



Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

Training course on “Animal Welfare in pig production”

Working Group N.1

IN FIELD EXERCISE

Herning, Denmark, 14-17 October, 2014

Farm description

1150 sows, gilts and boars

5.500 weaner pigs

700 slaughter pigs

General impression

Average farm on a scale from 1-10 it is a 5

Sows were very similar in body condition

Most of the animals were clean

Very little aggression

All pigs get tail-docked, No fresh tail-lesions

A few stereotypic sows

The animals were not afraid of humans

Sick pens in all areas

Our findings – Farrowing house

Low temperature (21 °C)

Small amount of straw for nest building

No enrichment material after farrowing*

Tail-docking (females day 1, males day 3 when castrated)

No teeth clipping

Analgesic is used after castration

Routine ear notching

Beer for nervous sows

Not much space for piglets in the side of the creep

Water supply for piglets in the solid area and food supply in the slatted area

Pens with no creep feed for piglets

Several piglets with skin lesions

Some sows with long claws

Very few shoulder lesions

Our findings - weaners

Some of the eldest weaners were very dirty (the pens closest to the end walls) – air circulation?

They did not use the enrichment material

Some coughing and sneezing

Sick pens in the middle of the room

Very little serious fighting

Some wide gaps between slats

Our findings – dry sows

Lying in their boxes in all the pens

Lying areas were too small and wet

Some sows were sham chewing

A lot of flies – no attempt to control them

Very little straw except in the sick pens

Good management around insemination

Very similar in body condition

Conclusions

Good looking animals

High productivity

Calm animals

The farmer had a good attitude

Improving suggestions

More straw

Better control of the micro climate

Better hygiene

Control of flies



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