



Reduction of tail biting and avoidance of routine tail docking in the European Union



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European
Commission

Health and Food Audits and Analysis Programme 2017

- Two main animal welfare projects
 - 1. Animal welfare during export to non-EU countries**
 - 2. Reducing the systematic tail docking of piglets**
- **Overview Report & BTSF on animal welfare on Dairy Farms**



DG Health and
Food Safety

Health and Food
Audits and Analysis

Reducing the systematic tail docking of piglets

Objective

To reduce animal suffering during the rearing of piglets by improving the application of Council Directive 2008/120/EC over a two year period.

The project focusses specifically on the rules regarding the avoidance of routine tail docking of piglets and the provision of manipulable material.



Reducing the systematic tail docking of piglets

Project Summary

Improving management practices on pig farms which impact on animal welfare

Providing support to national authorities to assess the current situation in pig farms

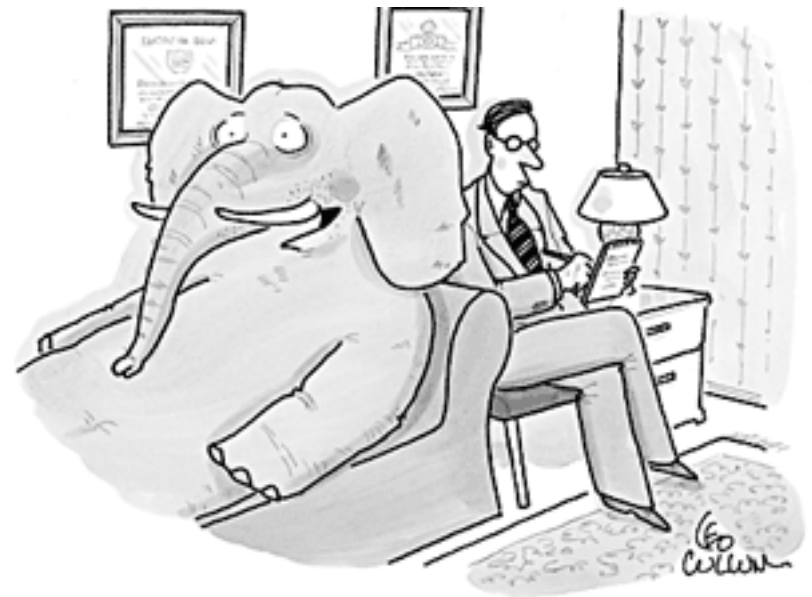
Improving communication within and between stakeholders, including farmers and private veterinarians

Meetings, both political and technical, targeted audits and a specialised group to support Member States in implementing the relevant legislation.



Why?

- **It's the law**
- **It is poorly implemented**
- **Unnecessary Mutilations**
- **Market Distortions**



"I'm right there in the room, and no one even acknowledges me."

How?

- *Improving management practices*
 - **Multi-stakeholder approach**
 - **Working with and disseminating/receiving information to/from industry, other stakeholders (CAs, vets, NGOs)**
 - **Communication: Raising awareness of new developments, best practice, funding possibilities (DG AGRI), CDG, PAFF, CIRCABC etc**
 - **Training (BTSF)**
 - **Risk assessment- Toolbox approach? EFSA; WQ etc**

How?

- *Providing support to CAs*
 - **COM Rec 2016/336 (EU) and SWD**
 - **Country missions 2016**
 - **Overview Report 2016**
 - **Meetings/Webinar 2016/17**
 - **Proposal for TAILS group**
 - **Integrated BTSF pigs**



How?

- *Assessing State of play*
 - **Country visits 2016 FI, SE, CH**
 - **Questionnaire 2016/17 to MS**
 - **Questionnaire 2017 to Industry**
 - **Questionnaire 2017 to Vets**
 - **Audits**



Audits 2017/8

- **3 country visits 2016**

Assessment of MS Actions

- **4 audits 2017 NL,ES,DK,IT**
- **1 audit DE, 8 Missions**
- **2018**
- **Overview/desk analysis**



Project Outcome

- **Process indicators:**
- **% recommendations with suitable action plan**
- **% audit/TAILS recommendations closed**

- **% Compliant MS**
- **Further Decisions on Enforcement**



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Additional Information on Reducing Tail Docking of Pigs



Reducing Tail Docking of Pigs Open Access CIRCABC site:

<https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/ebdc9369-a210-4b17-aabf-e82e71a0c7ae>

Reducing Tail Docking of Pigs DG SANTE Meeting 4-6 Oct 2016 Webinar:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/information_sources/events/20161004_tail-docking_en.htm

EU Farewell Dock (<http://farewelldock.eu/>)



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Thank you



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