

Anna Augustyńska-Prejsnar, Maria Ruda, Małgorzata Ormian

Behavioural reactions of sows kept individually and in the group

S u m m a r y

The aim of the study was to determine behavioural reactions of sows kept on litter in individual stalls or group pens. A total of 83 Polish Landrace and 36 Polish Large White non-pregnant and early-pregnant sows, raised in pedigree herds in the Podkarpackie province were investigated. Factors differentiating piggery environment included individual and group housing of the sows. Abnormal behaviours, external signs of oestrus, diseases and injuries were recorded. The study showed that animals responded differently to a human-created environment. The behavioural responses of sows to restricted space allowance in the individual housing system were more frequently: nervousness, sitting on hind legs, hitting fixed objects and absence of overt signs of oestrus and leg diseases and injuries.