

HEFT AB - PRESS RELEASE

EU authorises a more humane stunning and euthanasia method for poultry and pigs

Uddevalla, Sweden, 17 July 2026

HEFT AB welcomes today's publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* authorising nitrogen-filled high expansion foam for stunning and euthanasia of pigs and poultry. This new method, developed and patented by HEFT AB, can now be used on farms across European markets. It applies to laying hens and broiler chickens of all weight categories, and pigs weighing 15-41 kg.

Every day, large numbers of pigs and poultry are killed on farms due to illness, injury, or non-viability. With HEFT's patented nitrogen foam method and technology, animals lose consciousness without unnecessary stress and pain. This is a significant improvement over conventional methods, which are often manual and place significant physical and emotional demands on personnel. HEFT's semi-automated technology is designed to provide a more consistent and welfare-focused process while reducing the physical and mental burden on operators.

The authorisation concludes a regulatory process initiated by HEFT in 2021 and represents a major milestone for the company. HEFT is the first European company to develop and achieve regulatory authorisation for a novel method for the humane stunning and euthanasia of pigs and poultry, representing both a technological innovation and a regulatory breakthrough in the field.

Since its inception, HEFT has focused on research and development aimed at improving animal welfare and working conditions in livestock production. Over the years, the company has conducted extensive scientific studies in collaboration with leading research institutions, including RISE Research Institutes of Sweden, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences SLU, Wageningen University & Research, and the University of Minnesota.

"We are proud to reach this important milestone after years of scientific, technical, and regulatory work," says Nicole Krefting, CEO of HEFT. "Our goal has always been to improve animal welfare while supporting the people responsible for animal care. This authorisation allows us to begin bringing our solutions to farms across Europe."

HEFT has developed systems for both routine on-farm euthanasia and emergency disease outbreak management. The company's immediate focus is the commercial launch of its on-farm euthanasia solutions. Following years of preparation, HEFT has products, distribution partners, and launch plans already in place across several European markets.

About HEFT

HEFT AB is a Swedish AgTech and innovation company based in Uddevalla, Sweden. Founded in 2020, the company develops patented technologies designed to improve animal welfare and working conditions in livestock production, focusing on the last step of animal life. Through science-based innovation and close collaboration with leading research institutions, HEFT aims to set new standards for farm animal management.

Regulatory Reference

The implementing regulation published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* can be accessed here:

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2026/1734/oj

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