## **Accepted Manuscript**

Cortisol levels and health indicators of sows and their piglets living in a group-housing and a single-housing system

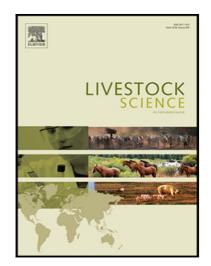
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### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## Highlights

- Health indicators of group-housed and single-housed sows and piglets during lactation
- No alarming incidence of lesions of the sows and their piglets
- Group-housed sows weaned a lower total weight of piglets
- Higher saliva cortisol levels in group-housed than in single-housed sows during lactation
- Higher cortisol level could be caused by social interactions and increased physical activity

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