



Identifying non-genetic risk factors for tail biting in pigs at commercial farms in Australia

Rutu Galea

PhD candidate

The University of Melbourne

Supervisors: Dr Lauren Hemsworth, Prof. Mark Stevenson, Prof. Paul Hemsworth, Prof. Alan Tilbrook





The Animal Welfare
Science Centre

Eliminating pig tail removal to improve welfare and industry sustainability



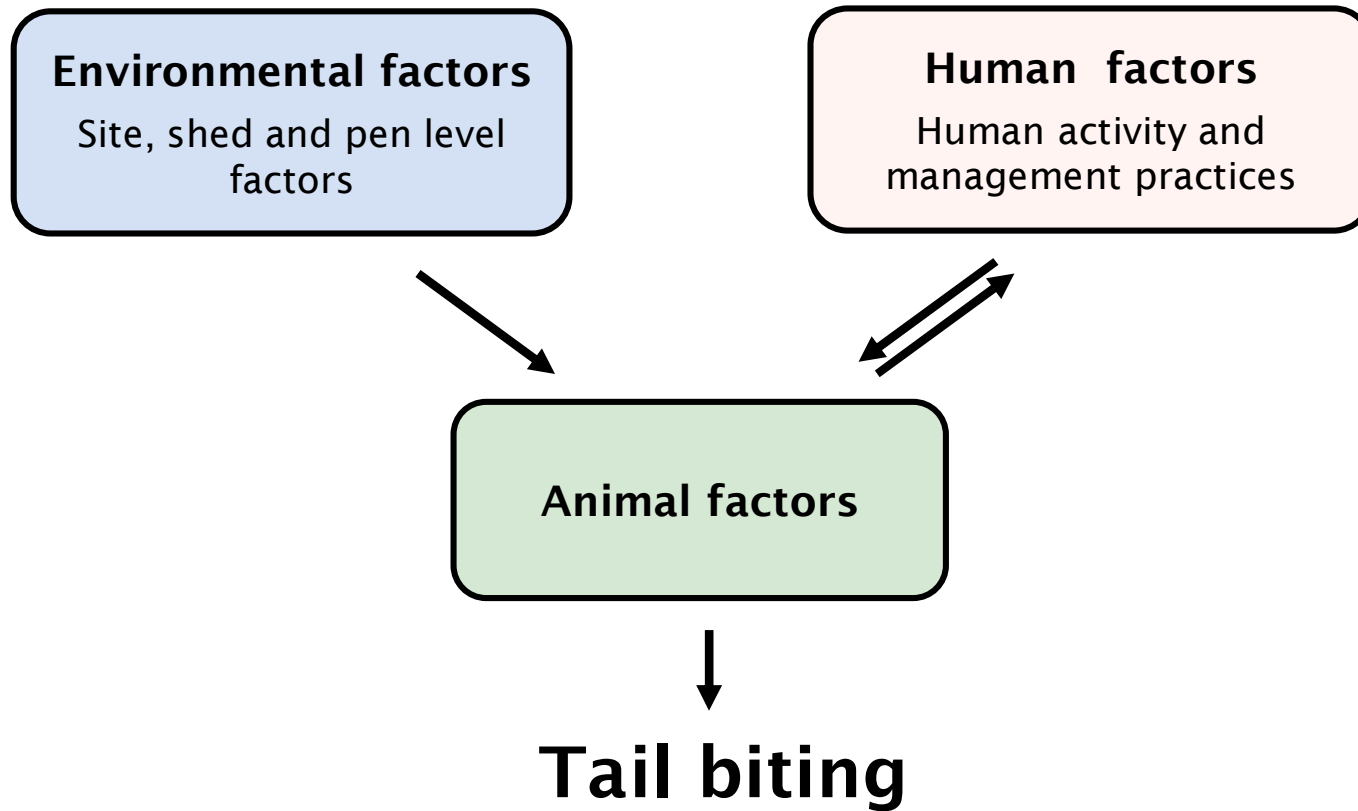
Australian Government

**Department of Industry,
Science and Resources**





Non-genetic factors

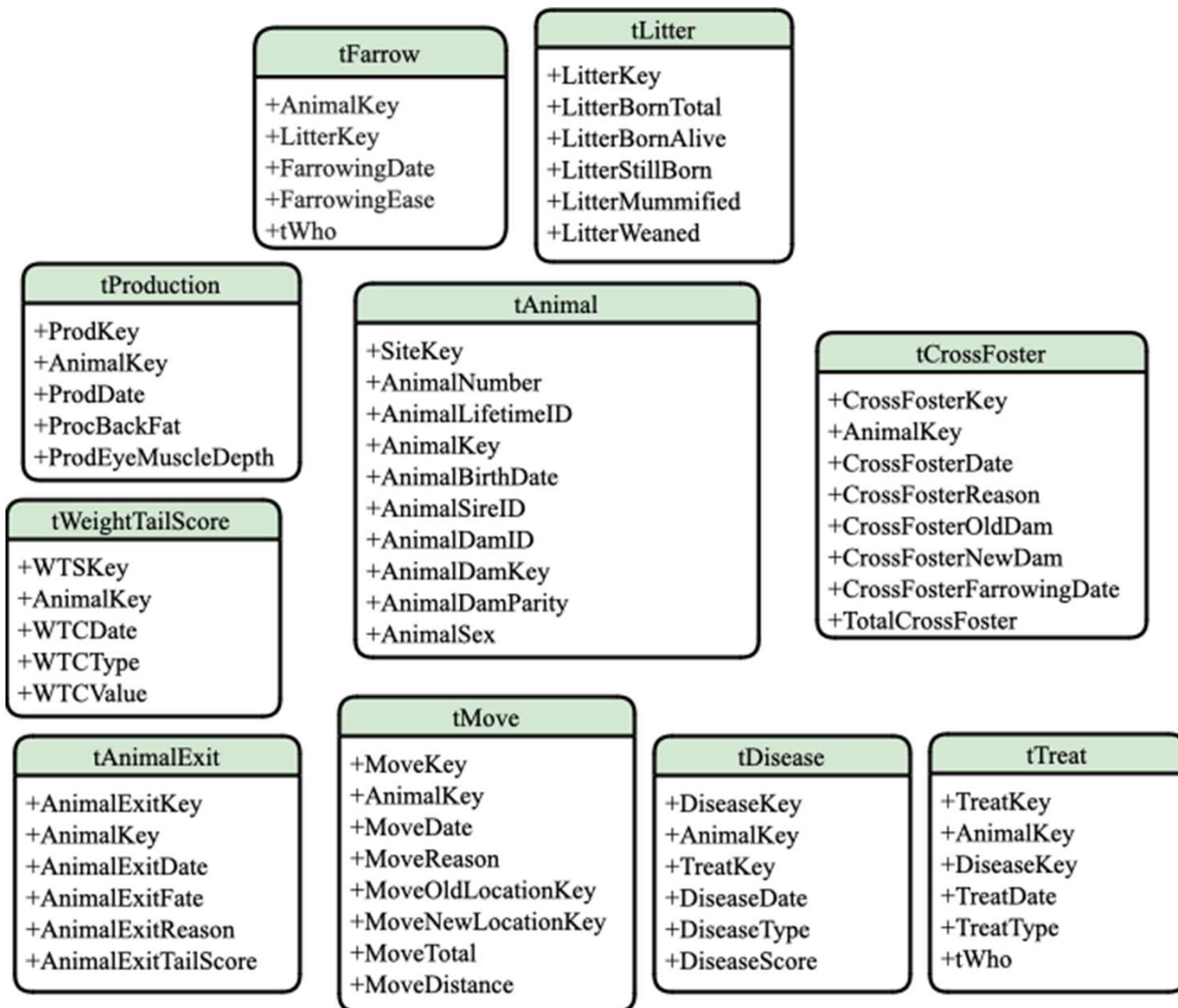




Animal factors

~ 100,000 individual pig data
SunPork: 4 sites across 3 states
Rivalea: 3 sites across 2 states

