



ABSTRACT
The use of individual stalls for dry sows is a common practice in pig production. This practice has been shown to have negative effects on sow welfare. The present study aimed to assess the welfare of dry sows kept in individual stalls compared to those kept in group housing. The study was conducted on a pig farm in the Netherlands. The results showed that sows kept in individual stalls had a higher prevalence of lameness, a higher prevalence of tail damage, and a higher prevalence of aggression compared to sows kept in group housing. The results also showed that sows kept in individual stalls had a lower prevalence of lying down and a higher prevalence of standing compared to sows kept in group housing. The results suggest that the use of individual stalls for dry sows is not a welfare-friendly practice.

CAST Publication Impacts Report

SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF THE WELFARE OF DRY SOWS KEPT IN INDIVIDUAL ACCOMMODATIONS

CAST Issue Paper 42
Released March 17, 2009
Report Issued November 18, 2009



I. ROLLOUT/RELEASE

This Issue Paper was released live on the CAST website and rolled out in Washington, D.C., at the third 2009 National C-FAR “Lunch~N~Learn” Hill Seminar on May 11, 2009. Task Force Chair Dr. John McGlone, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, Texas Tech University, and Dr. John Bonner traveled to Washington to make the presentations.

II. DISTRIBUTION OF ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS RELEASES

Approx. No. of Recipients

Electronic Contacts

Listservs

Task Force Members	10
Board/Staff	37
Society Presidents	36
Society Executives	29
Friday Notes recipients ♦	1435
Media	595
News Information Groups	103
Deans of Agriculture	78
Directors of Ag Experiment Stations	93
Total e-contacts as of November 18, 2009	2416

III. FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES/ PRESENTATIONS/NEWSPAPER ARTICLES/ TV & RADIO NEWS

Feedstuffs, weekly newspaper, March 23, 2009. Feedstuffs discussed the release of the new CAST Issue Paper (*Swine Welfare*) and its importance in agriculture today.

IV. COMMENTS RECEIVED

Dr. John Bonner, Executive VP, CAST, April 14, 2009. The following note was sent by John to all CAST board members after completing rollouts: *“The topic is one that continues to be important and is raising questions about what regulations, registrations and monitoring will be required or not in the future.”*

Jennifer L. Greiner, DVM, Director of Science and Technology, National Pork Producers Council, April 15, 2009. The following note was sent to the CAST office by Jennifer Greiner regarding the NPPC involvement in the rollout of this publication: *“Thanks for the opportunity to collaborate with you on this.”*

V. INTERNET AND WEBSITE CONNECTIONS

Advocates for Agriculture,

<http://advocatesforag.blogspot.com/search?q=Sow+Housing+science+inconclusive>

(accessed 3/23/09)

AgClips,

<http://www.agandruralleaders.org/agclips.htm>

(accessed 3/23/09)

AgNetwork,

<http://www.agnetwork.com/Council-For-Agricultural-Science---Technology-Reviews-IGA-s/2009-03-24/Article.aspx?oid=514719>

(accessed 4/14/09)

AgProfessional,

http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=57230

(accessed 3/26/09)

AgriMarketing,

http://www.agrimarketing.com/show_story.php?id=53742

(accessed 3/23/09)

Animal Concerns Community,

<http://www.animalconcerns.org/topics.html?topic=Dairy%20Farms&topicsku=2002130142430&toptype=subtopic>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Atlantic Farmer,

<http://www.atlanticfarmer.com/>

(accessed 3/23/09)

BARN OnAir and OnLine,

<http://briannallmerradionetwork.wordpress.com/2009/03/23/03-26-09-%E2%80%9Creport-calls-sow-housing-options-a-draw%E2%80%9D/>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Britz Fertilizers,

<http://www.britzinc.com/>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Brownfield,

<http://www.brownfieldnetwork.com/gestalt/go.cfm?objectid=25571F2A-5056-B82A-D0942EFC65FCF574>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Cattle Network,

<http://www.cattlenetwork.com/Content.asp?ContentID=301208>

(accessed 3/25/09)

Engormix.com,

http://www.engormix.com/e_news_view.asp?news=14600&AREA=

(accessed 3/25/09)

Farm Animal Welfare in the News,

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/afs/> (members only electronic newsletter)

(accessed 4/24/2009)

Farm Progress,

<http://wallacesfarmer.com/story.aspx?s=22411&c=12>

(accessed 3/27/09)

Feedstuffs,

<http://www.feedstuffs.com/ME2/dirmod.asp?sid=&nm=&type=Publishing&mod=Publications%3A%3AArticle&mid=AA01E1C62E954234AA0052ECD5818EF4&tier=4&id=B49111B6BC9544F0A885C6D22D45A7AC>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Food Industry Environmental Network, LLC,

<http://www.fien.com/index.php> (members only electronic newsletter)

(accessed 3/24/09)

Google Groups,

http://groups.google.com/group/AR-News/browse_thread/thread/ce195c50339b7e8c

(accessed 3/23/09)

Hoosier Ag Today,

http://www.hoosieragtoday.com/wire/news/02329_sows_121017.php

(accessed 3/23/09)

Iowa Pork Industry Center,

<http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/newsnow/NNv8n23.pdf>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Iowa Pork Producers Association,

<http://www.iowapork.org/Newsroom/NewsForProducers/CAST/tabid/1323/Default.aspx>

(accessed 4/14/09)

Kansas Farm Bureau,

<http://www.kfb.org/news/washingtontoday.htm>

(accessed 3/23/09)

KNEB,

<http://www.kneb.com/news/agricultural/80861660-3dd6-4dd1-a50b-6023bb57216c>

(accessed 3/24/09)

Midwest AGNet,

http://www.midwestagnet.com/Global/story.asp?S=10044474&nav=menu1585_4

(accessed 3/24/09)

Oklahoma Farmer,

http://oklahomafarmreport.com/wire/emails/media/2089869288_Oklahomas_Farm_News_Update_03232009.htm

(accessed 3/25/09)

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau,

<http://www.pfb.com/news/FB-newswatch/fb-executive-newswatch-mar-16-09.html>

(accessed 4/14/09)

Pig Progress,

<http://www.pigprogress.net/news/cast-issues-paper-on-sow-accommodation-id2723.html>

(accessed 3/23/09)

The Pig Site,

<http://www.thepigsite.com/swinenews/20656/welfare-issues-impact-swine-production>

(accessed 3/24/09)

Pork Magazine,

http://www.porkmag.com/news_editorial.asp?pgID=675&ed_id=7288

(accessed 3/23/09)

Selling Compassion,

<http://sellingcompassion.blogspot.com/2009/03/power-of-compassion.html>

(accessed 3/23/09)

USDA National Agricultural Library,

<http://weblogs.nal.usda.gov/awic/archives/004959.html>

(accessed 3/26/09)

Utah Farm Bureau,

<http://utfb.fb.org/Website/Headlines.html>

(accessed 4/14/09)

WAIIT AgriBusiness,

<http://www.waitagribusiness.com/>

(accessed 3/23/09)

Wikipedia,

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domestic_pig

(accessed 3/31/09)

◆ Feedback to CAST indicates that “Friday Notes” are further distributed by recipients, multiplying the total number of readers by as much as 10 or more times.

+ Total impact is dependent on the readership of those publications that choose to use CAST announcements.