

female pig reproductive system diagram

female pig reproductive system diagram is an essential tool for understanding the anatomy and physiology of the sow's reproductive organs. This diagram provides a detailed visualization of the complex structures that contribute to the reproductive process, including the ovaries, oviducts, uterus, cervix, vagina, and vulva. Knowledge of the female pig reproductive system is vital for veterinarians, farmers, and animal science professionals aiming to optimize breeding, manage reproductive health, and improve pig production efficiency. In this article, we will explore the anatomy of the female pig reproductive system, explain the function of each component, and describe the reproductive cycle. Additionally, the article will highlight common reproductive issues and best practices for maintaining sow fertility. Understanding the female pig reproductive system diagram helps in identifying anatomical landmarks and facilitates effective reproductive management.

- Overview of the Female Pig Reproductive Anatomy
- Key Components of the Female Pig Reproductive System
- Functions of the Female Pig Reproductive Organs
- The Reproductive Cycle of the Sow
- Common Reproductive Health Issues in Female Pigs
- Best Practices for Managing Sow Reproduction

Overview of the Female Pig Reproductive Anatomy

The female pig reproductive system is a complex network of organs designed to enable reproduction, fetal development, and parturition. The system is internally located within the pelvic cavity, with some parts extending into the abdominal region. The female pig reproductive system diagram typically illustrates the paired ovaries, oviducts, uterus, cervix, vagina, and vulva. Each organ plays a distinct role in the reproductive process, from egg production to fertilization and gestation. The anatomy of the sow differs slightly from other domestic animals, especially in the shape and size of the uterus and cervix, reflecting their unique reproductive strategies. A comprehensive understanding of these anatomical features is crucial for effective breeding and reproductive management.

Key Components of the Female Pig Reproductive

System

Ovaries

The ovaries are paired, oval-shaped glands located near the kidneys in the abdominal cavity. They are responsible for producing ova (eggs) and secreting reproductive hormones such as estrogen and progesterone. The ovaries contain follicles at various stages of development, which release mature eggs during the estrous cycle. The female pig reproductive system diagram highlights the ovaries' position and structure, which are essential for understanding ovulation and hormone regulation.

Oviducts (Fallopian Tubes)

The oviducts, also known as fallopian tubes, are narrow tubes that connect the ovaries to the uterus. Their primary function is to transport the ova from the ovary to the uterus and provide the site for fertilization. The oviducts are lined with ciliated epithelial cells that help move the egg and sperm efficiently. The female pig reproductive system diagram displays the curved and convoluted nature of these tubes, emphasizing their role in reproductive success.

Uterus

The uterus in female pigs is bicornuate, meaning it has two long uterine horns extending from a small uterine body. The uterine horns are where embryo implantation and fetal development occur. This structure is particularly well-developed in pigs to accommodate large litters. The uterine lining, or endometrium, provides nourishment to the developing embryos. The female pig reproductive system diagram clearly distinguishes the uterine horns and body, underlining their importance in gestation.

Cervix

The cervix is a thick, muscular canal that connects the uterus to the vagina. It serves as a barrier to protect the uterus from pathogens and also plays a role during mating and parturition. The cervix has several folds or rings, which are distinctive in pigs. These rings help maintain a closed environment during pregnancy and open during estrus and delivery. The female pig reproductive system diagram highlights these cervical structures, aiding in the identification of the cervix during veterinary examinations.

Vagina and Vulva

The vagina is a muscular tube that extends from the cervix to the external genitalia, serving as the site for copulation and the passageway for the fetus during birth. The vulva is the external part of the female reproductive system, visible outside the body. It includes the labia and is an important anatomical landmark for reproductive health assessments.

The female pig reproductive system diagram includes these external and internal structures to provide a complete overview of the reproductive tract.

Functions of the Female Pig Reproductive Organs

Each organ shown in the female pig reproductive system diagram has a specific role contributing to successful reproduction. Their combined functions ensure the production, fertilization, gestation, and birth of piglets.

