

Animal healthcare systems in Finland

Civil Dialogue Group, Brussels
26th Nov 2024

Animal Health ETT



What's Animal Health ETT?

Private
non-governmental
organisation

Established 1994

Original aim:
To maintain excellent
animal health
situation

National expert and
co-op network

Health management
coordination and
registers

Improving and
documenting health
and welfare

Pillars of Animal Health Care

Voluntary

- Separated from official controls



Health Management Agreement

- Between producer and a herd vet



Health care visit

- Overview of animal health situation
- Protocol



Health Plan

- Scheduled plan for measures to achieve herd-specific goals





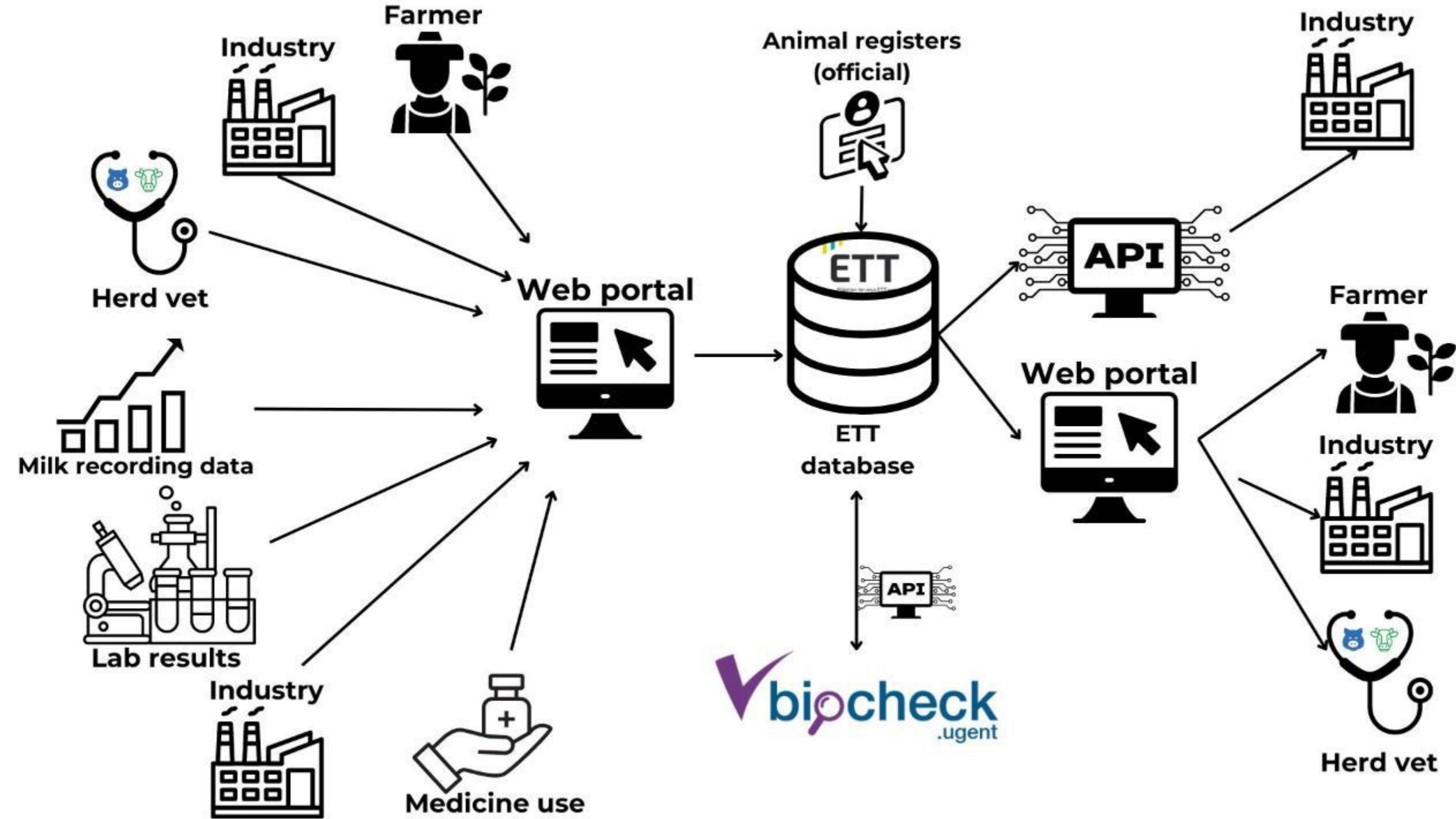
**Registers are
globally unique
data
collections of
welfare and
health**

