



„Free farrowing calls for unhurt, attentive and highly mobile piglets“

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Newborn piglet

- Small, soft and clumsy
 - needs colostrum and heat
 - hence has to move quickly to udder and to fight for a teat
 - has to be attentive to behaviour of sow
- should be prevented from injuries and pain!



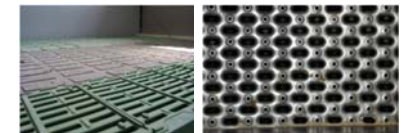
Flooring

- Different requirements of sows, piglets and stockperson
 - Run, rest, suck, explore, manipulate, eliminate, ...
 - Non slippery, non injurious, dry, clean and thermally insulated
 - Durable and easy to clean
- Localisation of solid / slatted areas more challenging!
- Needs pen concept adapted to the animal's behaviour!
 - Size and location of functional areas



Flooring

- Solid concrete floor
 - Lesions at carpal joints (sucking)
 - Abrasiveness
 - Straw
- Slatted floor
 - Heel bruising (up to 90 %) coronet erosion (34 %) in 1st week of life
 - Slat width, openings, void ratio, surface, material, ...



- Piglets need flooring which enables them to move quickly and to suck efficiently without pain and injuries!
- Floor more important & challenging in free farrowing pen!

