

Scenario 1 - Current use of farrowing crates in pig production

Score sheet

Name of scorer: Expert 9

Comments

Welfare principles	Welfare criteria	1st round			2nd round			Comments
		score	10% certain lower bound	10% certain upper bound	score	10% certain lower bound	10% certain upper bound	
Good feeding	1	40	20	60	40		40	Sows have restricted access to feed. The feed is nutritionally balanced but lacking variety. Piglets will have access to the sow's udder.
	2	70	60	75	70		70	Clean water will be available ad libitum, but not particularly fulfilling way of presenting it
Good housing	3	20	10	25	30	30	30	Barren environment, movement restricted, very little bedding.
	4	60	50	65	55	55	55	Thermal environment will be optimized but no choice or variation
	5	10	5	20	20		20	Sow very restricted but piglets have some room to move
	6	55	50	70	50		50	Likely free of any major disorders, but prone to skin abrasions and lameness (although this is not due to the crate)
Good health	7	70	50	80	70		70	Sows should be free of disease
	8	60	40	65	50		50	Likely to be pain-free, but lameness/skin conditions may be painful
Appropriate behaviour	9	10	0	15	15		15	Sows can only interact with piglets, and not other sows. Piglets can interact with littermates
	10	10	0	15	15		15	Ability of sows to express normal behaviour very limited, will experience negative emotional states during pre-farrowing period; piglets have more opportunity
	11	30	10	50	30		30	Limited opportunity for positive interactions
	12	10	0	15	20			Very poor experience for sows, slightly less so for piglets

adjusted upwards in Round 2 because I don't think I took into account the limited time that the sow spends in the crate

Scenario 2 - Free farrowing

Score sheet

Name of scorer: Expert 9

Comments

Welfare principles	Welfare criteria	1st round			2nd round			Comments
		score	10% certain lower bound	10% certain upper bound	score	10% certain lower bound	10% certain upper bound	
Good feeding	1	40	20	60	60		75	Similar to other systems, food will be nutritious and balanced by non-varying and with no choice. Piglets will have access to milk
	2	70	60	75	80	75	95	Fresh, clean water available ad lib, but perhaps little opportunity to interact with it in other ways
Good housing	3	55	45	70	65	55	85	Sows can lie down in preferred posture, bedding is likely to be provided, but not very deep bedding.
	4	60	50	65	78	65	85	Thermal environment is likely to be optimal for the sows but invariant.
	5	40	34	45	50	35		60 A small area but much better than a farrowing crate.
	6	55	40	65	45	25	50	Animals are likely to be free from injuries, free farrowing may make them less likely to experience abrasions.
Good health	7	60	50	70	55	45	60	Disease is likely to be controlled but may be some lameness
	8	60	50	65	25	20	40	IOF few injuries or disease, pain is likely to be minimal unless lame.
Appropriate behaviour	9	35	25	40	53	50	70	Sows have minimal opportunity to interact with other sows, but can interact with their piglets. Piglets can interact with each other.
	10	35	30	40	52	40	65	Small area to live in. Some enrichment. Better than a crate
	11	50	40	60	50	40	55	More opportunity to interact with farm staff - staff may be more positive
	12	45	30	50	35	15	40	Still confined but a better experience than a crate.

Scenario 3 - Temporary use of farrowing crates

Score sheet

Name of scorer: Expert 9

Comments

Welfare principles	Welfare criteria	1st round			2nd round			Comments
		score	10% certain lower bound	10% certain upper bound	score	10% certain lower bound	10% certain upper bound	
Good feeding	1	40	20	60	40		40	Feed is nutritionally balanced but unvarying and may be restricted for sows. Piglets have free access to milk - same as full use of farrowing crates
	2	70	60	75	70		70	Ad lib access to clean water, but little opportunity to interact with it other than drinking it.
Good housing	3	25	10	30	33	33	33	Restricted lying postures for sows - but just a few days. Piglets can lie in any posture, but very little bedding
	4	60	50	65	55		55	Likely optimal for sow - less so for piglets. No choice involved.
	5	15	5	20	23	23	23	Sow's movements severely restricted - but for a few days only. Piglets can move further, but barren area.
	6	55	40	60	65		65	Animals should be free from injury, but may suffer from skin abrasions and lameness. Piglets should be OK
Good health	7	60	50	70	51		51	Animals should be free from disease as vaccinated etc.
	8	60	50	65	20		20	May be in some pain if lame etc
Appropriate behaviour	9	20	10	30	20		20	Social interactions very restricted for the sows, piglets able to interact but barren environment to interact in
	10	15	5	25	32		32	Sows have very limited opportunity to express behaviour and will experience frustration and boredom. Only slightly less so that when in crate for longer period
	11	30	10	50	23		23	Limited opportunity for positive interactions with humans
	12	15	5	20				Likely a very negative experience