- **Ovaries:** Produce eggs and secrete reproductive hormones that regulate the estrous cycle.
- **Oviducts:** Transport eggs to the uterus and provide the site for fertilization.
- **Uterus:** Supports embryo implantation, fetal growth, and prepares for parturition.
- **Cervix:** Acts as a protective barrier and facilitates sperm entry and birth canal opening.
- **Vagina:** Receives sperm during mating and serves as the birth canal.
- **Vulva:** Serves as the external entry point of the reproductive tract and assists in reproductive health monitoring.

The Reproductive Cycle of the Sow

The reproductive cycle of the female pig, also known as the estrous cycle, is a critical aspect illustrated by the female pig reproductive system diagram. This cycle typically lasts 18 to 24 days and includes several phases that prepare the sow for conception and pregnancy.

Phases of the Estrous Cycle

The main phases of the sow's reproductive cycle include proestrus, estrus, metestrus, and diestrus. During proestrus, follicles develop on the ovaries, and estrogen levels rise. Estrus is the period of sexual receptivity when ovulation occurs, and the sow is fertile. Metestrus follows ovulation, characterized by the formation of the corpus luteum, which secretes progesterone to maintain pregnancy. Diestrus is the phase where progesterone dominates if pregnancy occurs; otherwise, the cycle restarts.

Signs of Estrus

Recognizing estrus is important for optimal breeding. Signs include increased restlessness, vocalization, swollen and reddened vulva, and a willingness to stand for the boar. The female pig reproductive system diagram helps in understanding the physiological changes during estrus, such as cervical relaxation and increased uterine secretions.

Common Reproductive Health Issues in Female Pigs

Understanding the female pig reproductive system diagram aids in diagnosing and managing common reproductive problems that can affect sow fertility and productivity.

- **Ovarian cysts:** Fluid-filled sacs on the ovaries that may disrupt normal ovulation.
- **Uterine infections:** Conditions like metritis and endometritis can impair fertility and gestation.
- **Estrus detection failure:** Missing signs of heat can lead to unsuccessful breeding attempts.
- **Cervical abnormalities:** Structural issues can hinder sperm transport or parturition.
- **Embryonic loss:** Early pregnancy losses due to hormonal imbalances or infections.

Best Practices for Managing Sow Reproduction

Proper management of the female pig reproductive system is crucial for maximizing reproductive efficiency and litter quality. The following practices support optimal reproductive performance:

1. **Regular reproductive health checks:** Use veterinary examinations and the female pig reproductive system diagram for accurate assessment.
2. **Effective estrus detection:** Monitor behavioral and physiological signs to time breeding accurately.
3. **Nutrition management:** Provide balanced diets to support hormonal functions and fetal development.
4. **Environmental control:** Maintain suitable housing conditions to reduce stress and disease risk.

5. **Timely breeding interventions:** Utilize artificial insemination or natural mating based on estrus detection.
6. **Postpartum care:** Monitor sows after farrowing to prevent infections and promote recovery.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the main components of the female pig reproductive system shown in a diagram?

The main components typically include the ovaries, oviducts (fallopian tubes), uterus (including uterine horns), cervix, vagina, and vulva.

How does the uterine structure in female pigs differ from that of humans in reproductive system diagrams?

Female pigs have a bicornuate uterus with two long uterine horns, which is adapted for carrying multiple embryos, unlike humans who have a single-chambered uterus.

What role do the ovaries play in the female pig reproductive system as seen in diagrams?

The ovaries produce eggs (ova) and secrete hormones such as estrogen and progesterone that regulate the reproductive cycle.

Where is fertilization most likely to occur in the female pig reproductive system diagram?

Fertilization typically occurs in the oviducts (fallopian tubes), which connect the ovaries to the uterus.

How can you identify the cervix in a female pig reproductive system diagram?

The cervix is usually represented as a thick, muscular ring between the uterine horns and the vagina, acting as a barrier and passageway.

