

Supplement table 1. A-Index categories, parameters and point scale for lactating sows, modified from Munsterhjelm *et al.* (2006)

Category Parameter	Best level	Worst level	Point scale
Locomotion opportunities			max. 11
Farrowing pen	Sows are able to turn around	Sows in crates all the time	3-2-1.5-0
Available pen area	>6m ² , sow is free	Sow in stall	2-1.5-1-0
Stalling of the sow	2-3 days pre partum or free sow	> 7 days pre partum	2-1-0
Separate activity areas in pen, sow	Three separate areas, free sow	No separate areas. sow in stall	2-1.5-1-0
Separate activity areas in pen, piglet	Feeding, resting, excretion	No separate areas	1-0.5-0
Rooting material	Bedding, >3cm	No	1-0.5-0
Floor quality			max. 8
Amount of bedding ^a	Bedding, all animals all the time	No bedding	2-1-0
Quality of bedding ^a	Straw	Other	1-0
Cleanliness of lying area, sow ^b	Clean and dry	Not completely	2-1-0
Cleanliness of lying area, piglets ^b	Clean and dry	Not completely	2-0.5-0
Quality of floor and slats	Good, non-slippery, slats < 11 mm	Not good	1-0.5-0
Social interaction			max. 9
Size of farrowing room	< 9 pens, only sows with litters	≥13. other pigs in room	2-1.5-1-0
Nestbuilding possibility	Free farrowing, >5cm material	Farrowing in stalls. no material	5-3-2-1-0
* Calmness of animals	Calm and curious	No	2-0
Stable climate			max. 28
Light regimen ^c	>100 lux, fluorescent lamp	40-100lux. reading is hard	1-0
Light period ^c	8-12 h/day	over 12 or under 8	1-0
Night light ^c	Yes, light bulb	No. nothing	1-0.5-0
Windows and natural light ^c	To north or possibility to cover	No windows	2-1-0
Effective temperature, sow	15-18°C	<15°C or >21°C	3-1.5-1-0
Effective temperature, piglets	28-32°C	Other	3-0
Floor heating for piglets	Yes, works	No	2-1-0
Creep box for piglets	Yes, draught free	No	4-2-1-0
Incoming air	Working, to dunging area, if hot to the resting area	Inadequate	3-2-1-0
Humidity ^d	50-80%	Other	2-0
Power of ventilation (m ³ /sow/h) ^d	Good: >250	Inadequate: <180	2-1-0
Air quality ^d	Good, no gases or dust	Bad. gases and stuffy	2-1-0
Noise	<55 dB	>65 dB	2-1-0
Feeding			max. 21
Feeding regimen	Strictly followed plan	The feed is suitable for sows	2-1-0
Feeding times per day	4 or ab libitum	1-2	2-1-0
* Body condition score	>95 % in good condition	<90 % in good condition	3-2-0
Roughage	Yes	No	1-0.5-0
Litter equalization, milk substitute ^e	Yes	Occasionally or no	2-0
Creep feeding ^e	Creep feeding from 1 week of age	No. piglets are given dry feed before weaning	1-0.5-0
Water availability ^f	Free, feed can not cover drinking nipple	Free. feed can cover drinking nipple	2-0
Water flow, sows ^f	>4 liters/min	< 3 liters/min	5-4-0.5-0
Water flow, piglets ^f	<0,5 liters/min	>0.5 liters/min	1-0
Water temperature ^f	Pre-heated, 15-17°C	No preheating. or other	1-0
Health and stockmanship			max. 23
Hygiene of feeding and drinking equipment	Good: clean and dry	Moderate	2-0.5-0
Condition of pen fixtures	Good	Moderate	2-0.5-0
* Health of skin ^g	Good in >95% of animals	Problems with >30% of animals	1-0.5-0
* Health of claws and joints ^g	Good in > 95 % of animals	Problems with >30% of animals	2-0.5-0
Farrowing supervision	Always	No or occasionally	2-1-0.5-0
Teeth-clipping ^h	No	Clipping max. 1 week old	1-0.5-0
Castrating ^h	No	Castration max. 1 week old	2-1.5-0
* Culling	No chronically ill animals or runts present	No culling or runts in >10 litters	3-1-0
* Piglet mortality	<8 %	>23 %	7-5-3-2-1.5-1-0
Book keeping	Yes	No	1-0

a-h. Parameters marked with same upper index have formed one parameter in Munsterhjelm *et al.* (2006)

