

Latest update: 16 April 2024





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Preventive measures

Corrective measures



Production cycle



Transfer to or from hospital

Types of welfare improvement for gilts and sows



Improves health (reduction of risk of soft-tissue lesions and/or mobility disorders)



Reduces risk of heat or cold stress



Reduces hunger and/or thirst



Reduces social stress



Helps animals to move around



Helps pigs to express natural behaviours (exploring, foraging, nest-building, etc.)



Helps animals to rest



Avoids stress of handling



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Preventive measures

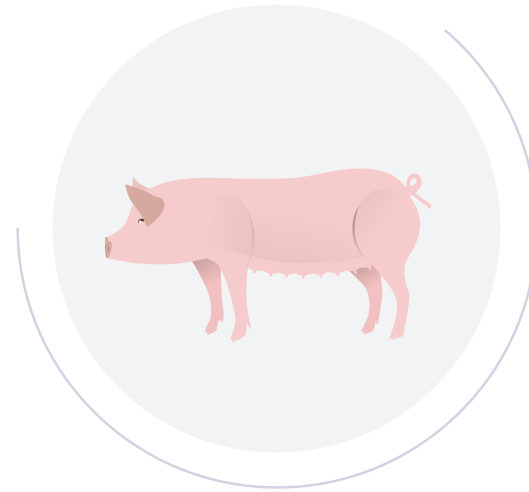
Corrective measures

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Selection of gilts



Characteristics

- **Weight:** 135-150kg
- **Age at breeding:** around 200 days
- **Genetic selection criteria:**
no fast-growing or hyperprolific lines



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Group housing area

Good welfare conditions

Varying length of stay:
1 week minimum

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Feed that meets the nutritional needs of individuals, containing enough fibre to satisfy their hunger
Particular needs of gilts: feed formula is gradually adjusted as gilts gain weight and minerals known to help solid bone development are added.
Particular needs of sows: feed formula to help rebuild bone strength

Individual and protected feeding stations of the lockable stall type (one per animal)

Deep layer of straw bedding

Vaccination of animals against mobility disorders (such as swine erysipelas) and hoof trimming

Operators have been trained to handle animals

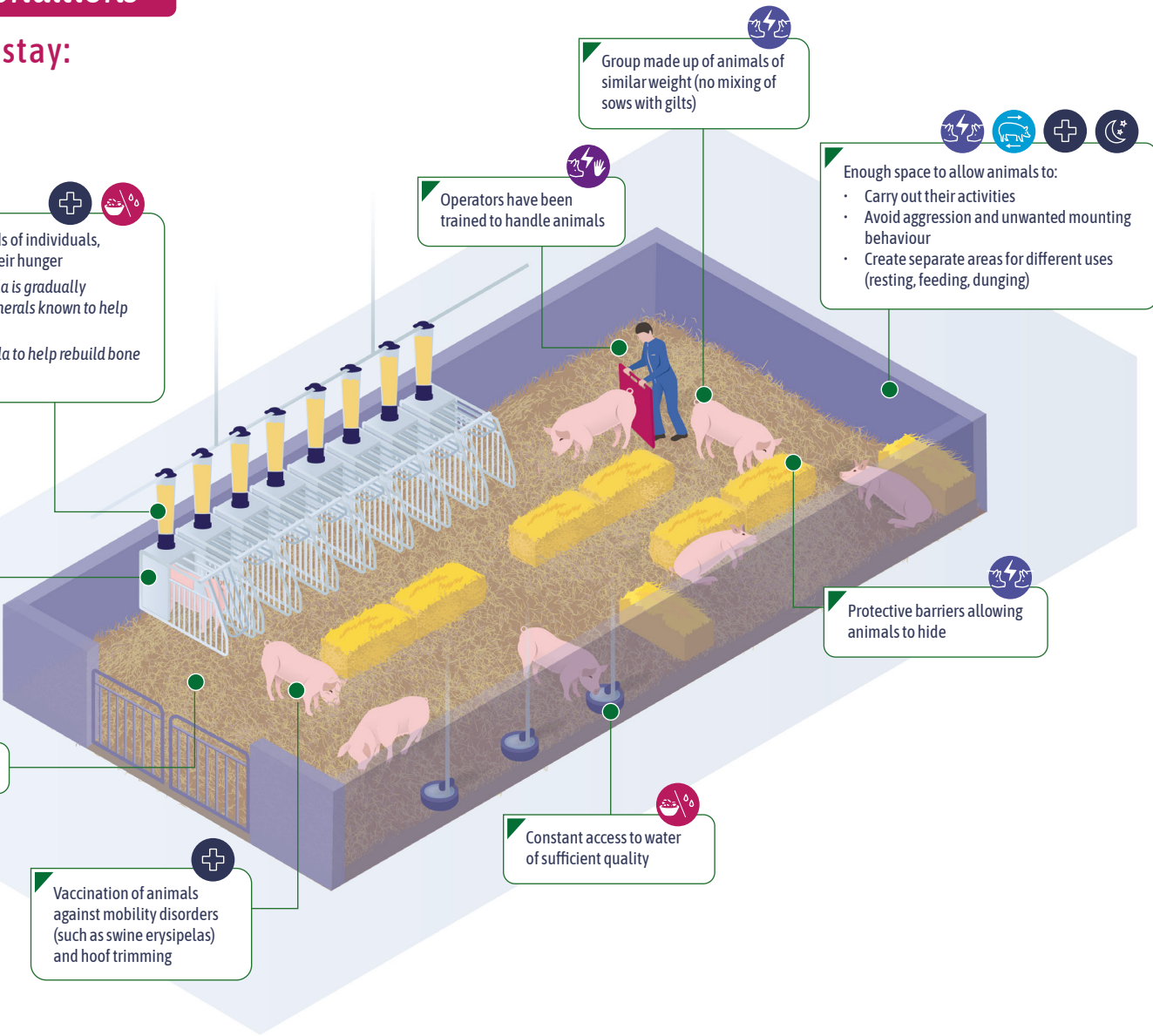
Group made up of animals of similar weight (no mixing of sows with gilts)