Why are the uterine horns so prominent in the female pig reproductive system diagram?

Because pigs are litter-bearing animals, the uterine horns are elongated to accommodate multiple developing embryos simultaneously.

What is the function of the vagina in the female pig reproductive system diagram?

The vagina serves as the canal for copulation and the birth canal during parturition.

How is the vulva represented in diagrams of the female pig reproductive system and what is its function?

The vulva is shown as the external genitalia opening to the outside, serving as the entryway to the reproductive tract and for excretion of urine.

How does understanding the female pig reproductive system diagram assist in veterinary reproductive management?

It helps veterinarians and farmers in diagnosing reproductive health issues, performing artificial insemination, and managing breeding programs effectively.

Additional Resources

1. Anatomy and Physiology of the Female Pig Reproductive System

This comprehensive guide explores the detailed anatomy and physiology of the female pig's reproductive system. It includes labeled diagrams and explanations that help readers understand the structure and function of each reproductive organ. Ideal for veterinary students and animal science professionals, the book also covers common reproductive disorders.

2. Swine Reproductive Biology: Female System Diagrams and Functions

Focusing on the reproductive biology of sows, this book provides clear, detailed diagrams of the female pig reproductive system alongside descriptions of reproductive cycles and hormonal control. It is designed for both academic study and practical applications in pig farming and breeding management.

3. Veterinary Anatomy: Female Porcine Reproductive System Illustrated

This veterinary textbook offers high-quality illustrations of the female pig reproductive system, highlighting anatomical features crucial for diagnosis and treatment. It includes step-by-step diagrams that support veterinary students in mastering reproductive anatomy for clinical practice.

4. Reproductive Health and Anatomy of Female Swine

Targeting swine health specialists, this volume combines anatomical diagrams with discussions on reproductive health issues, fertility management, and breeding strategies. It provides visual aids and practical advice to enhance reproductive efficiency in pig herds.

5. Comparative Anatomy of Female Mammalian Reproductive Systems: Focus on Swine

This book compares the reproductive anatomy of female pigs with other mammals, emphasizing unique structural features and adaptations. Detailed diagrams facilitate

understanding of evolutionary and functional aspects relevant to reproduction and breeding.

6. Swine Reproductive Physiology: Diagrams and Clinical Applications

Covering physiological processes in the female pig reproductive system, this text integrates detailed diagrams with clinical case studies. It is useful for veterinarians and animal scientists interested in reproductive endocrinology and fertility treatments.

7. Practical Guide to Swine Reproductive Anatomy and Breeding

A hands-on manual featuring easy-to-understand diagrams of the female pig reproductive system, this guide supports farmers and breeders in improving reproductive management. It includes tips on artificial insemination and pregnancy detection supported by anatomical insights.

8. Embryology and Development of the Female Pig Reproductive Tract

This specialized book delves into the embryological development of the female pig reproductive organs, accompanied by detailed diagrams illustrating each stage. It is valuable for researchers and students interested in developmental biology and reproductive genetics.

9. Swine Reproductive System: A Visual Atlas for Students and Professionals

An atlas-style publication filled with high-resolution diagrams and labeled images of the female pig reproductive system. The book serves as a quick reference for students, veterinarians, and swine industry professionals seeking precise anatomical information and visual learning aids.

Female Pig Reproductive System Diagram

Female Pig Reproductive System Diagram: A Comprehensive Guide

Unlock the secrets of swine reproduction! Are you struggling to understand the complexities of the female pig reproductive system? Do you need a clear, concise, and visually rich resource to help you master this crucial aspect of pig farming, whether for breeding, veterinary care, or academic study? Frustrated with confusing textbooks and unclear diagrams? This ebook provides the definitive guide you need.

This ebook, "The Sow's Secret: A Visual Guide to the Female Pig Reproductive System," will equip you with a comprehensive understanding, using detailed diagrams and straightforward explanations.

