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Réduire les consommations de chauffage en post-sevrage et en maternité: évaluation d'une « niche intelligente »

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Reducing heating consumption in post-weaning and farrowing pig barns: assessment of "Smart nest" efficiency.
The presence of a nest in post-weaning and farrowing pens allows the heating zone to be located and therefore offers a range of differentiated comfort to piglets. Recently, smart nests have been developed. They are provided with heating by infrared lamps controlled by the skin temperature of the piglets measured using an infrared sensor. These smart nests were evaluated in post-weaning rooms (130 and 140 piglets) in two commercial farms in Brittany and in a farrowing room with 8 pens in an experimental farm. After one year of testing in the post-weaning rooms and six months in the farrowing room, reductions in heating costs made possible by the nests were higher than 50% in the three facilities. Depending on farmer practices and respect for the installer's recommendations, heating bills can be reduced by up to 90%. While heating represents on average 46% of the energy consumption in breeding-finishing pig farms, setting up nests in post-weaning and / or farrowing pens constitutes an interesting response for reducing energy expenses. This equipment is identified as one of the possible levers leading to future "positive energy" pig barns.