

CONSTRUINDO SABERES, FORMANDO PESSOAS E TRANSFORMANDO A PRODUÇÃO ANIMAL

BEHAVIORAL EVALUATION OF DIFFERENT COMMERCIAL SWINE STRAINS OF HIGH GENETIC POTENTIAL

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In swine production is crescent research involving behavioral activities associated with the performance characteristics. The objective of this study was to evaluate different commercial genetic strains of high genetic potential on behavioral activities and postures. Seventy - two swine were used, 36 female and 36 male, with average initial body weight of 26.00 ± 6.50 kg, distributed in a completely randomized design, six replicates and four animals per experimental unit. The pigs were composed of three genetic strains: (1) male AGPIC TG 415 superior genetics (2) male AGPIC TG 415 elite and genetics (3) male BP 375, mated with females F1 Landrace x Large White (LD x LW). The visual evaluations were performed during the morning and extended to the afternoon from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The behavioral characteristics analyzed during the experimental period were: eating (EAT), drinking (DRI), stopped (STOP), exploring (EXP), lying (LYI), sleeping (SLE), excreting (EXC), biting (BIT), playing (PLAY) and fighting (FIG). The data were analyzed in frequency of occurrence (%), being submitted to the Kruskal-Wallis test and the Tukey-Kramer multiple comparison test. There was no effect of the strains ($P > 0.05$) on the behavioral characteristics EAT, EXP, SLE, EXC, BIT, PLAY and FIG, however there was an effect ($P < 0.05$) of the strains to DRI, in which the swines of the strains 1 and 3 presented higher water intake than those of strains 2 (2.27%, 2.52% and 1.63%, respectively), the same result was found for LYI (31.05%, 34.16% and 29.68%). For the STOP characteristic there was a difference ($P = 0.0045$), in which the swines on the strains 1 were 5.29% more standing when compared to strains 2 and 3 (3.87% and 3.13%, respectively). For period, no differences ($P > 0.05$) were found for EXC and BIT, however there was an effect ($P < 0.05$) for EAT, DRI, STOP, EXP, LYI, PLAY and FIG, in that in the afternoon the animals expressed a greater frequency of behavioral occurrence when compared to the morning period (13,45% and 8,37%, 2,79% and 1,50%, 5,12% and 3,07%, 11,78% and 9.30%, 33.91% and 29.35%, 2% and 1.14%, 0.28% and 0.08%, respectively). However, only SLE characteristic in the morning period was superior to the afternoon period (83.62% and 35.75%, respectively). It is essential to the understanding of behavioral evaluation, as well as the studied variables that can act on the search for an animal more productive.

Keywords: animal behavior, genetic improvement, genetic lines, pig, welfare

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