

HEALTHY PIG, HEALTHY PROFIT



Wambui finds out...
NEED TO KNOW LTD

DFID Department for
International
Development

Wambui, look what
Beth Gicunku gave us...

A piglet!

Yes! Her pig had eight piglets,
so she gave me this one! In
return, I will help her at her stall
in the market next week.

Don't waste too much time on it,
piglets don't live too long around
here... It's too cold!



Let's talk to Mwariama, the animal health assistant, before we make any decisions. She will know whether we should try to keep it.



THE NEXT DAY

Look at our piglet! Nthiga says it won't live for very long, we need you to tell us what to do!

Well, it's a nice looking little piglet, but in a way, Nthiga might be right.



It is too young, at this age it should still be with its mother. The most important thing for a baby pig is to get a good start in life and the best start is to get plenty of its mother's milk.



If you take a piglet away too young it will be much weaker and much more likely to die. If I were you I would return it to its mother until it is eight weeks old. You could spend the time until then getting a pen ready for it.

Gikiri said that her pig died when it was big - after he had spent months feeding it...



Don't worry! Any animal can die, but if you look after it properly, there is no reason why keeping a pig should be any more risky than keeping cows or goats.

...And Waitahaje says it will give us all a disease that will kill us. Eeeh! Mbaya sana!



If you follow some simple rules, then the pig will not get that disease and will be quite safe.

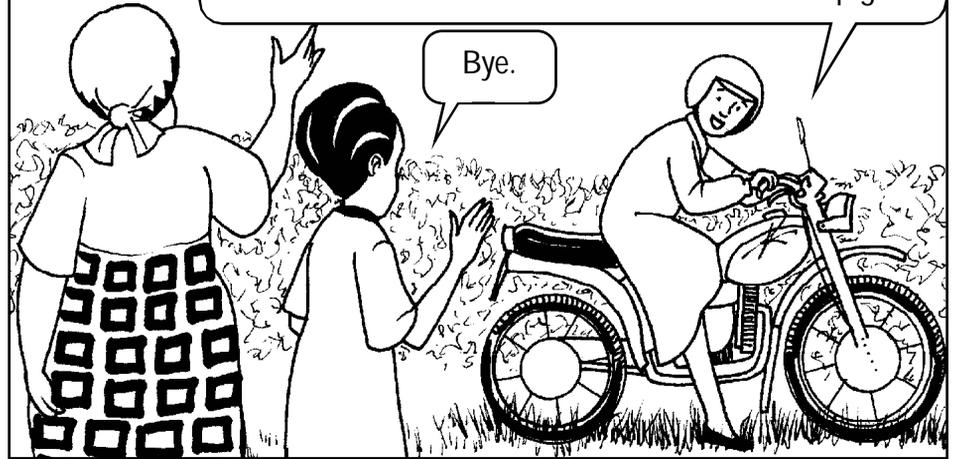
So mother can we keep it? ...Please?

Oh all right! But it will have to go back to Beth for a week or two until it is old enough to leave its mother.



