

## **The family Suidae – reproduction, threats and the problem of biodiversity**

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### **Summary**

Representatives of the family Suidae are present on all continents, in extremely varied climatic and environmental conditions. They are represented by populations of highly varied size and range, including species and subspecies with varied reproductive potential. Both high and low reproductive potential of representatives of this family pose a certain threat. Low potential poses a threat to the survival of species/subspecies and to the preservation of biodiversity within the family Suidae. High reproductive potential threatens ecosystems, contributes to environmental degradation and the extinction of local fauna and flora, in extreme cases is dangerous to domesticated animals – farm animals (domestic pigs) and pets, and is also burdensome and sometimes dangerous for humans. Both potential and existing threats should be mitigated through programmes for the conservation of specific species and subspecies, habitat protection, education about nature, and legal and sanitary regulations.

**KEY WORDS: Suidae, reproduction, biodiversity**