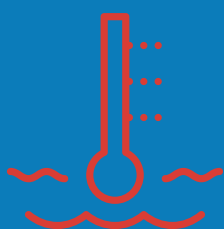




HEAT STRESS IN PIGS

Heat stress can occur anytime between spring and fall in Alberta, whenever temperatures and/or humidity are high.

WHAT IS HEAT STRESS?

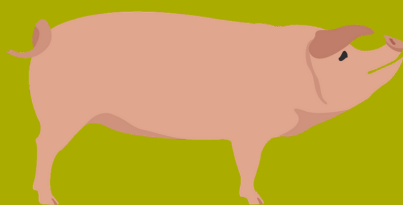


Heat stress occurs when an animal is exposed to heat that is greater than their body's ability to regulate. High temperatures and humidity play a large role in increasing body temperature. Heat stress can affect a pig's intestinal immunity and leave them vulnerable to infection. Larger pigs are more susceptible to heat stress, but it more significantly affects piglet growth.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?



Panting
(>40 breaths per minute)



Elevating the head



Digging and/or laying in cold mud areas



Loss of appetite

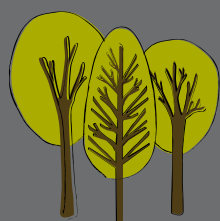


Not able to get up

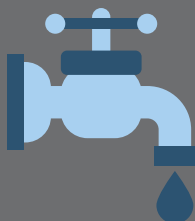


Lying apart from others

WHAT CAN I DO?



Offer shade



Provide clean water



Provide good ventilation



Feed at dusk/dawn



Spray with water*

*Spray legs and feet or offer water to stand in.
Spread out the water application (e.g. mist).



Contact vet in severe cases

LEARN MORE!



NATIONAL FARM ANIMAL CARE COUNCIL
CONSEIL NATIONAL POUR LES SOINS AUX ANIMAUX D'ELEVAGE

The Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Pigs

1.4 Environmental Management: Temperature, Ventilation and Air Quality – Page 15



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