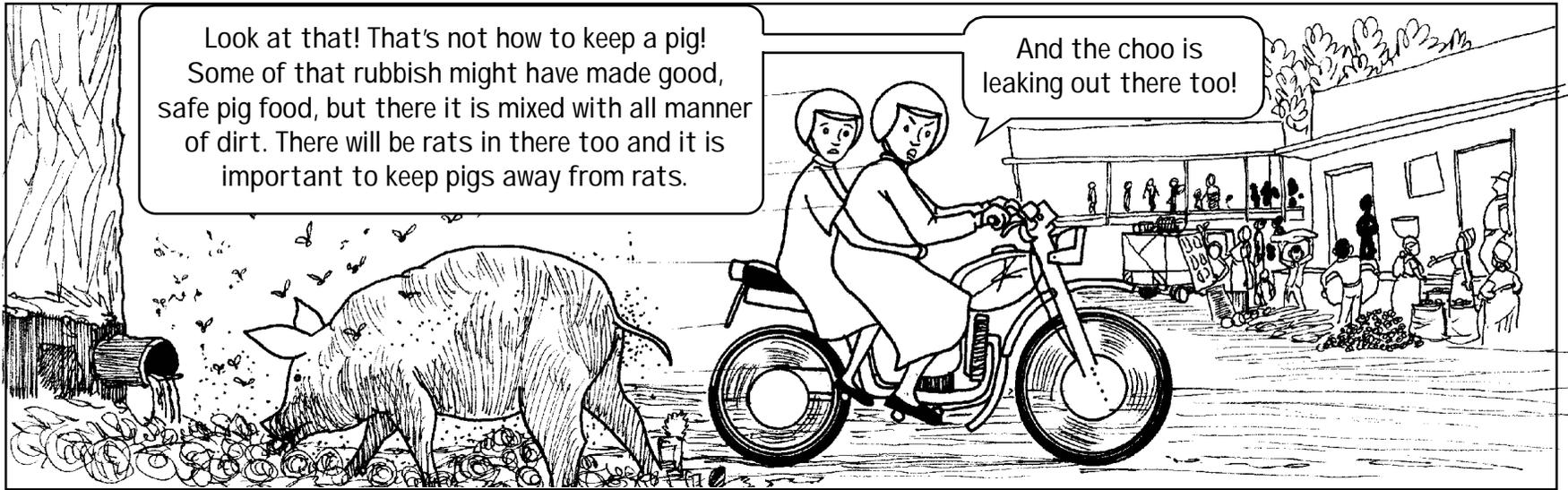
And during that time, Wambui can come round some farms with me to learn how to look after a pig.

Bye.



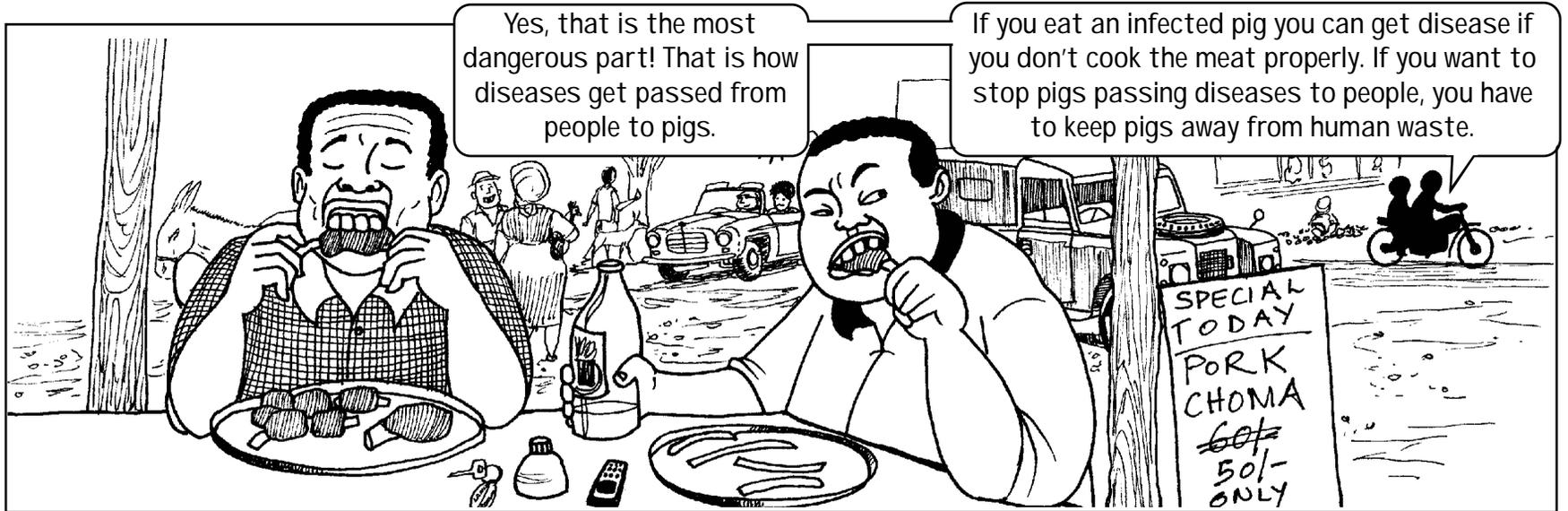
THAT WEEKEND





Look at that! That's not how to keep a pig!
Some of that rubbish might have made good,
safe pig food, but there it is mixed with all manner
of dirt. There will be rats in there too and it is
important to keep pigs away from rats.