Contents:

Introduction: Importance of understanding the female pig reproductive system in modern

agriculture.

Chapter 1: Anatomy of the Female Reproductive Tract: Detailed anatomical description with high-quality diagrams, covering the ovaries, oviducts, uterus, cervix, vagina, and vulva. Includes microscopic views of key tissues.

Chapter 2: Ovarian Function and the Estrous Cycle: Explanation of follicular development, ovulation, hormonal control (FSH, LH, estrogen, progesterone), and the stages of the estrous cycle with clear visual aids.

Chapter 3: Fertilization and Embryonic Development: A step-by-step explanation of the fertilization process, implantation, and early embryonic development in pigs. Includes diagrams showing the stages of embryo development.

Chapter 4: Pregnancy and Parturition: Details of gestation length, fetal development, and the stages of labor and delivery in sows. Includes practical tips for managing pregnancy and farrowing.

Chapter 5: Reproductive Disorders and Management: Common reproductive problems in sows, their causes, symptoms, and management strategies, including preventative measures.

Conclusion: Summary of key concepts and resources for further learning.

The Sow's Secret: A Visual Guide to the Female Pig Reproductive System

Introduction: Understanding the Foundation of Swine Production

Understanding the female pig reproductive system is paramount for success in modern pig farming. Efficient reproduction directly impacts profitability, influencing litter size, piglet survival rates, and overall herd productivity. This comprehensive guide provides a detailed yet accessible overview, combining anatomical descriptions with high-quality diagrams to foster a thorough understanding. Whether you're a seasoned farmer, a veterinary professional, or a student of animal science, this ebook offers invaluable insights into the intricacies of swine reproduction.

Chapter 1: Anatomy of the Female Pig Reproductive Tract

The female pig reproductive tract is a complex system designed for ovulation, fertilization, gestation, and parturition. Let's explore its key components:

1.1 Ovaries: The ovaries are paired almond-shaped organs responsible for producing ova (eggs) and the hormones estrogen and progesterone. Microscopically, they consist of follicles in various stages of development, from primordial follicles to mature Graafian follicles, ready for ovulation. (Include high-resolution diagram showing ovarian follicles at different stages)

1.2 Oviducts (Fallopian Tubes): These paired tubes extend from the ovaries to the uterus. They are the site of fertilization, where the sperm meets the ovum. Their fimbriae capture the released ovum, guiding it towards the uterus. (Include diagram showing the structure and location of the oviducts)

1.3 Uterus: This muscular organ is where the fertilized ovum implants and the fetus develops. It's divided into two uterine horns, each capable of supporting multiple fetuses. The uterine lining, or endometrium, undergoes cyclical changes throughout the estrous cycle, preparing for implantation. (Include diagram showing the bicornuate structure of the pig uterus)

1.4 Cervix: The cervix is the strong, muscular neck of the uterus that connects it to the vagina. It plays a crucial role in preventing infection during pregnancy and dilating during parturition. Its complex structure creates a barrier against pathogens. (Include detailed diagram showing the cervical structure)

1.5 Vagina: The vagina is the copulatory organ, the site where the penis deposits semen during mating. It also serves as the birth canal. Its mucosal lining provides lubrication during mating and parturition. (Include diagram illustrating the vagina's position within the reproductive tract)

1.6 Vulva: The vulva is the external opening of the female reproductive tract. It consists of the labia and clitoris. It's involved in mating and urination. (Include diagram showing the external genitalia)

Chapter 2: Ovarian Function and the Estrous Cycle

The pig's reproductive cycle is governed by a complex interplay of hormones. Understanding the estrous cycle is essential for successful breeding management:

2.1 Follicular Development: The ovaries contain follicles at various stages of development. Follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) stimulates the growth of these follicles, leading to the maturation of a dominant follicle containing a mature ovum.

