of an artificial ventilation system and/or a cooling unit in the farrowing and gestation area;
5. monitoring of levels of CO_2 and NH_3 at least twice a year, with identification of any improvement targets achievable over the three reference years and reviewed annually;
6. the use of high-efficiency irrigation systems (drip, high efficiency pivot, etc.) on at least 20% of the utilised agricultural area (UAA);
7. use of anti-spill drinkers in farrowing pens;
8. a comprehensive half-yearly water analysis carried out in an accredited laboratory (chemical and bacteriological) to check that the water is safe to drink;
9. the use of manure or digestate for fertilisation with crops in place for at least 20% of the UAA;
10. the burying of manure on 100% of the surface within 6 hours of distribution;
11. anaerobic digestion through biogas production plants;
12. presence of automatic manure cleaning systems in sheds;
13. waste management in accordance with the following procedure:
    a. removal of sludge from under the grating at least once every six months;
    b. separation of liquid and solid manure using separators;
    c. covering of storage tanks;
    d. use specific treatments to reduce ammonia emissions;
14. annual monitoring of the total consumption of the fuels used, with identification of improvement actions that could lead to fuel savings over the three reference years. The company's performance against its set targets is reviewed annually as part of the annual business review, and these targets may be revised.
15. the presence of LED lighting systems in fattening and/or gestation pigsties;
16. presence/use of energy from renewable sources (photovoltaic, hydroelectric, wind, etc.);
17. the presence of thermally insulated roofs;
18. the presence of anti-sparrow networks;
19. at least 50% of the floor area of the piggery for fattening pigs must be solid flooring or there must be an outdoor pen with solid flooring;
20. non-use of gestation crates and farrowing crates for sows;
21. for sows kept in pens: optimal freedom of movement, with a floor area exceeding the legal minimum;
22. Space available per animal: an increase of at least 10% in the area per animal for pigs for fattening (40 kg live weight), compared with the requirements set out in the regulations on the protection of pigs on farms – Directive 2008/120/EC and Legislative Decree 122/2011;

23. presence of dedicated quarantine facilities separate from the livestock buildings;
24. access for each pig to food at the same time or feeding ad libitum;
25. feeding with former food products up to 40 kg l.w. (max 30% daily ration) as described in Chapter 8 (feeding techniques) or with products from organic farming or integrated production (in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 848/2018);
26. use of circular ingredients: molasses, distiller's grains, apple pomace, pear pomace, milk, biscuits, etc., and the by-products listed in the publications of the European Feed Manufacturers' Federation – FEFA (https://fefac.eu/);
27. formulation of feed rations with reduced protein content for each stage of fattening pig rearing, using validated protocols, calculation methods and verified procedures (see Chapter 8: Feeding Techniques);
28. annual assessment of environmental impact and identification of mitigation measures using the BAT-TOOL PLUS tool (current version) or similar tools in force in the various Member States of the European Union;
29. LCA study (cradle-to-gate scope) carried out by a qualified professional, in accordance with the standards UNI EN ISO 14040 'Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Principles and framework' and UNI EN ISO 14044 'Life cycle assessment – Requirements and guidelines' (current version);
30. membership of at least one agri-environment-climate intervention provided for in the reference CAP 2023-2027 (and the following CAP programmes) in the territory where the holding is located;
31. use of monitoring systems for the assessment of animal welfare, production performance and environmental impact (e.g. new IoT technologies).

7. Feeding techniques

Mandatory requirements (point b, Chapter 6)

In compliance with the growth stages and welfare of pigs, the daily feeding ration must include:

- the use of supplements and/or enzymes in feed with the aim of reducing emissions of excreted nitrogen and phosphorus;
- supplement with additives provided for by the regulations in force (Regulation (1831/03 and subsequent amendments/additions) which have been proven to be effective in reducing GHG emissions, as defined by the legislation, such as probiotics, postbiotics, yeasts, etc.;

Optional Requirement (No 25 Chapter 7)

The operator may decide to promote the 'circular economy' and therefore use foodstuffs with a low environmental impact, including:

- former foodstuffs (Former Food, circular ingredients)
- organic products;
- products from integrated production systems.

Provided that they are limited to food by-products in the diet of piglets weighing up to 40 kg live weight, such by-products may be used as a valuable resource to contribute to a more sustainable agri-food system.
The maximum inclusion rate of Former Food in the daily ration is 30%. Former food products allow a partial replacement of cereals in animal diets, reducing the consumption of land, water, soil and fertilizers necessary for their cultivation. A diet based on 'circular' ingredients is efficient and helps to reduce the environmental impact of animal-based foods, including in terms of CO_2 emissions.

Optional requirement (No 27, Chapter 7)

Formulate feed rations with reduced protein content for each stage of rearing, using validated protocols, calculation methods and verified procedures.

The requirement provides for a reduction in the protein level in the feed ration for each breeding phase, as shown in the table below.