**Free to use as online-registers in
a web browser**

Data

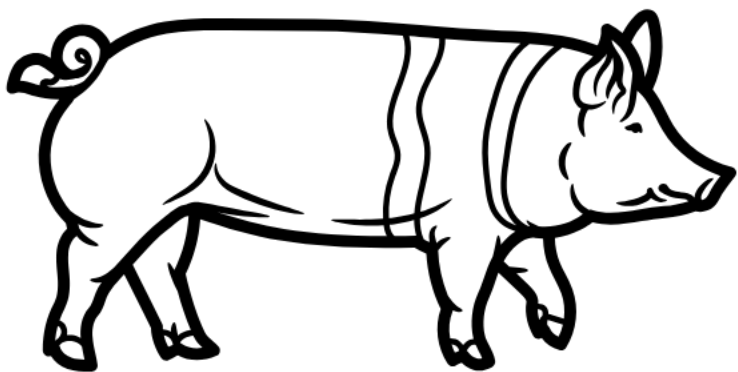
- Observations from vet visits (health and welfare observations)
- Lab results (pathogens, animal diseases)
- Treatment and medication data
- Slaughterhouse data (rejections, weights etc.)



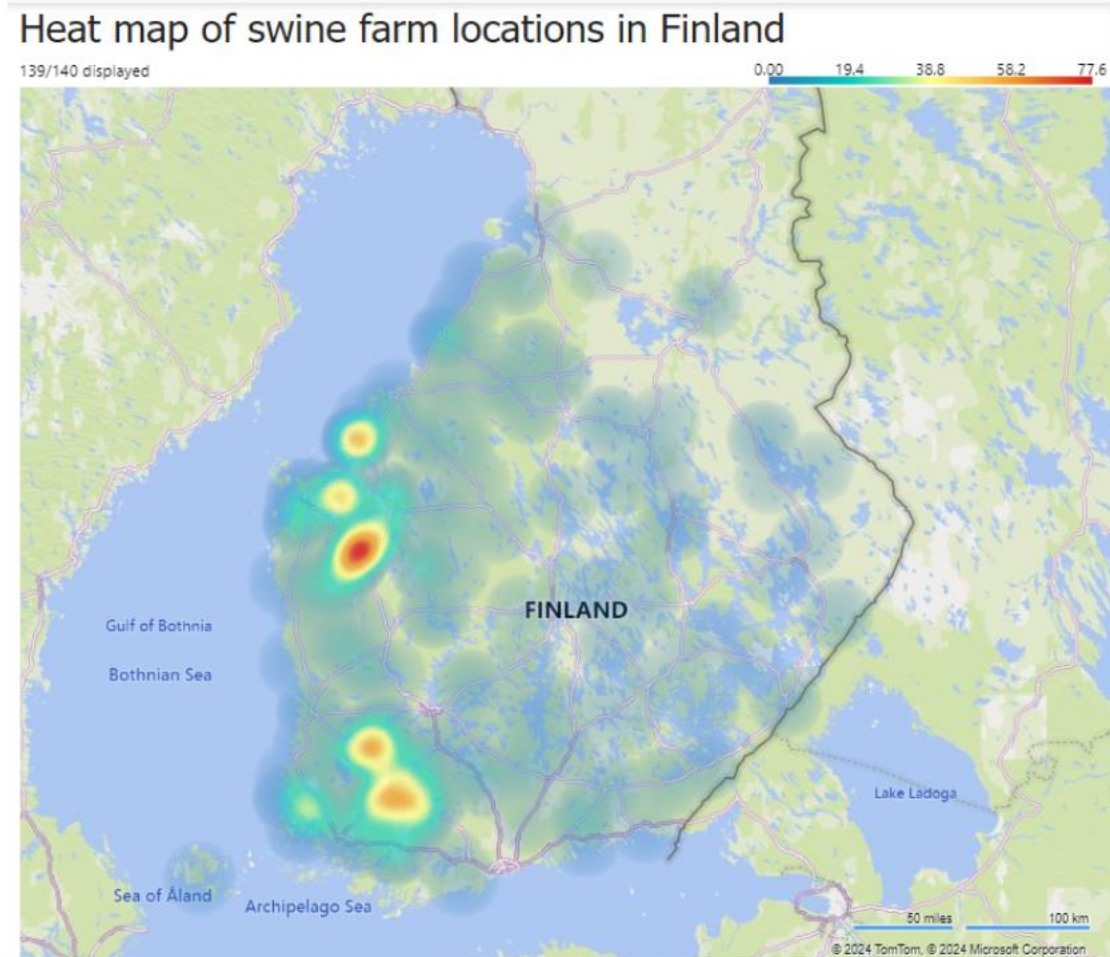


Pig production in Finland



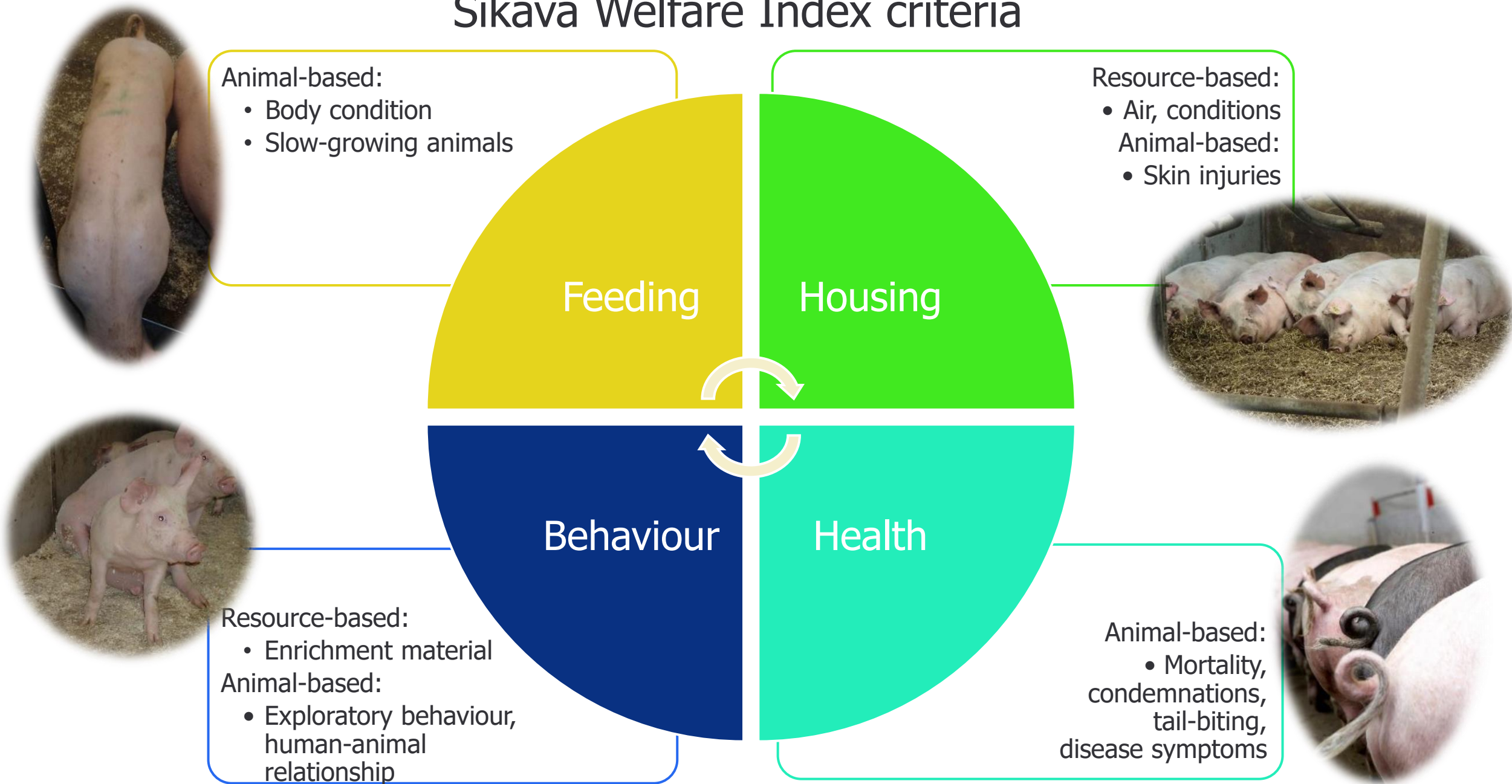


700 swine farms
70.000 sows (- 6 %)
33 piglets/year/sow
ADG (finishing) 1057 g/day)

