Tail Biting in Pigs—Aetiology, Risk Factors and Solutions

Message from the Guest Editor

Tail biting in pigs is a damaging behaviour with a multifactorial background, and with widespread implications for both animal welfare and production. We do not understand the underlying motivation for tail biting, nor do we know how to fully solve the problem on-farm. Consequently, the vast majority of pigs in the world are tail docked to reduce the adverse effects of tail biting, even though this procedure does not abolish the behaviour.

Docking is not only painful for the pig, but also masks underlying welfare problems on farms. Due to a general trend towards higher welfare standards in animal production worldwide, there is a need for further information on how to facilitate an increase in the production of long-tailed pigs in the future. We invite papers from different scientific disciplines and with different approaches, on topics such as the aetiology of tail-biting behaviour; novel approaches to identifying risk factors for tail biting; understanding the consequences of tail biting and docking; and papers including socio-economical or ethical considerations.
Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Clive J. C. Phillips
Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, School of Veterinary Science, University of Queensland, Gatton Campus, Gatton, Queensland 4343, Australia

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Animals* is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal welfare, animal ethics and animal science. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science and received a first Impact Factor of 1.832. The journal ranks 11/61 (Q1) in the category ‘Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science’ and 29/141 (Q1) in ‘Veterinary Sciences.’

Author Benefits

**Open Access:** free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

**High visibility:** indexed by the Science Citation Index Expanded (Web of Science) from Vol. 5 (2015), Zoological Record (Web of Science) and Scopus (2018 CiteScore: 2.21). Citations available in PubMed, full-text archived in PubMed Central.

**Rapid publication:** manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision provided to authors approximately 18.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.8 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2019).

Contact Us

*Animals*
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
Fax: +41 61 302 89 18
www.mdpi.com

animals@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/animals