2.2 Ovulation: A surge in luteinizing hormone (LH) triggers ovulation – the release of the mature ovum from the Graafian follicle. This typically occurs around mid-cycle. (Include graph depicting hormonal changes during the estrous cycle)

2.3 Estrogen and Progesterone: Estrogen, primarily produced by the developing follicle, causes the characteristic signs of estrus (heat), including restlessness, mounting behavior, and a swollen vulva. Progesterone, produced by the corpus luteum (the structure formed after ovulation), maintains pregnancy.

2.4 Stages of the Estrous Cycle: The pig's estrous cycle is approximately 21 days long and includes:
Proestrus: Follicular growth begins.

Estrus (heat): Ovulation occurs.

Metestrus: Corpus luteum formation.

Diestrus: Corpus luteum activity is high. If fertilization doesn't occur, the corpus luteum regresses.

Chapter 3: Fertilization and Embryonic Development

Fertilization is the fusion of the sperm and ovum, initiating embryonic development:

3.1 Fertilization: Sperm deposited during mating travel to the oviduct, where fertilization occurs. The sperm penetrates the ovum, and their genetic material fuses, forming a zygote.

3.2 Cleavage: The zygote undergoes rapid cell division as it travels down the oviduct towards the uterus.

3.3 Implantation: The embryo implants in the uterine wall, establishing a connection with the mother's circulatory system for nutrient and oxygen exchange. (Include diagrams illustrating the stages of embryonic development)

3.4 Embryonic Development: The embryo differentiates into various tissues and organs. The placenta forms, providing a vital link between the developing fetus and the mother. (Include diagrams showing the developing fetus at various stages)

Chapter 4: Pregnancy and Parturition

Gestation in pigs lasts approximately 114 days:

4.1 Gestation: The developing fetuses grow within the uterus, receiving nourishment and oxygen via the placenta. The sow's body undergoes significant physiological changes to support pregnancy.

4.2 Parturition (Farrowing): Labor begins with uterine contractions, leading to the expulsion of the piglets. The process typically involves several hours and requires careful monitoring. (Include diagrams illustrating the stages of farrowing)

4.3 Post-Parturition Care: Post-farrowing care is essential for the sow and piglets, focusing on hygiene, nutrition, and monitoring for complications.

Chapter 5: Reproductive Disorders and Management

Several factors can negatively impact reproductive performance in sows:

5.1 Anestrus: Failure to exhibit estrus.

5.2 Ovarian cysts: Fluid-filled sacs on the ovaries.

5.3 Metritis: Inflammation of the uterus.

5.4 Mastitis-Metritis-Agalactia (MMA) syndrome: A potentially fatal postpartum condition.

5.5 Reproductive Diseases: Bacterial or viral infections affecting the reproductive tract.

5.6 Management Strategies: Proper nutrition, hygiene, stress reduction, and vaccination programs are crucial for preventing and managing reproductive disorders.

Conclusion

This ebook provides a foundational understanding of the female pig reproductive system. Applying this knowledge will lead to improved breeding efficiency and overall success in swine production. Further research and consultation with veterinary professionals are recommended for advanced topics.

FAQs:

1. What is the estrous cycle in pigs? The estrous cycle is the recurring period of sexual receptivity in female pigs, approximately 21 days long.
2. How long is gestation in pigs? Gestation in pigs lasts about 114 days.
3. What are the key hormones involved in pig reproduction? FSH, LH, estrogen, and progesterone.
4. What is ovulation? The release of a mature egg from the ovary.
5. What is the function of the cervix? The cervix protects the uterus from infection and dilates during farrowing.
6. What are some common reproductive disorders in sows? Anestrus, ovarian cysts, metritis, and MMA syndrome.
7. How can I improve reproductive performance in my sows? Through good nutrition, hygiene, stress reduction, and vaccination.
8. What is the structure of the pig uterus? It's bicornuate, meaning it has two horns.
9. Where does fertilization occur in pigs? In the oviducts (fallopian tubes).