Current pig numbers: 33,595





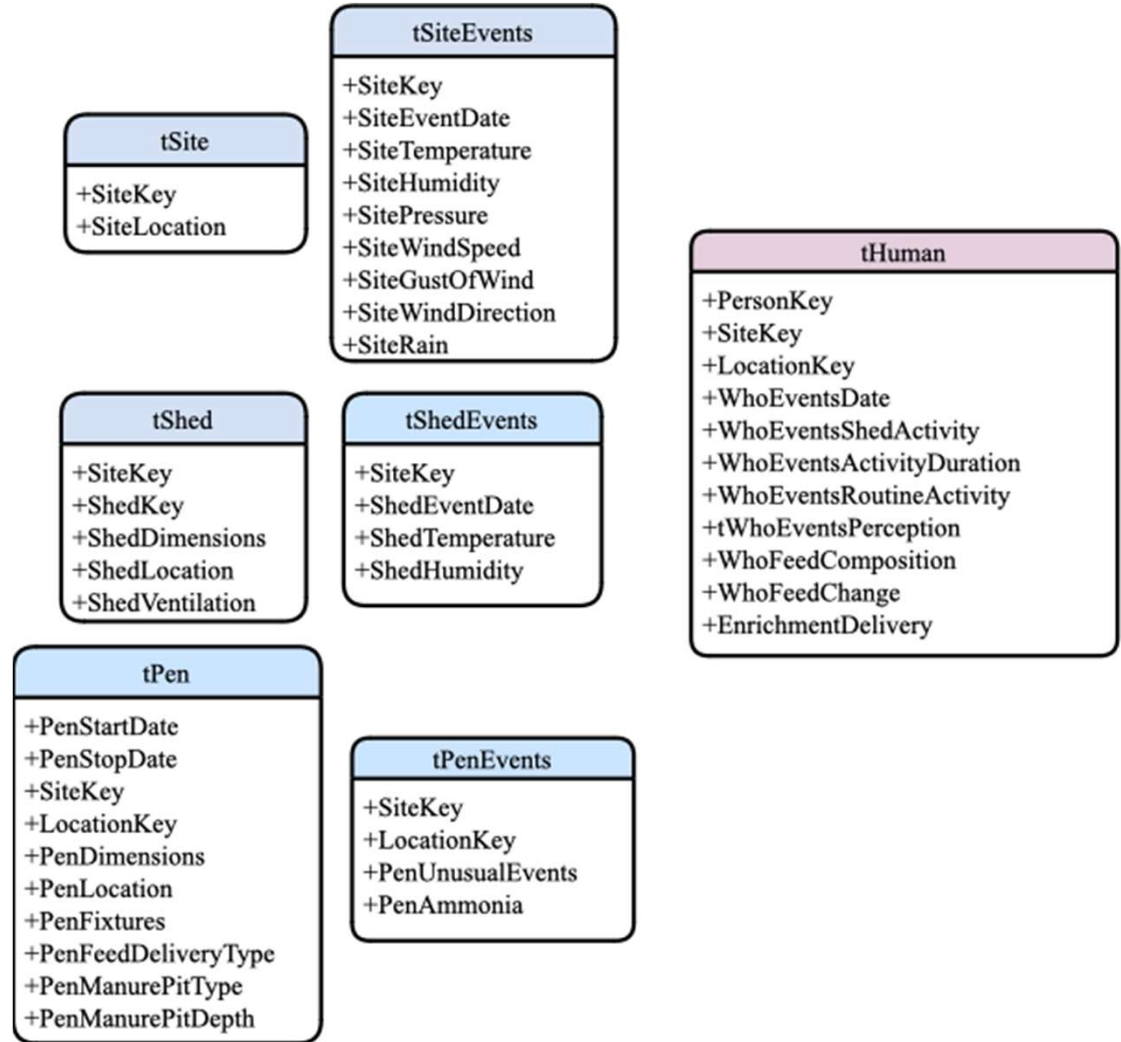
Environmental & management factors

Weather data: Weather station at each site (Daily average)

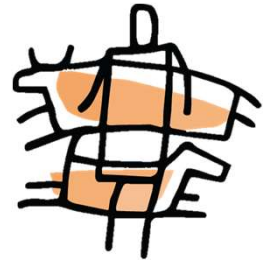
Shed climate: Temperature and humidity loggers (Daily average)

Ammonia: Pen ammonia level using hand-held ammonia reader (Weekly)

Management: Weekly survey on activity and management practices



My team



**ANIMAL WELFARE
SCIENCE CENTRE**

Supervisors

Dr Lauren Hemsworth
Prof. Mark Stevenson
Prof. Paul Hemsworth
Prof. Alan Tilbrook

UoM Tails project team

Dr Megan Lucas
Prof. Frank Dunshea
Prof. Roger Rassool

SunPork

Dr Kate Plush
Dr Shilja Shaji
Auriana Grusling
Nicholas Murdock
Jessica Zemitis

Rivalea

Dr Rebecca Morrison
Xavier Burton
Eugene
Dr Maria Jorquera
Steve Smith
David Murden



Australian Government
**Department of Industry,
Science and Resources**