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Authors: Inonge Reimert, Stephanie Fong, T. Bas Rodenburg, J. Elizabeth Bolhuis

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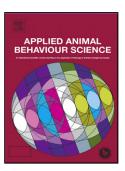
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Emotional states and emotional contagion in pigs after exposure to a positive and

negative treatment

Inonge Reimert^{a,*}, Stephanie Fong^{a,1}, T. Bas Rodenburg^{a,b}, J. Elizabeth Bolhuis^a

^a Wageningen University & Research, Department of Animal Sciences, Adaptation

Physiology Group, PO Box 338, 6700 AH Wageningen, The Netherlands

^b Wageningen University & Research, Department of Animal Sciences, Behavioural Ecology

Group, PO Box 338, 6700 AH Wageningen, The Netherlands

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: inonge.reimert@wur.nl (I. Reimert).

¹ Present address: Stockholm University, Department of Zoology, 106 91 Stockholm, Sweden.

Highlights

• Emotions of pigs were investigated after a positive and negative event.

- Emotions of their pen mates, not subjected to these events, were studied as well.
- After the negative event, pigs still appeared to be in a negative state.
- Interestingly, the pen mates also seemed to be emotionally affected.
- Negative and positive events may thus have carryover effects.

Abstract

After-effects of events that elicit an emotional state on both the animals that experienced

these events and on their group members have only scarcely been studied. We investigated

effects of a positive vs. negative treatment on the behaviour and emotional state of pigs and

their naive pen mates afterwards. Behaviour of 96 pigs was observed in the home pen for 5

min on two different days (day 2 and 18), directly after two pigs per pen (N=16) had been

1

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