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Activity level as an indicator of welfare in housing of pigs

S u m m a r y

All experimental procedures used in these study were conducted on 66 weaners. They were Polish Landrace and Polish Large White crossbred pigs. Pigs were housed in 6 pens, with or without bedding each of them included 11 animals. A series of three twenty four hours experiments were conducted to observe the behaviour of these animals. Pigs housed with straw spent actively a little more time than animals housed without bedding (29.5 and 28.7% of 24 h). The group of animals kept without straw were characterized by the significantly higher frequency changes of behavioural forms and a very irregular distribution of activity during the consecutive 24 hours. Apart from that, the present results indicate the appreciable variability of active behaviour duration in successive days of the observation.