Related Articles:

1. Pig Breeding Management Techniques: A guide to optimizing breeding strategies for maximum productivity.
2. Understanding Swine Reproduction Hormones: A deeper dive into the hormonal regulation of the estrous cycle.
3. Diagnosing and Treating Reproductive Disorders in Sows: Practical advice for identifying and managing common problems.
4. Improving Farrowing Rates in Pigs: Strategies to increase the number of piglets born alive.
5. Nutrition and Swine Reproduction: The role of diet in maximizing reproductive performance.
6. Biosecurity and Swine Reproductive Health: Minimizing the risk of infectious diseases affecting

reproduction.

7. Artificial Insemination in Pigs: A detailed explanation of the AI technique in swine breeding.
8. Genetic Selection for Improved Reproductive Traits in Pigs: Strategies for genetic improvement of reproductive performance.
9. The Role of the Corpus Luteum in Pig Pregnancy: Focus on the function of the corpus luteum during gestation.

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female pig reproductive system diagram: Boar Reproduction Sergi Bonet, Isabel Casas, William V Holt, Marc Yeste, 2013-02-01 Latent knowledge in the field of pig reproduction is vast but scattered, making it difficult to take in all information at a glance. Moreover, nascent branches in biotechnology cannot grow if deprived of roots. The book Boar Reproduction: Fundamentals and New Biotechnological Trends links the past, the present and the emerging scientific research fields on reproductive biotechnology, offering a rigorous but easy to follow compilation of topics, from "old favorites" to the latest advances. The book is organized in three parts. The chapters of the first and second part cover various biological aspects of boar spermatozoa within the male, and within the female environments, respectively. The most common laboratory and artificial insemination techniques are discussed in the third part. As an additional feature, some chapters focus on the basis of a technology transfer to bring research expertise from basic science to the market, making the information provided in this book suitable for academic, research and other professional applications.

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Diseases Jaroslava Halper, 2014-01-18 This volume is a reference handbook focusing on diseases like Marfan syndrome, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, Loeys-Dietz syndrome and other heritable soft connective tissue diseases. The book presents detailed information for both basic scientists and for clinicians seeing patients. It is also a stepping stone for new investigations and studies that goes beyond the facts about the composition and biochemistry of the connective tissue and extracellular matrix, as the authors connect individual components to specific aspects of various soft tissue disorders and to the actual or potential treatment of them. Progress in Heritable Soft Connective Tissue Diseases features very prominent physicians and scientists as contributors who bring their most recent discoveries to the benefit of readers. Their expertise will help clinicians with proper diagnosis of sometimes elusive and uncommon heritable diseases of soft connective tissues. This book also offers an update on the pathophysiology of these diseases, including an emphasis on unifying aspects such as connections between embryonic development of the different types of connective tissues and systems, and the role of TGF-beta in development and physiology of soft tissues. This new set of data explains, at least in part, why many of these disorders are interconnected, though the primary pathophysiological events, such as gene mutations, may be different for each disorder.

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female pig reproductive system diagram: Infertility in the Male Larry I. Lipshultz, Stuart S. Howards, Craig S. Niederberger, 2009-09-24 The new edition of this canonical text on male reproductive medicine will cement the book's market-leading position. Practitioners across many specialties - including urologists, gynecologists, reproductive endocrinologists, medical endocrinologists and many in internal medicine and family practice - will see men with suboptimal fertility and reproductive problems. The book provides an excellent source of timely, well-considered information for those training in this young and rapidly evolving field. While several recent books provide targeted 'cookbooks' for those in a male reproductive laboratory, or quick reference for practising generalists, the modern, comprehensive reference providing both a background for male reproductive medicine as well as clinical practice information based on that foundation has been lacking until now. The book has been extensively revised with a particular focus on modern molecular medicine. Appropriate therapeutic interventions are highlighted throughout.