* Animal-based parameter

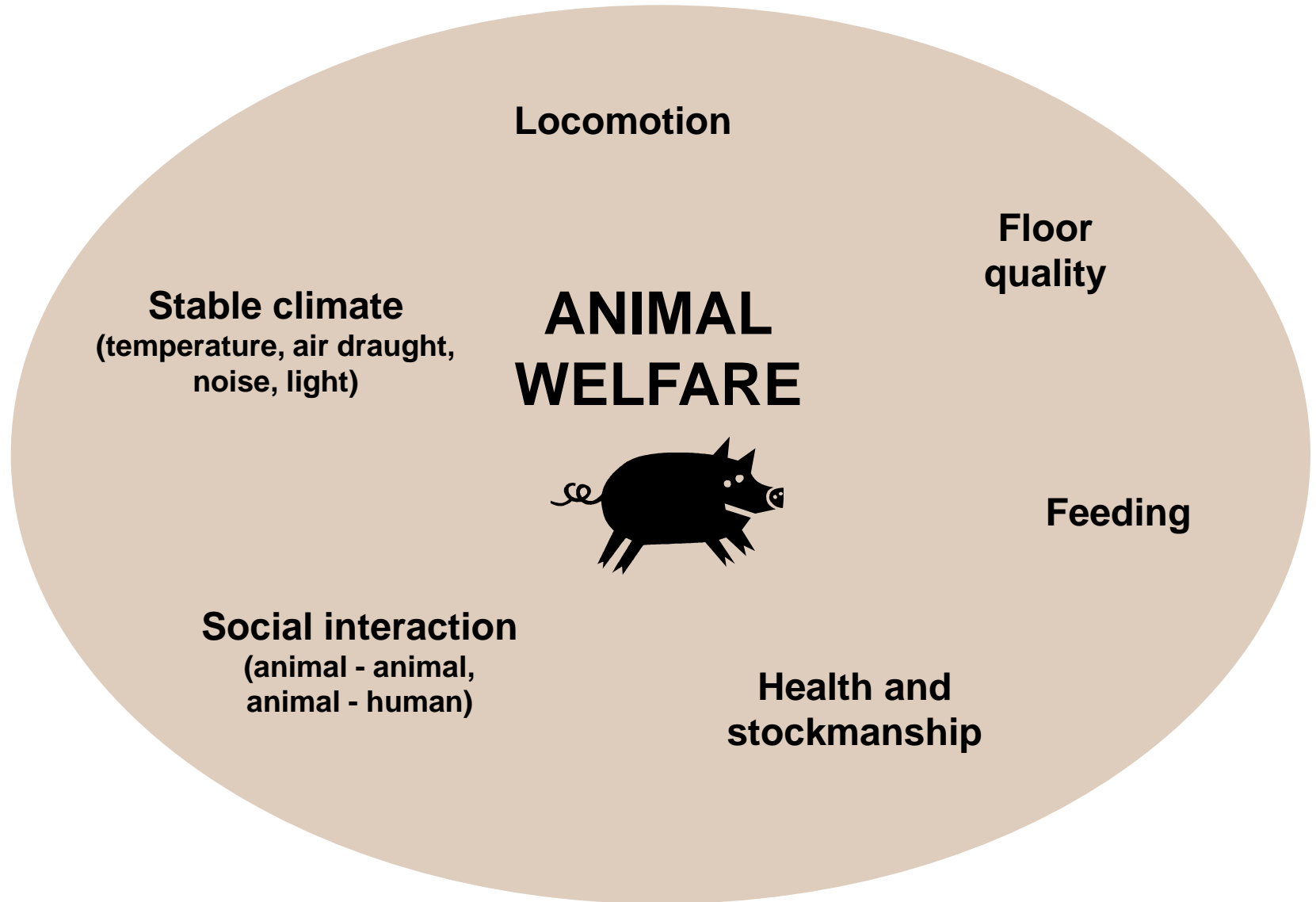
Supplement table 2. A-Index categories, parameters and point scale for dry sows, modified from Munsterhjelm *et al.* (2006)

