



Advanced Open Sow Housing System

Maple Leaf Foods is committed to being a leader in animal care. Better care for our animals is one of our sustainability priorities and reflects our goal to be the most sustainable protein company on earth.

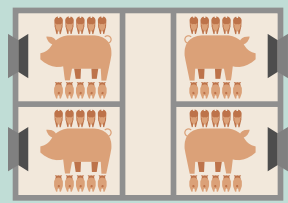
While all pigs that are raised for meat are housed in open pens, industry practice has been to confine sows (mother pigs) in confining gestation crates. At Maple Leaf Foods, we challenged ourselves to do better. We have invested in research and significant barn redesign and construction to convert all of our sows to open housing. To date, we have moved more than 50 per cent of our sows to our Advanced Open Sow Housing system where they are free to roam, feed and socialize. We are on track to complete this transition by the end of 2021.

Legend



Conventional Sow Housing System

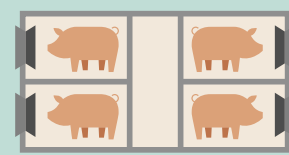
The majority of the industry in Canada and US applies this conventional system for their breeding practices.



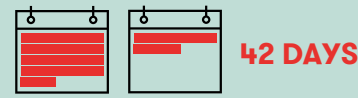
FARROWING STAGE



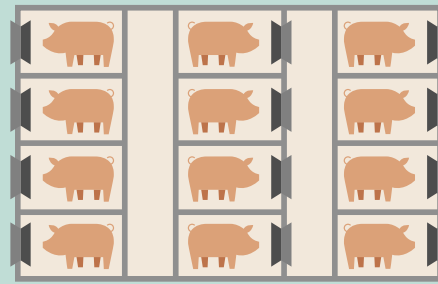
Sows housed in stalls to birth and nurse their piglets.



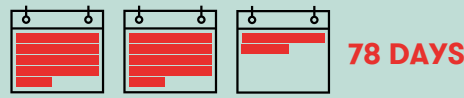
BREEDING STAGE



Sows housed in stalls to be inseminated and confirmed pregnant.



GESTATION STAGE



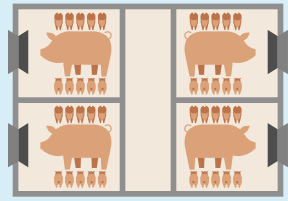
Pregnant sows housed in stalls until ready to give birth.

THE SOW EXPERIENCE

- Lifetime of total confinement
- Cannot turn around
- No opportunity to exercise
- No socializing with other sows
- More prone to injury due to lack of movement
- Limited interaction with caregivers

Loose Sow Housing System

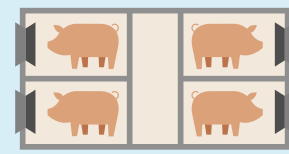
A small percentage of the industry in Canada and US have adopted a system that allows sows more movement during pregnancy. Sows are still housed in stalls during the farrowing and breeding stages until confirmed pregnant.



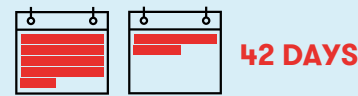
FARROWING STAGE



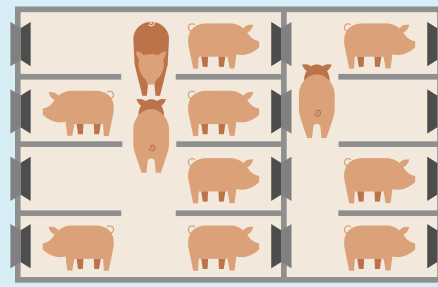
Sows housed in stalls to birth and nurse their piglets.



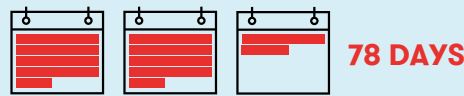
BREEDING STAGE



Sows housed in stalls to be inseminated and confirmed pregnant.



GESTATION STAGE EXAMPLE



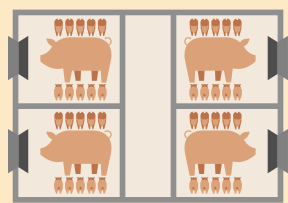
The above is an example of a free access stall which allows pregnant sows the option to back out of the stalls and socialize. Animal behaviour often limits the sows' willingness to take advantage of this option and exit their stalls.

THE SOW EXPERIENCE

- Confined in stalls during farrowing, breeding and early stage of pregnancy
- Opportunity to exercise and socialize

Maple Leaf Foods Advanced Open Sow Housing System

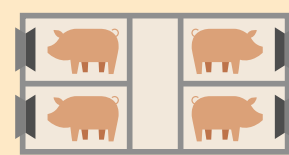
Our unique approach significantly lowers the time a sow spends in a stall, providing 100% open housing following breeding and throughout pregnancy, in an environment where they are free to roam, feed and socialize.



FARROWING STAGE



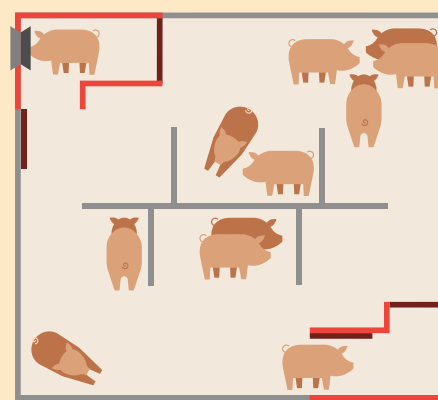
Sows housed in stalls to birth and nurse their piglets.



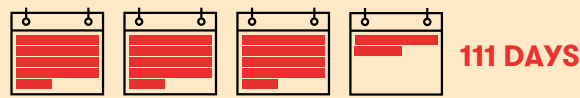
BREEDING STAGE



Sows are bred in individual stalls for their own safety and wellbeing. Once bred, they are immediately returned to their social groups without waiting to confirm pregnancy.



GESTATION STAGE



Total redesign and rebuild of pen to allow sows to move and socialize. Developed a training system where sows are taught to use our Advanced Open Sow Housing system, which significantly reduces risk of aggressive behaviour. Maple Leaf Foods selected an electronic sow feeding system to further encourage movement and optimal nutrition. Free access to water on demand.

THE SOW EXPERIENCE

- Allows sows to explore their surroundings
- Improved well-being, health
- Improved leg, joint health due to lots of opportunity to move and exercise
- Higher social interaction amongst social group
- Reduced aggressive behaviour
- More interaction with caregivers
- Feed program tailored to each sow for her individual health
- Cool water misters for sows during summer

Our sustainability and animal welfare improvements:



ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDERS



ENRICHMENT



ENHANCED FLOORING DESIGN



ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY MATERIALS



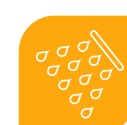
AIR SYSTEM/ VENTILATION



LED LIGHTS



WINDOWS FOR NATURAL LIGHT



WATER MISTERS

