Grooming behavior in domestic pigs (Sus scrofa domesticus) versus captive Visayan warty pigs (Sus cebifrons)

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The amount of time spent grooming by both domestic pigs (Sus scrofa domesticus) and Visayan warty pigs (Sus cebifrons) was compared with focus on specific grooming behaviors (wallowing and rubbing). It was hypothesized that both species would groom the same amount. Both species of pigs were observed for periods of at least 10 minutes with instantaneous scan sampling occurring every 30 seconds. At the mark of 30 seconds, pigs were marked on a study design ethogram as wallowing, grubbing, or not grooming. Temperature was also recorded. Visayan warty pigs wallowed and rubbed more frequently than domestic pigs (72 vs. 19 instances, respectively; P < 0.05). For total observations, the Visayan warty pig groomed more frequently (4.5%) compared to domestic pigs (1.5%; P < 0.01). We concluded that Visayan warty pigs groomed more frequently than their domestic counterparts.