Category Parameter	Best level	Worst level	Point scale
Locomotion opportunities			max. 21
Pen	Group housing	Stall >4 weeks	2-1-0
Available solid floor area, sow ^a	>3 m ² /sow	<1,3 m ² /sow	2-1.5-1-0.5-0
Available solid floor area, gilt ^a	>2 m ² /gilt	<1,0 m ² /gilt	1-0.5-0
Area of deep litter	>3 m ² /sow	<1,5 m ² /sow	4-3-2-1.5-1-0
Separate activity areas in pen	Feeding, resting, excretion	No separate areas or stalls	2-1-0
Rooting material	Straw, hay or compost >5 cm	No	5-3-2-1-0.5-0
Body scratching possibilities	Brushes, corners, poles Yes, with wallowing area and shade	No	1-0.5-0
Outdoor enclosures		No	2-1.5-0
Boar pens	>6 m ² or >10 m ² if used for mating	<6 m ²	2-0
Floor quality			max. 12
Bedding	Straw or straw and something else	No bedding	4-3-2-0.5-0
Cleanliness of lying area	Clean and dry for all sows	Not completely	2-1-0
Slipperiness of the floor ^b	Non slippery	Lying and resting areas slippery	1.5-1.0
Slats ^b	<2,5 cm or no slats	>2,5 cm	0.5-0
Quality of floor and slats ^b	Good, slats max. 20 mm	Not good	1-0.5-0
Solid floor m ² /sow ^c	>1,3 m ² /sow crate included	<1,3 m ² /sow crate inc.	2-0
Solid floor m ² /gilt ^c	> 0,95 m ² /gilt crate included	<0,95 m ² /gilt crate inc.	1-0
Social interaction			max. 16
Feeding system, sows ^d	Closing gate	Through >30cm per animal	3-1.5-1-1.5-0
Feeding system, gilts ^d	Closing gate	Through >30cm per animal	1-0.5-0
Separated compartments in pen	3 or more	None or stalls	1-0.5-0
Mixing of the sows ^e	Stable groups	Individual animals are brought to the group	2.5-1-0
Gilt introduction ^e	After farrowing, or in an own group	Before farrowing	2.5-1-0
Group size in 1 st gestation month ^f	2-6 animals	1 or >12	1-0.5-0
Group size 2 nd -3 rd gestation month ^f	2-7 animals	1 or >100	3-2.5-1.5-0.5-0
* Calmness of animals	Calm and curious	No	2-0
Stable climate			max. 16
Light regimen ^g	>200 lux, bright	40-100lux, reading is hard	2-1-0
Light period ^g	12-16 h/day	8-10 h/day	1-0.5-0
Night light ^g	Yes, light bulb	No, nothing	1-0.5-0
Windows and natural light ^g	To north or possibility to cover	No windows	1-0.5-0
Effective temperature	17-22°C	<15°C or >24°C	3-2.5-0
Incoming air	Working, to dunging area, if hot to the resting area	Inadequate	1.5-1-0.5-0
Humidity ^h	50-80%	Other	1-0
Power of ventilation (m ³ /sow/h) ^h	Good: >150	Inadequate: <113	2-1-0
Air quality ^h	Good, no gases or dust	Bad, gases and stuffy	1.5-0.5-0
Noise	<55 dB	>65 dB	2-1-0
Feeding			max. 16
Feeding regimen	Strictly followed plan	The feed is suitable	2-1-0
* Body condition score	>95 % in good condition	<90 % in good condition	3-1-0
Roughage	All the time, or 2 times a day	Feed has fibre	4-3-0
Animals/drinking place	max. 8	>10	2.5-1-0
Water flow ⁱ	>2 liters/min, water is free	<2 liters/min	3-0
Nipple height ⁱ	75-90 cm, if on the through <90 cm	other	1.5-0
Health and Stockmanship			max. 19
Hygiene of feeding and drinking equipment	Good: clean and dry	Moderate	2-1-0
Condition of pen fixtures	Good	Moderate	2-1-0
* Health of skin ^j	Good in >95% of animals	Problems with >30%	1-0.5-0
* Health of claws and joints ^j	Good in > 95 % of animals	Problems with >30%	2-1-0
* Limping, sitting ^j	Little: <5 % of animals	> 30 % of animals	2-1-0
* Other illnesses ^j	Little:<3% of animals, no mange	>5 % of animals	2-1-0
Sick pen	Bedded pen, not in other use	No	3-2.5-2-0
* Culling	No chronically ill animals present	Chronically ill sows present	2-0
Book keeping	Yes	No	1-0
* Farrowing rate	>90%	<75%	2-1.5-1-0.5-0