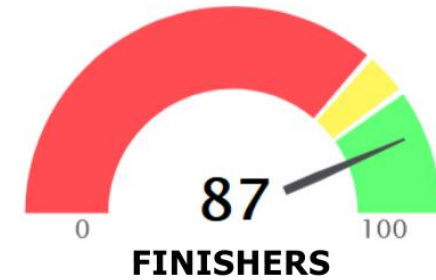
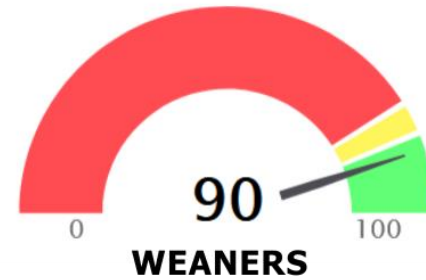
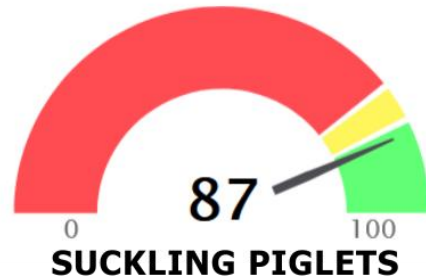
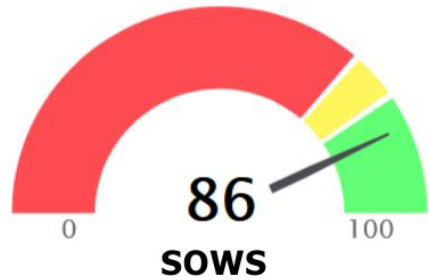




Sikava Welfare Index criteria



Welfare index





National Quality Scheme: Quality Assurance



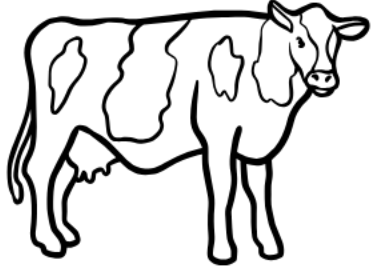
- **Approved by (EU) 1305/2013 and supervised by Finnish Food Authority**
- **Reaches higher criteria than required by legislation for**
 - **animal health and**
 - **food safety**
- **Quality Assurance label on pork meat packages**



Cattle and dairy production in Finland



Kuva: www.arcticfoodfromfinland.fi/



Dairy cows

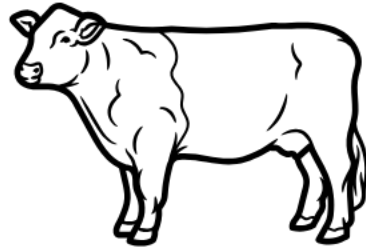
230.000 cows (- 3%)

