

# Tail Biting Risk Factors in Pigs

Tail biting is a result of pigs experiencing stress. Stress can come from many sources & the risk factors can be different for each farm, which is why tail-biting can be hard to manage. When a pig experiences stress that they find difficult to cope with, tail biting is a reaction that often occurs. Usually it is an accumulation of stressors that cause an outbreak; this means that pigs can often cope with mild stress, but if a further stressor is added it can tip them over the edge into a tail biting outbreak. That's why it is really important to minimise stress as much as possible, so that if there is an unexpected event, the pigs will be able to cope.

