Winning the Lame Game ... Easy as 1-2-3

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### HOMEGROWNIOWA Growing Communities Growing lowa







Sow regions





Nursery, GDU and finishing region





### **ISF Sow Farm System**

- 240,000 sows
  - 49 sow farms
  - 2600 -7200 sow inventory
- Gestation Type
  - 70 % OPG
  - 10 % FAS/OPG
  - 20 % stalls
- Gilt Entry
  - 75 % Bred Gilt Entry
  - 25 % Select Gilt Entry



# **Livability** Journey

SDL upward trend Q3 2020 into 2021

• Lameness- parallel with overall SDL

Multifaceted approach

• Culture shift



## 1. Every sow everyday

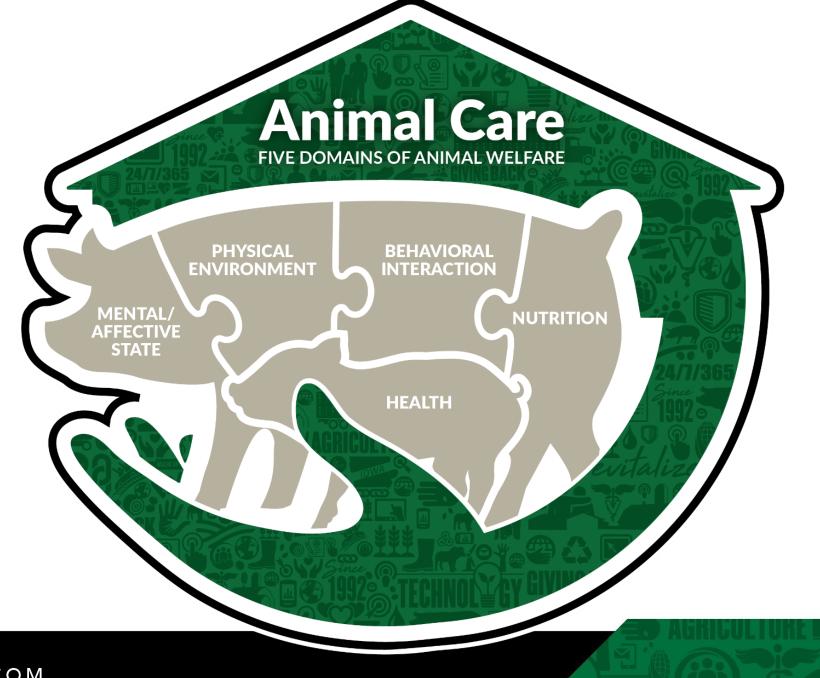
- How many look at every sow everyday?
- <u>"Look"</u> → direct one's gaze toward someone or something

 <u>"Observe"</u> → Notice or perceive (something) and register it as being significant; watch (someone or something) carefully and attentively





Its not what you look at that matters, it's what you observe!

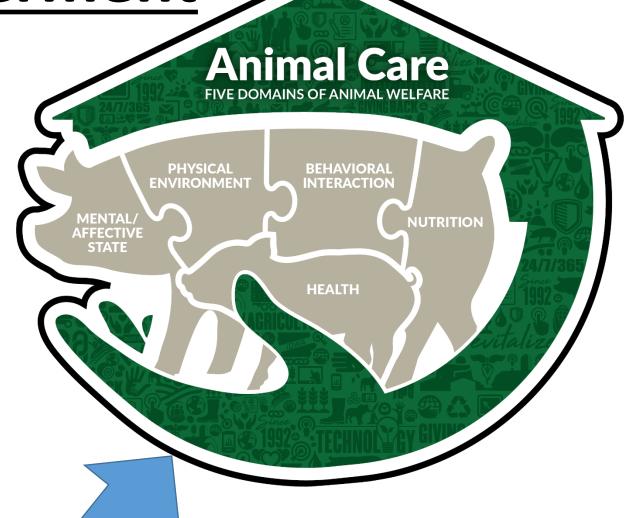


**Caretaker Empowerment** 

### Who is this?

- YOU
- HOST
- FOUNDATION
- IMPACTOR of animal welfare

- Thought
- Planning
- Execution



## 1. Every sow everyday

- Power of OBSERVATION
- Penning strategies
- "At Risk" sow ID
- Caliper BCS
- Feed adjustments
  - Hand- feeding pre&post farrow
  - Post-weaning- reduced levels



