

Commission launched debate on piglet castration

Investigating possible alternatives to the castration of piglets was the main objective of a workshop organised by the European Commission on 2 June 2010 in Brussels.

The internal market of pig meat is concerned by different issues relating to pigs' castration and there is general consensus that a European approach could help determine smart solutions.

The "Workshop on pigs' castration" brought together academics, scientists, representatives of retailing and food services industry, experts from national administrations and non-governmental organizations involved in the implementation of the animal welfare provisions or interested in promoting high animal welfare standards.

The workshop aimed to launch a broader debate on the current situation of pig castration in the Member States, the attitudes of EU citizens to boar taint, industry perspectives, consumer demands and market strategy, from the scientific, technical and ethical point of view.