

Training guide EURCAW-Pigs: suggestions for national training in EU Member States

EURCAW-Pigs provides a training course example as a sort of standard for each of the eight welfare focus topics in our Work Programme 2021-2022. The diversity of the different EU Member states (MS) on how training is organized in general has to be taken into account: Hence, 'standards' for training will not fit all national needs, but need to be adjusted to the different contexts in the MS.

Subject: Hunger induced stereotypies

Introduction

According to [Council Directive 98/58/EC](#) animals must be fed a diet that is appropriate to fulfil their physiological needs. However, pregnant sows are generally fed at a restricted level to avoid a high body condition score and the risk of farrowing problems. Sows may as a result of restricted feeding develop oral stereotypies.

This training program will focus on introducing participants to what stereotypies are, why they are developed and how they can act as indicators of impaired animal welfare - and partly on housing and management solutions to prevent and to mitigate stereotypies.

Learning goals

After the course, the participants will have gained:

- Knowledge about the relevant national and EU-legislation.
- Knowledge about how stereotypies in sows develop and their validity as animal welfare indicators.
- Knowledge about housing and management solutions to prevent and to mitigate stereotypies

Programme and suggested training material for a training course

Programme	Link to knowledge, ideas for materials you can use in the course
<p>9:00-9:30 Welcome</p> <p>Participants present themselves.</p> <p>Presentation of learning goals by course leader.</p> <p>9:30-10:30 Stereotypies: definition and relevance as welfare indicators</p> <p>Lecture by course coordinator and/or invited speaker on</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) what stereotypies are (scientific definitions and on-farm characteristics), 2) why they are developed (focus on nutritional needs and hunger) and 3) when they are typically seen. 	<p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs “Review on hunger induced behaviours: aggression and stereotypies”</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs indicator factsheet “Stereotypies: indicators for frustration due to hunger and inappropriate foraging behaviour in sows”</p>
<p>10:30-11:00 Coffee break</p>	
<p>11:00-12:30 Video footage based exercise</p> <p>OR</p> <p>11:00-15:00 On farm exercise</p> <p>Course coordinator and/or invited speaker introduces exercise on measuring different types of stereotypic behaviours in sows.</p> <p>Course participants 2 by 2 observing behaviour of crated pregnant sows immediately before feeding (video footage or on-farm).</p> <p>Course participants 2 by 2 calculating ratio of different types of sow stereotypies.</p> <p><i>Course coordinator facilitated plenum follow up.</i></p>	<p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs “Review on hunger induced behaviours: aggression and stereotypies”</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-Pigs indicator factsheet “Stereotypies: indicators for frustration due to hunger and inappropriate foraging behaviour in sows”</p> <p>Link to EURCAW-pigs website</p>
<p>Take-home-messages and ‘good bye’</p> <p>12:30-13:00 Video footage based exercise</p> <p>OR</p>	

<p>15:00-15:30 On farm exercise</p> <p>Participants 2-by-2 discuss take-home messages and present these in plenum.</p> <p>Course wrap up and evaluation</p>	
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