And the choo is
leaking out there too!



Yes, that is the most
dangerous part! That is how
diseases get passed from
people to pigs.

If you eat an infected pig you can get disease if
you don't cook the meat properly. If you want to
stop pigs passing diseases to people, you have
to keep pigs away from human waste.

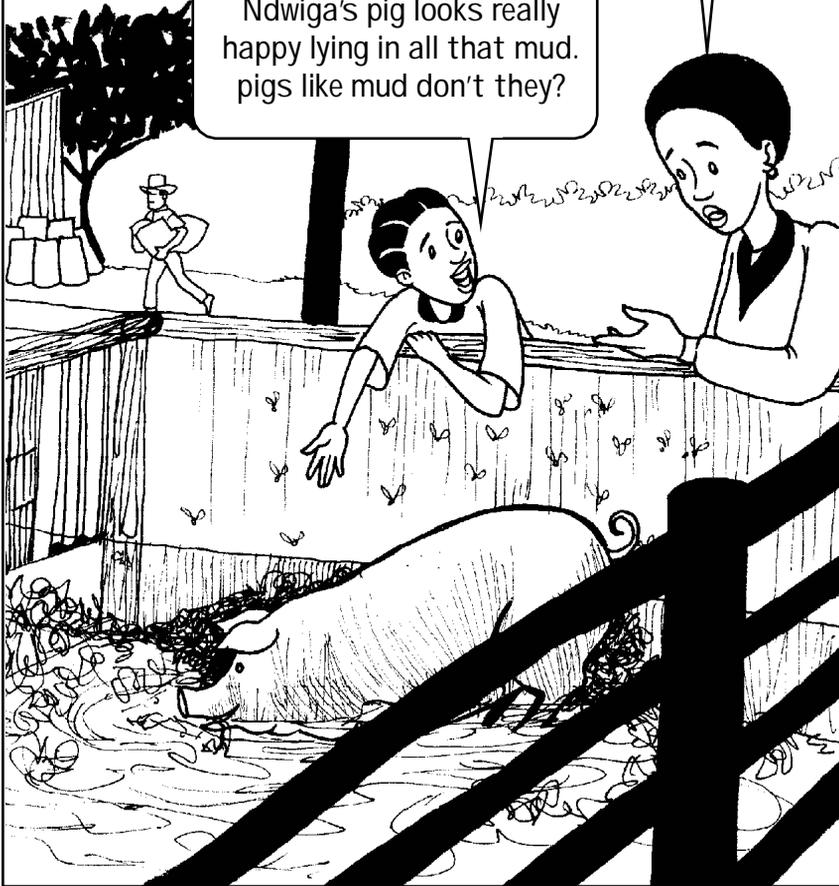
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50/-
ONLY

AT NDWIGA'S FARM

So all pigs should be kept in a pen?

Yes! A good strong pen. They must not be left to wander around the shamba.

Ndwiga's pig looks really happy lying in all that mud. pigs like mud don't they?



Well, pigs do like to wallow in mud occasionally, especially in hot weather, but is very important that they are able to get away from the mud to have a good dry area to sleep.

So Ndwiga's pen is too small and wet?

And dirty!



Given a chance pigs are quite clean animals. They like to have a dry sleeping area and a separate toilet area. And they need space to move around.



ON ANOTHER FARM

This is a much cleaner pen!

Yes, see how Silas has built the pen on this sloping ground and made a flat area at the top. That allows the pig to sleep on the driest part and for the rest of the pen to drain properly.