## 2. Observation<sup>2</sup>

- Two sets of eyes of every sow everyday
- University collaboration
- Common sense choring
- Choring process changes
  - 2 people
- Early detection/treatment





A HANDY Guide to Common Sense Choring

For All Farms

**Believe it or not, thorough choring and daily observation requires all five senses:** seeing, feeling, hearing and tasting. OK, maybe we shouldn't go around tasting things in a hog barn, but we can double-up on another sense! Here are some HANDY reminders on what to look for while completing daily observations and chores—

### What do you SEE?



- A. Animals: laying patterns (piling vs spread apart?), activity level (lethargic vs normal?), body condition, hair coat, signs of illness or injury
- B. Feeders: Licked clean or dirty? hoppers full or empty? Is feed fresh? Pan is full or empty?
- C. Water nipples: Are they adjusted for appropriate height, direction, and water flow?
- D. Facilities: Anything posing risk to animals? Flooring and gating in good repair? Fans, heaters, curtains? Anything not operating appropriately? Heat lamps/brooders/ lighting working?



### What do you FEEL?

- E. Ventilation: temperature and quality of air? Inlets open/closed appropriately? Heaters running or not?
- F. Facilities: rough edges on feeders, snags on broken penning?
- G. Animals: BCS, fever, swollen/hot limbs?



### What do you HEAR?

- H. Animals: What kind of vocalizations are the animals making?
- Facilities: Feed line running? Broken fan motor? Water running when it shouldn't?



### What do you SMELL?

- J. Ventilation: Gassy? Air too tight? Hard time breathing?
- K. Animals: Scours? Moldy feed?

These are just a few examples of how to use your senses while choring a room or barn. Can you and/or your team think of any other examples?

\*Don't forget the rule of thumb! Feed, water, air and care every pig, every day!





## 2. Observation<sup>2</sup>



## 3. Support

- Unity (supervisor/vet/etc)
- Gilt age & weight mgmt
- Toe nail trimming
- Necropsy audit
- Monitoring- charts
- Sow retention specialist
- Livability Taskforce
- CULTURE







## 3. Support

- Sow Retention Specialists
  - Caliper implantation & monitoring
  - Toenail trimming
  - Choring process
  - Trouble shooting
  - Devel & implement action plans
  - Production partner







### 3. Support

### • Livability Taskforce

- Meet monthly
- Production supervisors, health services, PWB, nutrition, university, genetic
- Review data
- Discuss current issues
- Evaluate action plans
- Develop strategy



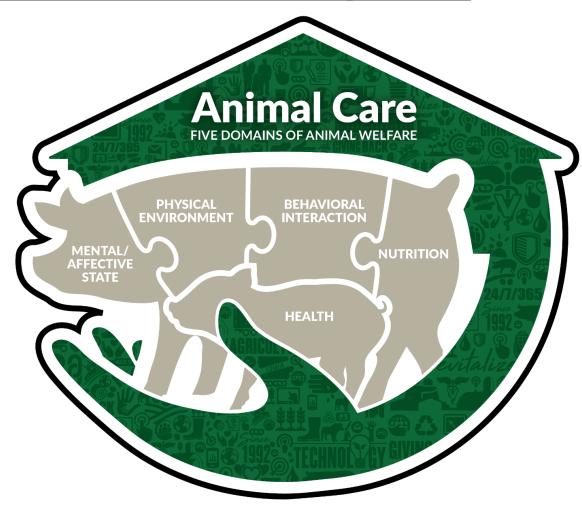


## Winning the Lame Game.....Easy as:

1. Observation- Every sow everyday

2. Observation<sup>2</sup>

3. United support







**Questions?** 



