



**Plumpton College**

**Plumpton College  
Centre for Sustainable Food Farming &  
Forestry**

**Course Information**

**Course Name:** Managing a Pig Herd

**Tutor:** Debbie Hopkins

**Venue:** Ivyland Farm  
Netherfield  
Nr. Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 9QB

**1 day course**

**Start time/ Finish time:**  
10am to 4pm

**Designed for:** Any one who is interested in starting their own pig herd, or already keep pigs and would like to improve on their knowledge. No previous experience needed. Covers equipment, housing, and rearing free- range pigs. Includes a visit to pigs on the farm.

**Aims of the course:** To introduce participants to the main points that need to be considered when keeping pigs.

**Typical number of delegates:** 6 -10

**Course runs approximately twice a year**

**Course Timetable**

**10.00 am – 10.30 am** Course administration/ tea or coffee/introductions

**10.30 am – 12.30 pm** Lecture: Rules & Regulations  
Welfare  
Buildings & land  
Types of production  
Breeds  
Terminology  
Breeding & Farrowing  
Feeding  
Key points

**12.30 pm – 1.30 pm** Lunch

**1.30 pm – 3.30 pm** Visit to pig herd on the farm to carry out some practical stock tasks.  
(E.g. piglet teeth clipping, moving pigs, injecting, selecting finished pigs and possible demonstration of A.I. – some practical tasks depend on whether a pig has recently farrowed)

**3.30 pm – 4.00 pm** Summary /Questions and Answers  
Tea / Coffee and Course Evaluations

**What you need to bring:** Hot & cold drinks are provided, but you will need to bring a packed lunch. In the morning the course is classroom based. During the afternoon the course will be held on the farm. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear for both venues.

**As an ongoing precautionary measure, please ensure that items of clothing and footwear used previously on another farm, have been thoroughly cleaned.**

**Course Outcome:** College Certificate (on request)

**Follow on course suggestions:** Pork Butchery, Sausage Making, Bacon & Gammon Curing, Salami Making, Selection of Finished livestock, Stock Fencing, Direct Meat Marketing.

**For dates and further course information please contact Plumpton College**

**To book this course, for further information, or in case of an emergency on the day of the course please contact:**

Plumpton College Centre for Sustainable Food Farming & Forestry  
Woodland Enterprise Centre, Hastings Road, Flimwell, TN5 7PR  
Tel 01580 879 547 e-mail [gammonc@plumpton.ac.uk](mailto:gammonc@plumpton.ac.uk)