Enough space to allow animals to:

- Carry out their activities
- Avoid aggression and unwanted mounting behaviour
- Create separate areas for different uses (resting, feeding, dunging)

Protective barriers allowing animals to hide

Constant access to water of sufficient quality





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Group housing area

Adequate welfare conditions

Up to one week before farrowing

Focus on measures that meet minimum welfare requirements

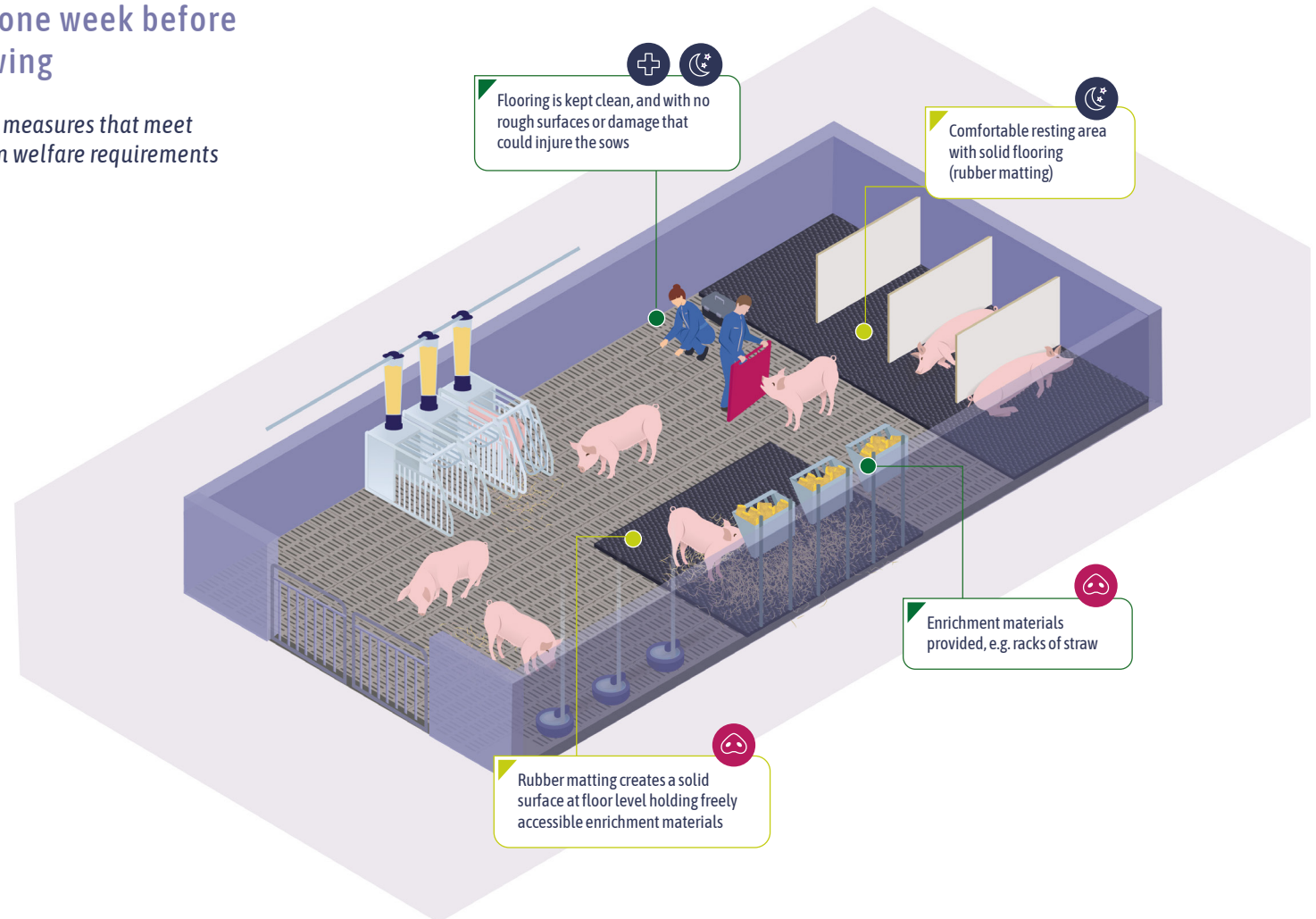
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Farrowing and nursery areas

