

## **Learning Aid:** Swine Litter Processing Simulators

### **Recommended Lesson:** *Lesson 2: Processing Litters*

#### **Required Materials:**

- *Processing Swine Litters* slide presentation (printed out)
- 1 Swine Litter Processing Simulator with all accessories and tools
- *Helpful Reminders for Processing Litters* worksheet
- *Ear Notching Worksheet*
- Situation cards 1-4 from the slide presentation (slides 18-21, printed out)
- *Litter Processing Quiz*

#### **Steps:**

##### *FOCUS:*

1. Using a scratch sheet of paper, take two to three minutes and brainstorm different ideas on what swine litter processing is and why it is important. Write down these four skills and explain what you think would make them important:
  - a. Ear Notching
  - b. Clipping Needle Teeth
  - c. Tail Docking
  - d. Castration
2. Once you have written down your thoughts, save this paper in a location you will remember as you will come back and use this to reflect on after you have gone through the station.

##### *LEARN:*

1. Start with the printouts of the Processing Swine Litters slide presentation. Read through each slide and gain an understanding of the different swine litter processing techniques.
2. Fill out the Helpful Reminders for Processing Litters worksheet as you go through the slide presentation. The goal is to use the swine and go through each litter processing technique to be able to practice and perfect the correct technique before doing the job on a real piglet.
3. Start with ear notching. Read slides 5-12 and practice this skill with the Ear Notching Worksheet to understand the correct notching procedure before practicing on the piglet simulator.
4. After you feel confident with the worksheet, it is time to practice ear notching with the piglet. Make sure you use the ear notching tool to gain an understanding of crisp, strong ear cuts.
5. After you have practiced, move to slide 13 and work on clipping needle teeth. Try to make proper cuts with each tooth to gain proper technique.
6. Move on to tail docking. Use the snipping tool to make crisp cuts of the tail. Follow slide 14 for help with this process.
7. Next is castration on slide 15. Simulate the proper technique for surgical castration with the plastic knife.
8. After you have completed all these skills, go through the situation cards on slides 18-21 and follow each situation to see how your skills have improved.

##### *REVIEW:*

1. To review, take a little time to complete the Litter Processing Quiz. Take time to answer each question based on what you learned with the Swine Litter Processing Simulator.
2. After you have finished the quiz, turn it in for a grade.