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Within-litter variation in birth weight: impact of nutritional status in the sow

Key words: Within-litter variation, Pig, Mortality, Morbidity, Growth, Sow nutrition

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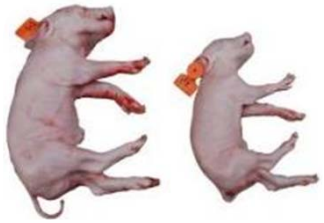
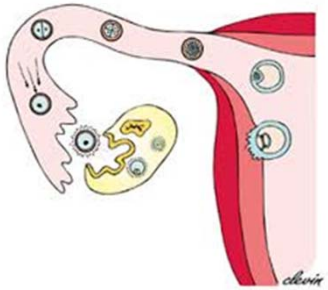
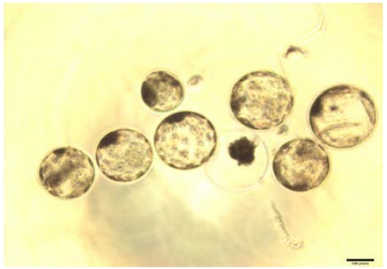
Research Summary

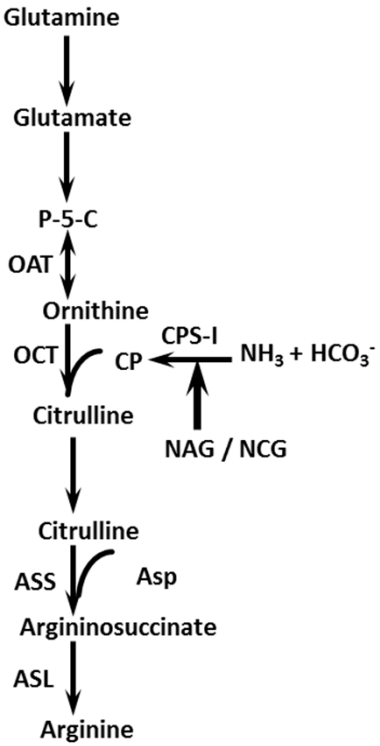
This review mainly focused on the within-litter variation in piglets birth weight, and summarized this issue from following aspects:



- **Negative effects of within-litter birth weight variation on postnatal pigs**
- **Causes for within-litter birth weight variation**
- **Strategies to improve this issue**







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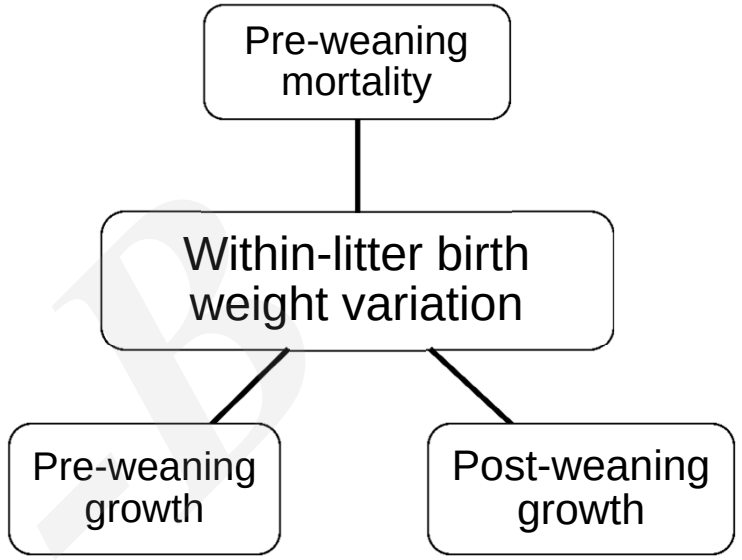
Innovation points

- **Introduction of the negative consequences related to piglets in litters with high variation in birth weight from three aspects**

- **Summary of the most updated research progress about causative factors responsible for within-litter birth weight variation**

- **Emphasis of the effects of nutritional strategies during three critical window stages of pregnancy on improving litter homogeneity**



Breed characteristics:
- Oocytes quality
- Duration of ovulation
- Capacity of implantation
- Efficiency of placenta

Sow nutritional state

Three critical pregnancy stages:
- Pre-ovulation;
- Peri-implantation;
- Late gestation periods

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