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After her graduation from the master's program 'Livestock Sciences' Katharina participated in the PhD program 'Doctoral School of Sustainability' at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna. In her thesis she investigated animal welfare as part of sustainability in pig farming by mapping research fields and evaluating improvement measures on commercial farms. Based on the outcomes of her thesis she continued working at the interface of science and industry implementing and evaluating improvement measures in commercial pig fattening farms. Focusing more on the scientific part she then continued working at university in different research projects on pig health improvement and the development of new breeding goals for maternal sow lines in Austria before she finally started working for ZuchtData EDV-Dienstleistungen GmbH in 2020 investigating the potential of sensor data for genetic improvement of functional and health traits in dairy cows.