

SUSFORM-NOW (LDC) News No.12 Special Edition: How to protect animals from cold weather?

Tet is approaching! A new Spring of Nham Thin is coming to all villages in Dien Bien province. However, the weather change is quite complex this year. Animals in the province are facing cold weather since early January 2012. This situation will be worse when several consecutive waves of cold air will come from the North. This LDC special edition is issued to support farmers in enjoying the Tet while still taking care of animals' health by applying the following specific measures:

1) Shelter animal from cold air

- Use nylon canvas, jute bags or other available materials such as imperata grass to shelter animals from cold wind
- Close tightly the lower part of the shed to prevent animals from cold drafts

2) Keep warm inside shed

- Burn husk, especially at night
- Warm up piglets, especially during the first 3 weeks after birth

3) Keep the floor dry and clean

- Lay dry and soft straws on the floor
- For cemented piggery floor, place a wood plank at a corner then cover it with straws to make a resting place for pigs
- Take out feces for clean floor

4) Don't let cattle out for grazing too early in the morning

- Do not send cattle out for grazing when the temperature is less than 15 degree Celsius
- Cover the cattle with a blanket when it is very cold

5) Provide sufficient food and drinking water for animals

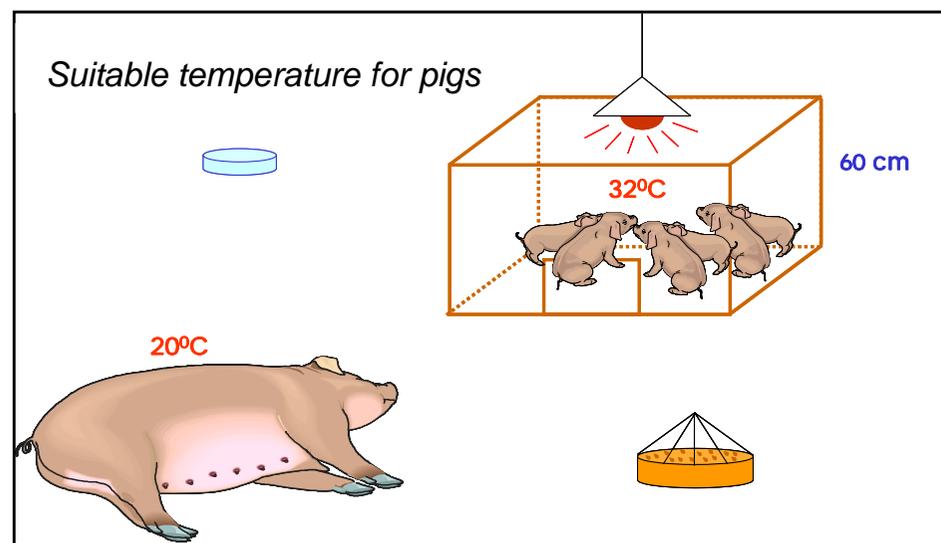
- Process and make dry straws, withered grass, cane top... as food for cattle
- Provide animals with protein enriched foods, corn and rice bran...
- Feed animals with more meals during a day

6) Vaccinate sufficiently under the guidance of animal health sector

7) Have animals drink water with ginger and a bit salt immediately after any signs of catching a cold



Available materials such as imperata grass can be used to shelter animals from cold wind



Contact addresses in case animals showed abnormal signs

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