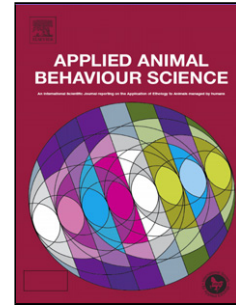


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Early socialisation as a strategy to increase piglets' social skills in intensive farming conditions

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Highlights

- Piglets were socialised either at 7 or 14 days after birth
- Early socialisation increased piglets' social behaviour during lactation
- Skin lesions revealed fewer aggressions after weaning in socialised piglets
- Early socialisation did not affect piglets' growth from birth to weaning

Abstract

Socialisation is a process in which animals interact with unfamiliar conspecifics, that allows them to develop their social abilities. Socialisation has been proposed as a method in pig husbandry to increase piglets' social skills and reduce conspecific aggression, which is a major welfare issue in pig husbandry.

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