3900 dairy herds

In average: 60 cows/herd

Beef cattle

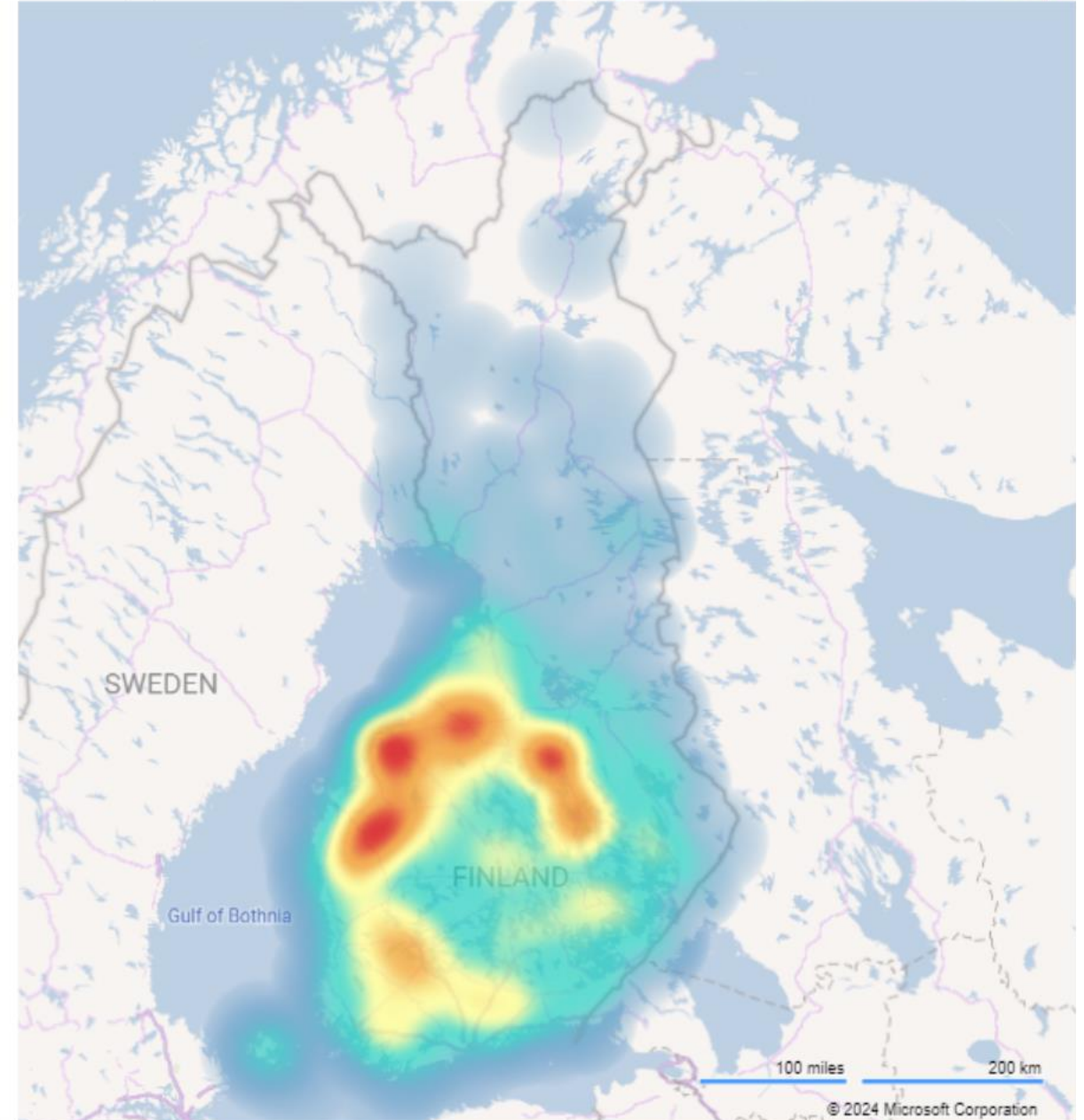
63.000 suckler cows (- 2 %)