Sow is left alone for about 5 days

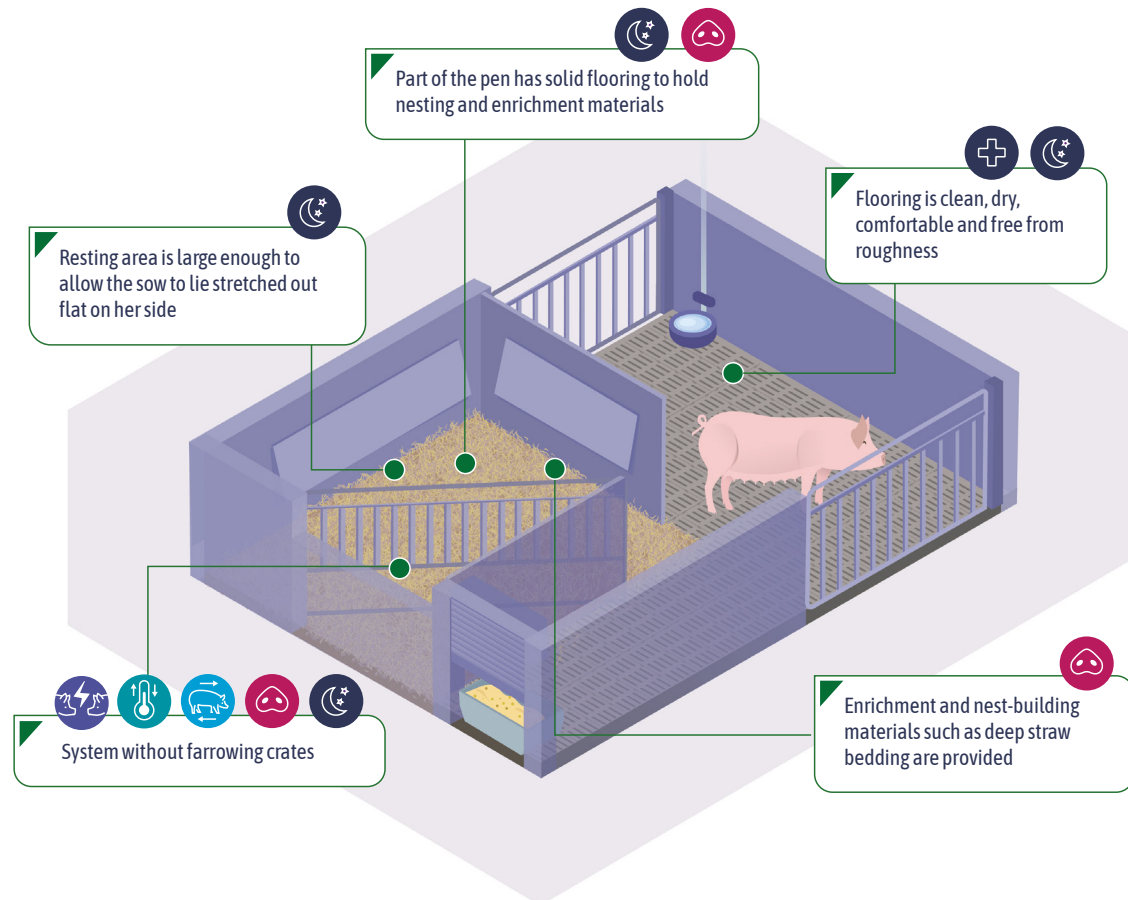
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Farrowing and nursery areas

