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Global & Local Pig Market Insights

The global pig (pork) industry continues to adapt to shifting demand patterns and supply pressures. Pork remains one of the world's most consumed meats, with global production sustained by major markets in China, the EU, and the USA. At the same time, challenges such as African Swine Fever (ASF) outbreaks in parts of Asia and Eastern Europe, feed cost volatility, and trade disruptions have continued to influence both production and pricing globally. Despite this, demand for processed pork products and efficient, welfare-focused systems supports long-term sector innovation and resilience.



Pork demand remains strong, but productivity and disease management are central to future competitiveness.

Locally, the South African pig industry – though smaller than poultry and beef – remains a key livestock sector, contributing around 2.2% of the country's primary agricultural GDP with an integrated commercial base supporting both domestic consumption and regional trade. Quarterly pig slaughters in 2025 continue a long-term upward trend, though production in Q3 2025 was about 0.5% lower than the average for 2024, underlining short-term fluctuations against a backdrop of structural growth. Exports are also rising, with pork exports recorded up 28.2% year-on-year as of September 2025.

Producer numbers reflect sustained activity, with commercial sow registrations around 142 149 head in early 2025, with a strong concentration in provinces like Gauteng and the Northern Region. Feed costs remain a critical factor in producer margins: pig feed production grew by 6.4% year-on-year in January 2025, while yellow maize prices – a core ingredient – were significantly higher than earlier year levels.

Despite periodic declines in output relative to year-ago averages, pork remains a staple protein with continued consumer demand. South Africa's relatively modern production and processing systems have allowed the sector to navigate price volatility and external risks, while maintaining competitiveness with imports and growing export flows.

Looking ahead, South African pig producers are focused on improving efficiency, expanding market access, and strengthening biosecurity to manage disease risk and feed cost pressure. The broader African pork market is also projected to grow over the coming decade, with emerging demand across regional markets offering additional opportunities for sector expansion and value-added product development.

Slurry Separation

Farming in Southern Africa requires an immense amount of resilience and the ability to find profitable solutions to problems. An absolute certainty, in any pig farmers cycle is the presence of pig slurry. So, why not turn this waste matter into a profitable side hustle that benefits food production and offers the opportunity to make a profit.

By separating slurry pig farmers are able to harvest distinct benefits from the solid phase and liquid phase slurry

Solid Phase Slurry:

Solid phase slurry offers farmers an easy to shovel high quality organic fertilizer that can be used to boost horticultural activities on the farm. As an odourless, easy to shover fertilizer, solid phase slurry is ideal for storage or as a bye-product to be sold to neighbouring crop farmers.

Liquid Phase Slurry:

Liquid phase slurry provides an enriched liquid fertilizer with low water content while still maintaining a flowable, liquid-like consistency, with just enough solids without making it too thick or difficult to handle. It is easy to mix, pump, spread and store making it an ideal bye-product to use for crop or feed production.



Slurry Separation Advantages

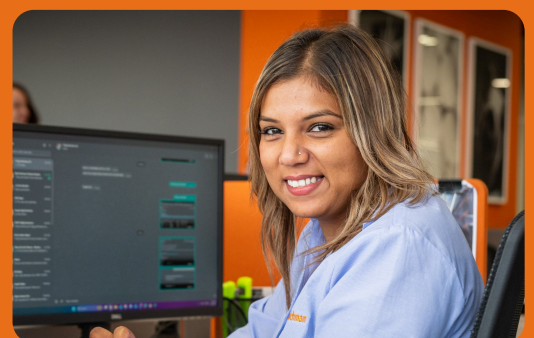
- Dual-value output: Gain two usable by-products, nutrient-rich solid and liquid fertilisers.
- Effortless handling: Both solid and liquid phases are easy to store, transport, and apply.
- Reduced odour emissions: Cleaner air on the farm and less impact on neighbouring areas.
- Improved nutrient management: Apply fertilisers more precisely based on crop needs.
- Lower storage demands: Reduced slurry volume eases pressure on existing storage facilities.
- Additional revenue potential: Sell the solid phase as a high-quality organic fertiliser.
- Better equipment lifespan: Less strain on pumps and mixers from thick, unseparated slurry.
- Supports sustainable farming: Helps meet environmental compliance and green goals.
- Customisable solutions: Scalable systems to suit farms of all sizes.

Summer Sale 2026

Summer Sale now on! Get fast, reliable service from Nabeela and the Big Dutchman team - reach out today to upgrade your system and secure your parts.

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Contact Us On WhatsApp 



PIG PRODUCTION

Turnkey Piggery Project

Big Dutchman Southern Africa is proud to present one of our most innovative turnkey piggery projects - a 600 sow unit designed as a complete farrow-to-finisher system. This project showcases the very best in modern pig production, with technology and infrastructure tailored to ensure efficiency, animal welfare, and long-term sustainability.



