

FareWellDock



Ending tail docking and tail biting in the EU - Hazard characterization and exposure assessment of a major pig welfare problem

Goals

- Estimation of the relative harms associated with tail docking and tail biting
 - Evaluation of efficacy of preventive measures against tail biting which could reliably reduce the need for tail docking
 - proper use of enrichment
 - good health of pigs
 - early detection
- ⇒ Supplying necessary information for quantitative risk assessment and stimulating the development towards a non-docking policy in the EU

Partners



Work Packages

WP 1: Short- and long-term effects on welfare of tail docking and tail biting

- Evaluation and alleviation of acute and chronic pain of tail docking and damage in pigs of different ages

WP 2: Tail biting and enrichment

- Assessment methods for proper use of manipulable material; Feasibility of straw use and the relative effects of straw use and tail docking to reduce the risk of tail biting

WP 3: Identification of individual and group characteristics predisposing pigs to tail biting

- Relationship between reduced health and tail biting; Using behaviour to predict tail biting on individual and pen level

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