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female pig reproductive system diagram: Signaling-Mediated Control of Cell Division Swathi Arur, 2017-02-28 This volume covers the current knowledge base on the role of signaling and environmental pathways that control the normal development of germline stem cells, meiotic progression of oocytes, events of oocyte maturation and fertilization, and the birth of an embryo. Germ cells are uniquely poised to sustain life across generations through the fusion of oocyte and sperm. Because of the central importance of germ cells to life, much work has been dedicated to

obtaining a clear understanding of the molecular and signaling events that control their formation and maintenance. Germ cells are set aside from somatic cells in the embryo and go through specialized meiotic cell cycles as the animal matures. These cell cycles are interspersed with long periods of arrest. In human females, meiosis I is initiated in the fetus. At birth, oocytes are arrested in meiosis I; after puberty, every month an oocyte initiates meiosis II – ovulation. Upon sperm availability these cells are fertilized, generate an embryo, and the cycle-of-life continues. During meiotic I progression and arrest, the fitness of oocytes and their progeny are likely influenced by environmental cues and signaling pathways. A lot of recent work has focused on understanding the mechanisms that regulate oocyte fitness and quality in humans and vertebrates. Much of our understanding on the events of meiosis I and germline stem cell populations comes from work in invertebrates, wherein the germline stem cells produce oocytes continuously through adult development. In both invertebrates and vertebrates nutritional and signaling pathways control the regulation of stem cells in such a manner so as to couple production of gametes with the nutritional availability. Additionally, mature oocytes arrest both in meiosis I and meiosis II, and signaling and nutritional pathways have been shown to regulate their formation, and maintenance, such that despite long periods of arrest, the oocyte quality is assured and errors in chromosome segregation and varied cytoplasmic events are minimal.

female pig reproductive system diagram: Anatomy of the Guinea Pig Gale Cooper, Alan L. Schiller, 1975 The guinea pig is so widely used in laboratories that it has become synonymous in common speech with experimental animal. But until now there has been no complete and accurate anatomy of this otherwise familiar creature. *Cavia* has remained uncharted territory for experimenters who come to it without previous experience. Gale Cooper and Alan L. Schiller here provide a thorough description of guinea pig anatomy in a text illustrated with about four hundred separate drawings. It is a detailed, complete, and practical guide to the gross morphology of the animal. Nomenclature has been standardized according to the *Nomina Anatomica Veterinaria*. The authors' dissections have been carefully correlated with the published literature on guinea pig anatomy, and numerous references are given. This book sets a new standard of beauty and clarity in anatomical illustration. Dr. Cooper's drawings not only provide anatomical information with the utmost in accuracy and fidelity, they are in themselves an aesthetic triumph. Her pencil drawings have been made by a technique that requires specially made paper and demands unusual skill from the artist; closely identified with the famous illustrator Max Brodl, this method is now rarely employed. Researchers in immunology, hematology, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, reproductive biology, comparative anatomy, and taxonomy, among other fields, will turn to this anatomy as a reliable guide to a favored experimental species.

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Foxcroft, 2013-10-02 *Control of Pig Reproduction* focuses on carefully evaluated techniques and technologies involved in the control of pig reproduction. The selection first ponders on the sexual development of male pigs, including early fetal, perinatal, and pubertal periods. The text also discusses testicular steroids and boar taint; interrelationships between spermatozoa, female reproductive tract, and egg investments; and artificial insemination. Discussions focus on androgens, estrogens, deposition of semen and uterine transit, sperm regulation and release by the isthmus, and types of artificial insemination. The manuscript examines endocrine control of sexual maturation in female pigs and sexual differentiation of the stimulatory estrogen feedback mechanism and factors affecting the natural attainment of puberty in gilts. Discussions focus on development of ovarian function and gonadal steroid levels; development of the stimulatory estrogen feedback mechanism; and maturation of negative feedback of gonadal steroids. The text also takes a look at controlled induction of puberty, endocrine control of the estrus cycle, and control of ovulation. The selection is a valuable reference for farmers and readers interested in pig reproduction.

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