The project was designed with a strong focus on animal welfare, efficiency, and environmental control. Every stage of production – from mating through to finishing – has been carefully considered to create the ideal conditions for growth and productivity. The mating and farrowing houses are equipped with combi-tunnel ventilation systems and Rainmaker cooling pads, ensuring consistent airflow, temperature regulation, and comfort for the animals even in challenging climates.

Feeding across the facility is fully automated, allowing for precise feed management that improves consistency and reduces waste. To further enhance performance, each building is fitted with a 307 Pro Smart Computer, giving farmers advanced tools to manage feed delivery and environmental conditions in real time. This level of automation and control allows for smarter decision-making and greater operational efficiency.

This project highlights how Big Dutchman Southern Africa continues to deliver world-class pig production systems, empowering farmers to grow their operations with confidence and contribute to a stronger, more sustainable agricultural sector in the region.



Contact us Now!

Want to learn more about this exciting project or explore how Big Dutchman can support your piggery vision ?

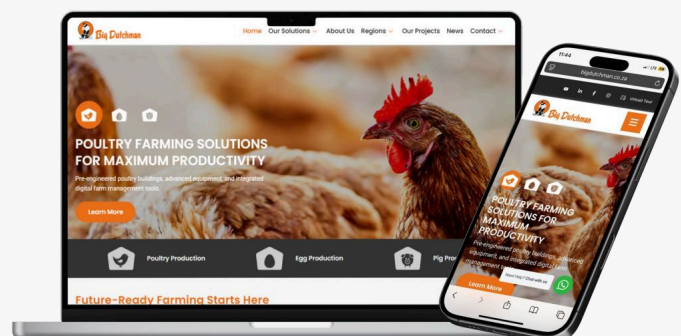
Contact our team at Big Dutchman South Africa, for more information:

[Contact Us On WhatsApp](#)



New Website Now Live

Smarter Farming Starts Here >



PIG PRODUCTION

Big Dutchman Maintenance Agreement

Designed to keep your critical equipment running smoothly, these packages offer regular maintenance at recommended intervals, reducing the risk of malfunctions.



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Key benefits include:

- Regular Service & Multi-Point Checks – ensure smooth, continuous operations
- Priority Assistance & Quick Repairs – prolong equipment lifespan
- Software Updates & Optimisation – maintain peak performance

Find Out More Today !

Contact Benita de Beer today to learn more about Big Dutchman South Africa's Maintenance Agreements!

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Contact Us On WhatsApp 

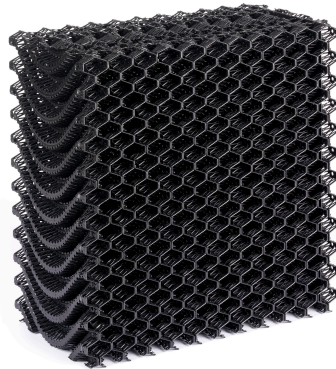


Product Spotlight



AirMaster Blue 130

High performance, low costs



RainMaker Plastic Pad

The ideal cooling system



310Pro Controller

Ultimate system to control pig feeding



SiloCheck AIR

RADAR- BASED SENSOR THAT MONITORS SILO FEED LEVELS.

ADVANTAGES:

- ✓ Overview of all equipped silos with current fill level – anytime, anywhere – plus short-term forecast
- ✓ Data delivered to your smartphone or PC via secure cloud
- ✓ Wireless, easy roof-top installation; battery life up to 10 years & Compatible with all standard silo types
- ✓ No lens soiling possible; lightning protection approved
- ✓ Alerts at defined minimum levels – never miss a feed order
- ✓ Optional direct interface to the feed mill to optimize deliveries and reduce fleet and management costs

FLEX AUGER SYSTEM

FOR EFFICIENT AND LABOUR CONDUCTIVE

FEED TRANSPORT



Specifications:

- ✓ Automatic feeding system of 60m (55mm auger) and 80m (75mm auger)
- ✓ Comprises of PVC straight conveying pipes, PVC elbows, flexible steel auger core, galvanised suspension material, direct drive unit, silo transition, connection boot with arbour shaft, and DOL26 feed-level sensor
- ✓ Availability - 4 weeks from order
- ✓ Add-ons available on request



Big Dutchman.

DR1500 CHAIN-AND- DISC SYSTEM

THE VERSATILE AND EFFICIENT DRY FEEDING
SYSTEMS FOR EXPERTS

Specifications:

- ✓ Automatic feeding system of 150m (49mm disc) with 8 corners
- ✓ Comprises of galvanised straight conveying pipes, hardened conveyor chain with discs, galvanised suspension material, 1,7kW SST drive unit with cover and wall bracket, tensioning device, silo connection hopper, 7 plastic 90 degree corners with plastic wheels, 1 GRP 135 degree corner with cast iron wheel, control segment, and 10-30V DR feed-level sensors
- ✓ Availability - 3 months from order
- ✓ Add-ons available on request



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