Sow remains with her piglets
for about four weeks

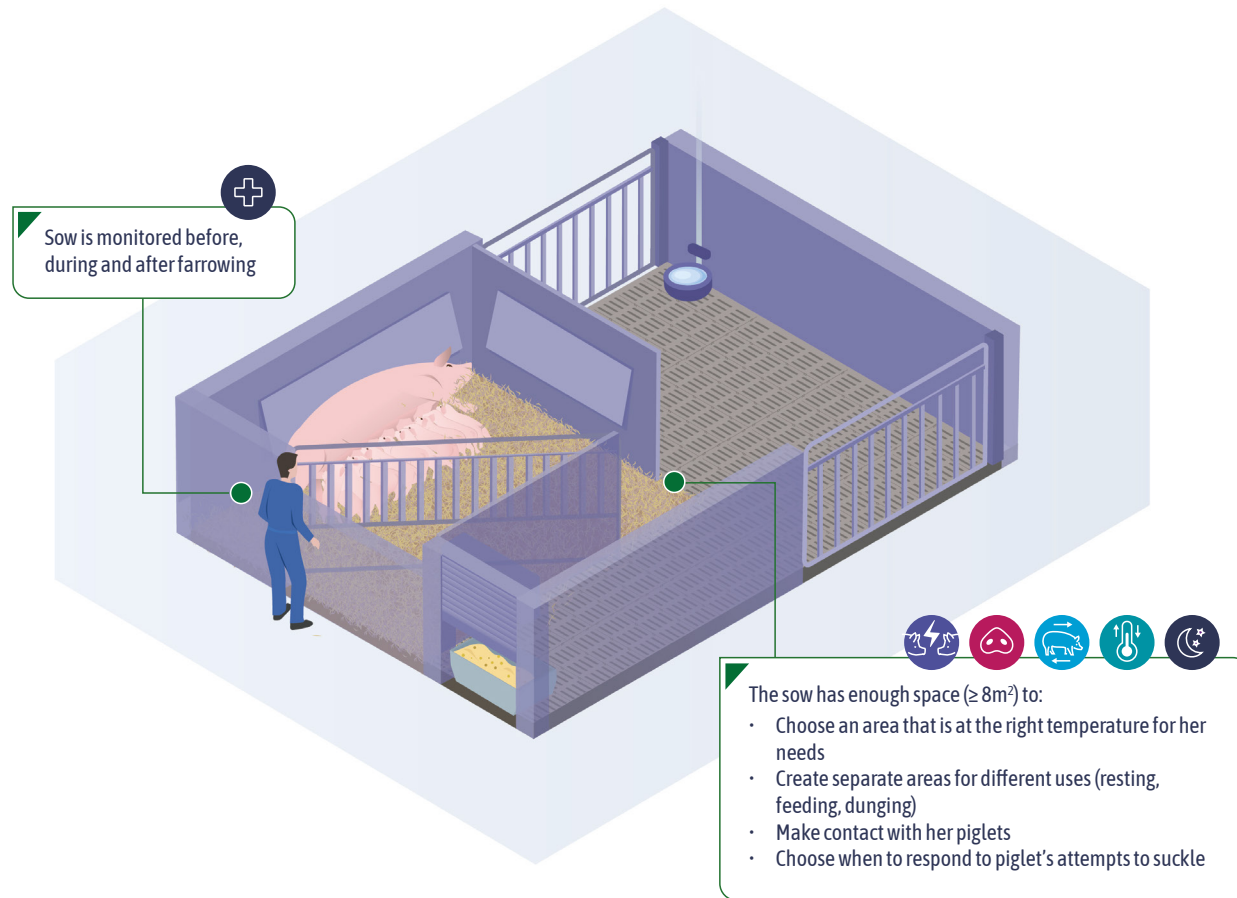
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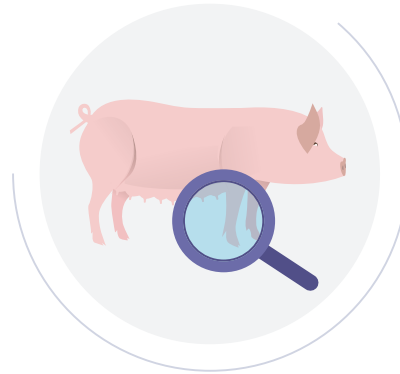
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Monitoring the sow's condition after weaning



Inspection criteria:

- Condition of the teats
- Condition of the body
- Mobility



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Hospital pens