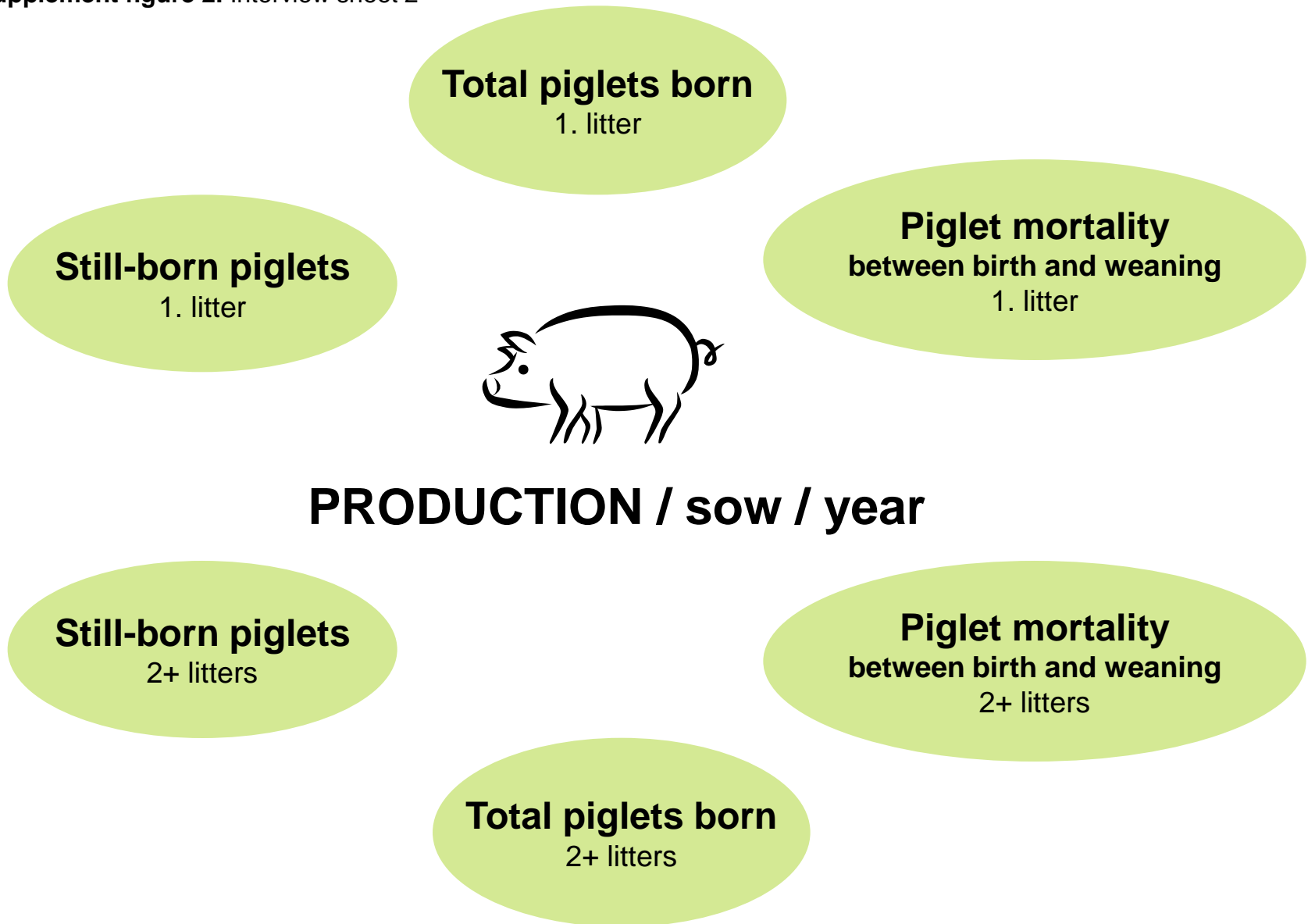
a-j. Parameters marked with same upper index have formed one parameter in Munsterhjelm *et al.* (2006)

* Animal-based parameter

Supplement figure 1. Interview sheet 1



Supplement figure 2. Interview sheet 2



Supplement figure 3. Interview sheet 3

