









## **Prevent tail biting:** watching - thinking - acting

### Important to know

- Regularly and attentively inspecting the pigs for typical symptoms sensitizes the animal keepers on the issue.
- Critical situations can be recognised by inspecting the pigs' tail position and tail lesions.
- · Tail biting can be prevented if the signs are recognised in time and, if needed, appropriate measures are taken.

# **Tail position** Regular position Regular position Hanging tail Tucked tail **Tail lesions**

### 1. Preparing the checklist

- Download the protocol form provided at www.eurcaw.eu.
- Make sure to adapt the form to the farm conditions before you first use it (numbers of pens).
- Print the form and keep it ready in the barn.

#### 2. Inspect animals daily

- · Take some time every day to inspect the animals (in the afternoon, when they are active).
- Going from pen to pen, take note of every animal's condition within the pen. Pay special attention to tail position and
- If at least one of the animals shows any of the typical anomalies, tick the corresponding box in the form. Note any other observations that might be of importance.

pen average LW at start group size		20 kg 10		2 22 kg 12		3		4		
1	4:00	Χ								
2	3:15				Х					weather change
3	4:20	Χ	X							pen 1 diarrhea

tail down: tail hangs or is tucked tail lesion: tail has scratches or serious injuries



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The checklist is available for download at shop.fibl.org and www.eurcaw.eu