Indicator: Crude protein (%) and lysine.
Guidance on protein levels (% on an as-fed basis) for heavy pigs (30–80 kg body weight):

Parameter	Base	Good	Very good
Crude protein (% on an as-fed basis)	15-16	14	13
Lysine/McCall ED (g)	2,6	2,6	2,6

Indication of protein levels (% of feed as such) for heavy pigs (80-120 kg pv):

Parameter	Base	Good	Very good
Crude protein (% on an as-fed basis)	14-15	13	12
Lysine/McCall ED (g)	2,2	2,2	2,2

Indication of protein levels (% of feed as such) for heavy pigs (120-170 kg pv):

Parameter	Base	Good	Very good
Crude protein (% on an as-fed basis)	12-13	11	10
Lysine/McCall ED (g)	1,8	1,8	1,8

The reduction is to be achieved within three years: a record of the protein percentage used at the different growth stages of the pigs is expected when selecting the requirement. The target will be reviewed annually, with the possibility of readjustment.

8. Environmental impact assessment / waste management

In order to limit the environmental impact of its activity, the operator:

A. handles the effluent in accordance with the following procedures:

- Removes the slurry from under the grill at least once every six months;
- Separates the liquid and solid manure using separators;
- Covers the tanks;
- Use specific treatments to reduce ammonia emissions:

1. Anaerobic treatment of slurry with biogas. Anaerobic digestion with biogas production is an effective technology for reducing methane emissions. This technique makes it possible to capture the methane produced during the digestion of the slurry and use it for the production of renewable energy, reducing the overall GHG emissions by up to 75%.
2. Biological filters and biofilters: the use of biofilters for the purification of the air circulating inside the stables reduces ammonia and VOC emissions by up to 65%. These filters utilise bacteria that break down harmful compounds, transforming them into less polluting substances.

Or, as an alternative to the requirement set out in point A, the operator may apply the requirements described in points B and C:

B. assess its environmental impact during the initial certification process and subsequently on an annual basis, using the BAT-Tool Plus (current version) or similar tools in force in the various Member States;

C. undertakes to maintain its emissions of NH_3 and GHG below the reference level identified by the BAT-Tool Plus software (or similar tools currently in use in the various Member States) for the specific livestock farm.

The Bat-Tool Plus software, which is free and accessible to all operators, enables the quantification of ammonia (NH_3), methane (CH_4) and nitrous oxide (N_2O) emissions from livestock farming and the reduction of emissions achievable by introducing mitigation techniques in the different emission phases. The software also enables the quantification of CO_2eq emissions resulting from the company's energy use, and provides a simplified estimate of nitrate discharges into water (see the latest version of the user manual).

The operator may choose to use one of the following modules:

- Ammonia and Greenhouse Gases (BAT TOOL PLUS), which enables the calculation of ammonia and greenhouse gas emissions from cattle, pig and poultry farms, and the estimation of the effects on emissions resulting from the introduction of mitigation techniques;
- Regional models that enable the calculation of ammonia and greenhouse gas emissions on a regional scale – broader than that of an individual farm – and the estimation of the impact on emissions resulting from the introduction of mitigation techniques.

Emissions of NH_3 take into account the following emission stages:

- housing (which includes feeding techniques)
- effluent treatment;
- effluent storage;
- effluent distribution.

GHG emissions consider:

- Enteric emissions;
- manure management;
- agronomic distribution;
- energy consumption.

For each farm, the following will be evaluated:

- Current situation regarding 'Housing and Feeding' (in relation to the type of production/fattening):
    - average herd size;
    - average number of productive sows per year;
    - average weight of pigs at purchase and sale;
    - number of piglets produced per year and average selling weight of the piglets;
    - mortality;
    - sanitary empty period per cycle;
    - data on feeding phases;
    - on-farm feed consumption in kg per place per year, based on the average number of animals reported, to estimate nitrogen and phosphorus excretion.
- Current situation 'Imported effluents and biomass'

- Current situation ‘Effluent treatments’
- Current situation ‘Manure management’ (for greenhouse gas calculation)
- Current situation ‘Storage’
- Current situation ‘Manure distribution’
- Current situation: ‘Nitrogen discharges into water bodies’
- Current situation: ‘Energy consumption’

The inclusion of the ‘Current situation’ makes it possible to obtain a summary of the ‘Total emissions of ammonia and greenhouse gases’, detailed by emission phase and by gas (ammonia, methane, nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide). The total expressed in CO_2eq, taking into account the conversion factors, shall also be reported. The calculation must be carried out both with reference to the maximum potential of the herd and with reference to the average number of animals present.
When you select ‘Generate Annual Report’, the system copies the current status to the ‘Annual Report’ section, assigning it a unique identification code (calculation ID) and making it non-editable.

The assessment using BAT TOOL PLUS (current version) or similar tools currently in use in the various Member States, , must be carried out by a consultant or professional.

Should the farm’s emissions exceed the reference levels established by Bat-Tool Plus (current version) or similar tools in force in the various Member States, the operator or the supply chain leader must, on the basis of the results of this study, define measures aimed at reducing ammonia and/or GHG emissions, setting improvement targets to be achieved within a maximum of three years. Until this requirement is met, the operator will not be able to label their product as ‘Pork from sustainable farming’.

