

# Pig Health - Overlaying

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Please circle one answer only e.g. **A**

Death of piglets due to overlaying or crushing:

- A. Does not occur outdoors
  - B. Can account for half of all piglet deaths
  - C. Is not manageable by stockmen
  - D. Is only due to clumsy sows
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1. At farrowing time the sow weighs approximately how much more than each piglet?
    - A. 10x
    - B. 15x
    - C. 150x
    - D. 1500x
  
  2. Which of the following statements is true regarding freedom farrowing systems and overlaying of piglets?
    - A. Overlaying does not occur in such systems
    - B. Airflow makes no difference to overlaying
    - C. The stockman is unable to influence overlaying in such systems
    - D. Increasing the floor area can increase mortality due to overlaying
  
  3. Which of the following conditions does not contribute to overlaying of piglets?
    - A. Sows mis-matched to size of crate
    - B. Multiple feeding times during the day
    - C. Early and adequate colostrum intake
    - D. Hypothermia (chilling) immediately after birth
  
  4. Providing 3 manual feeds for sows during the day:
    - A. Helps boost overall sow feed intake
    - B. Will decrease piglet mortality generally
    - C. Will decrease overlay
    - D. Should never be practiced.
  
  5. The piglet is most at risk of overlaying:
    - A. Prior to birth
    - B. In the first 24hrs or so after birth
    - C. Beyond a week old
    - D. Close to weaning
  
  6. Which of the following is likely to be true of pigs which die due to overlaying:
    - A. They tend to have full stomachs
    - B. They are crushed whilst actually sucking milk
    - C. They may be chilled and malnourished prior to death
    - D. It happens usually whilst the sow is feeding
  
  7. In the outdoor farrowing system, what management techniques need to be applied to minimise crushing by the sow?
    - A. Allow adequate time for the sow to make the bed before farrowing
    - B. Supply minimal bedding
    - C. Ensure maximum airflow through arcs
    - D. Do not fit curtains until the litter is well established

8. Indoors, which features are key to reducing overlaying?
  - A. Keep sows active – ensuring they get up and down frequently
  - B. Concentrate on avoiding chilling of newborn piglets
  - C. Encourage piglets to lie as close to the sow as possible
  - D. Provide deep straw bedding to allow pigs to burrow down into it
  
9. Which of the following comments is true of the costs of overlaying?
  - A. It accounts for more than one piglet per litter on many farms
  - B. The cost is insignificant
  - C. Crushing is inevitable in all environments
  - D. There is no “welfare cost” involved