Heat map of cattle farm locations in Finland

320/320 displayed

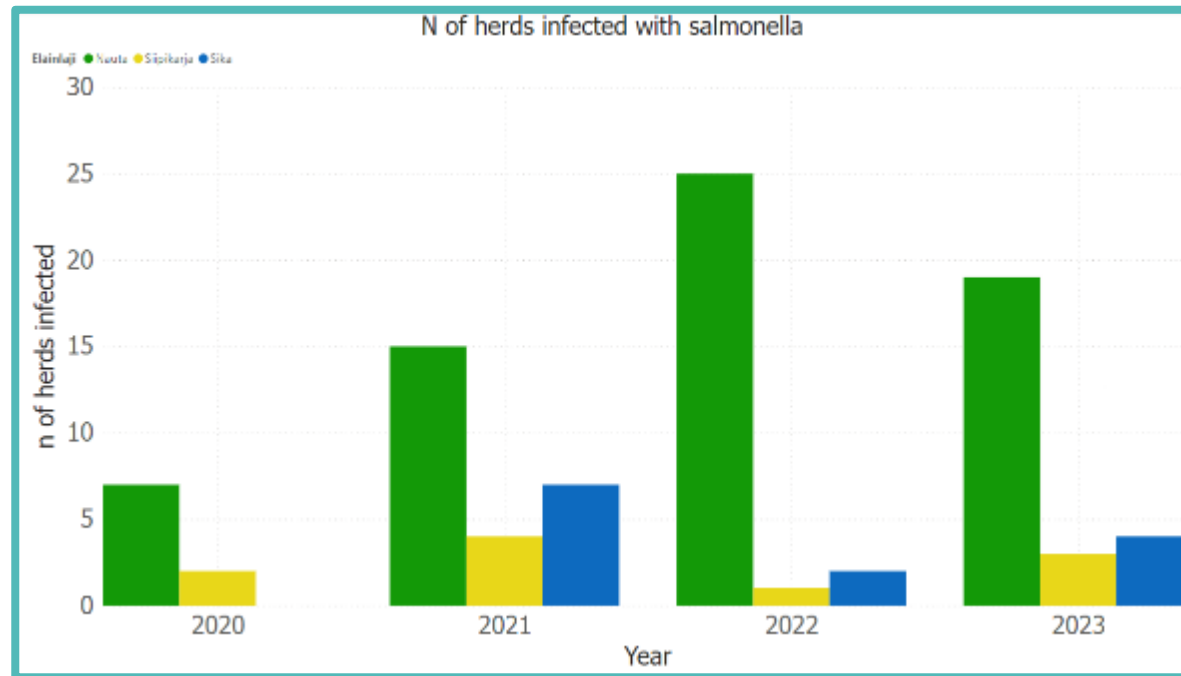
0.00 98.2 196 295 393





Salmonella-free production

- Official Salmonella control program for cattle, swine and poultry



Biocheck.UGent[®] (updated Aug 27th 2024)

Herd type (n of herds)	N of evaluations	Coverage of production
Swine (830)	2987 (2024 not added)	~300 %
Cattle, Veal (1140 + 100)	66	5 %
Cattle, Beef (1590)	111	5,5 %
Cattle, Dairy (4600)	392	7,7 %
Layers (230)	105	42 %
Broilers (200)	210	~100 %
Turkeys (35)	35	~100 %

01 Salmonella free production

Salmonella control program for all serotypes in poultry, swine and cattle



02 Excellent animal health - pigs

Farms in quality scheme free from:

- PRRS
- Enzootic pneumonia (mycoplasma)
- Swine dysentery
- Sarcoptic mange
- Atrophic rhinitis



03 Excellent animal health - cattle

Official freedom of BVD and IBR
Control programs for
Mycoplasma bovis and ringworm



04 Low antibiotic use

National registers for used medicine
Amount of antibiotics used among
lowest in Europe
No profit for vets in selling medicines

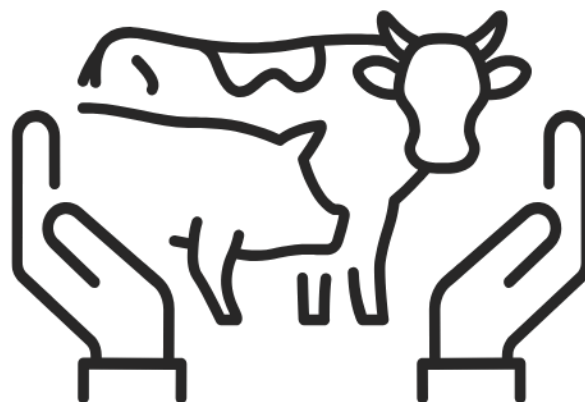


05 Good biosecurity

- Wide use of Biocheck. Ugent auditing tool
- Regular herd visits by vets (animal health visits by Animal Health Law)



The quality of Finnish cattle and swine production



Animal welfare in pigs 06

- No tail-docking
- Free clean water access, feeding space (long trough)
- Rooting material
- Pain relief during castration
- 50-60 % free farrowing



Animal welfare in cattle 07

- Pain relief during disbudding
- No tail-docking
- New buildings free stalls
- Outdoor access
- Pasture access when possible
- Free clean water access



National registers 08

- Documenting the sustainability
- Data-driven follow-up and continuous improvement



Wide commitment in ETT 09

All dairy companies and most of the slaughtering companies are members of ETT and committed to the rules and instructions given by ETT experts



Network for commitment 10

Co-operation with producers, government, authorities and other stakeholders

A close-up photograph of two piglets in a wooden enclosure. The piglet on the left is looking towards the left, with a green tag on its ear. The piglet on the right is looking towards the camera. A white circular text box is overlaid in the center of the image.

Thank you!

Pig tail is not
a fairy"tail"!