Animal welfare dilemmas

1 **Read the text and decide which of the expressions below can be used instead of those underlined in the passage.**

all over • brought to an end gradually • cages • chains • closed in • conscious • gestation • litter • profit • prohibited • to raise female pigs • young pigs



One of the advances made by European Commission was to recognise farm animals as sentient **1.** ..... beings rather than agricultural products. Since 1 January 2013, in all EU Member States it has been prohibited to breed sows **2.** ..... in individual stalls, with the exception of the first four weeks of pregnancy **3.** ..... and the week before giving birth. Sow stalls, which were banned **4.** ..... in Sweden in 1994, in the UK in 1999 and now, at last, throughout **5.** ..... the Union, are extremely narrow cages that act like prisons for the sows kept in them, limiting their movement to the extent that they cannot even turn around. Their movements are restricted to just a few basic steps forward or backwards. For an animal that scientific research shows to be highly active, being confined to a life in a stall is severely limiting such natural behaviours as rooting, foraging and exploring, rolling over to cool down, huddling together with other pigs or using bedding **6.** ..... to keep warm. The impossibility of moving around in this way causes discomfort and often, the sows, with nothing to do, end up biting the bars of the cage out of frustration, boredom or hunger. The ban on sow stalls, even if partial, is vital for the welfare of these animals, especially since, after their pregnancies, they are moved into equally cramped **7.** ..... farrowing crates, where they are unable to express their fundamental natural instinct to build a nest for giving birth and where they are separated from their piglets **8.** ..... by bars. The ban on sow stalls and tethers **9.** ..... follows the EU-wide ban on veal crates **10.** ..... for calves which came into force in 2007 and the ban on conventional battery cages for laying hens which came into force on 1st January 2012. Unfortunately, the Directive permits the use of 'enriched' cages. The floor space and height required by the Directive in 'enriched' cages

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is only slightly greater than that required in conventional battery cages.
Although the most intensive, behaviourally restrictive systems had been phased out **11.** ..... (battery chickens, veal crates, sow tethers), still there can be important differences between member states and their private application of legislation. Last but not least, consumers seem to be generally unaware of this difference in production methods and the pig industry got little reward **12.** ..... for its more animal welfare friendly systems.

2 Match each term with its Italian equivalent.

1.	Gabbie da parto		**a.** Foraging
2.	Grufolare (razzolare in cerca di cibo grugnendo)		**b.** Veal crates for calves
3.	Andare alla ricerca di cibo		**c.** Battery cages
4.	Rotolarsi nel fango per rinfrescarsi		**d.** Rolling over to cool down
5.	Accalcarsi		**e.** Sow stalls/farrowing crates
6.	Posta singola per vitelli		**f.** Laying hens
7.	Gabbie di batteria		**g.** Sow tethers
8.	Galline ovaiole		**h.** Rooting
9.	Gabbie attrezzate o modificate		**i.** Enriched cages
10.	Attacchi per scrofe		**j.** Huddling together

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