9. Emergency management and evacuation

Workers on pig farms are exposed to biological and chemical risks, as well as the risk of injury resulting from traumatic events.
For preventive purposes, in addition to the provisions laid down pursuant to Legislative Decree 81/2008 (comprehensive risk analysis, risk assessment, informing, educating and training workers, prevention and protection measures), the operator shall prepare and make available to workers floor plans of the premises, highlighting ‘critical areas’ such as tunnels, underground tanks, manholes, etc.
The construction measures and precautions intended to eliminate or reduce specific risks (falls from height, exposure to hazardous fermentation gases, exposure to explosive atmospheres) must be described, together with a description of the characteristics of the building materials used, with particular regard to their washability and slip resistance, in the case of flooring.

A layout plan must be drawn up, showing the equipment, any fixed installations and their respective routine maintenance points (located outside the animal housing areas), internal routes and emergency exits. This table should highlight both ordinary and, where appropriate, provisional internal routes to be set up for the transfer of animals.

10. Training

In the first year of adherence to these SQNZ regulations, farmers and their staff in positions of responsibility must attend training or refresher courses covering biosecurity, animal welfare and environmental protection.
Furthermore, those identified as company managers must attend a course on environmental issues and keep their knowledge of this subject up to date every three years. The training must be documented (including the trainer, participants and their signatures, topics covered, date and duration) and must cover the subjects set out in these specifications. Such training must be carried out before the SQNZ certification is issued and, subsequently, must also be carried out whenever the key personnel involved are

hired or undergo a change in duties.

11. Management and control system

Operators intending to apply these production specifications must adopt a specific management system designed to demonstrate compliance with the requirements set out herein, including on the basis of documentation required by current regulations (agronomic utilization plan for livestock effluent, treatment log, field record book, etc.).

The management system shall include at least all of the following requirements (the requirements identified by (*) are not applicable in the case of certification under Option 1:

1. identification of the chain leader, who assumes responsibility for ensuring compliance with this production specification by all associated operators (*);
2. qualification of the operators in the supply chain that are able to comply with all the requirements defined by the production specification (*);
3. the definition of supply chain agreements summarising the requirements subject to certification and the procedure adopted for the management of non-compliances (*);
4. the responsibility of the applicant organisation management;
5. control of documents and data supporting the certification requirements; time and manner of storage shall also be defined (*);
6. implementation of a verification plan designed to ensure that the requirements covered by the certification are maintained (internal audits and analyses); auditing activities relating to operators in the supply chain are the responsibility of the applicant organisation and must be carried out on 100% of operators per year during the qualification phase and on 100% of operators per year in subsequent years; for individual applicants, a self-assessment is required at least once a year covering all the requirements set out in these production specifications;
7. non-compliant product management;
8. corrective and preventive actions;
9. management review (*);
10. training: all operators in the supply chain must receive training on animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental protection.
    In the first year of adherence to these SQNZ regulations, farmers and their staff in positions of responsibility must attend training or refresher courses covering biosecurity, animal welfare and environmental protection.
    Furthermore, those identified as company managers must attend a course on environmental issues and keep their knowledge of this subject up to date every three years. The training must be documented (including the trainer, participants and their signatures, topics covered, date and duration) and must cover the subjects set out in these specifications. Such training must be carried out before the SQNZ certification is issued and, subsequently, must also be carried out whenever the key personnel involved are hired or undergo a change in duties.
11. complaint handling: a complaint management procedure involving all operators in the supply chain (breeders, slaughterhouses, processing facilities) must be defined by the chain leader or the individual operator. The procedure must be transparent and shall ensure that complaints are handled correctly at all levels of the supply chain. Any complaints from public or private entities that may be formalised against operators in the supply chain must be properly recorded and managed in a timely manner;
12. environmental impact monitoring and improvement actions.

12. Declaration of sustainability

Every commercial consignment of a product complying with these SQNZ specifications must be accompanied by a sustainability declaration that explicitly refers to the relevant valid certificate. Such a decla-

ration of sustainability may be issued in paper or digital format.

13. Labelling

Without prejudice to the measures referred to in Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011, the presentation, advertising and labelling of packaging and products produced in accordance with the SQNZ must include the following mandatory information:

a. the name of the specification: '*Pork meat from sustainable farming*';
b. 'National Animal Husbandry Quality Scheme (or acronym SQNZ) recognised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry (or acronym MASAF)';
c. The statement 'Pork from sustainable farming' applies when the animal's entire life cycle takes place on a farm certified in accordance with these SQNZ specifications;
d. the statement 'Pork meat from sustainable farming for at least four months' where the pigs have been reared on farms certified in accordance with these SQNZ specifications for at least four months;
e. the country of origin (an animal born, reared and slaughtered in the same Member State) or the country of rearing and slaughter (in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) No 1337/2013).

In addition to these indications, the following additional information may be included in the presentation, advertising and labelling of products obtained in compliance with the SQNZ:

- the name and/or trade mark of the producer and/or organisation holding the SQNZ conformity certification;
- the name and/or logo of the certification body that issued the certificate of compliance with SQNZ;
- identifiers of other voluntary certifications;
- any additional information contained in the SQNZ product specification.