

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of several piglets. The left side of the image is covered by a semi-transparent teal overlay where the text is located. The right side shows the piglets' faces in more natural lighting, with one piglet's eye and ear clearly visible.

Do it right around farrowing

Sow seminar April 13, 2021

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SEGES Danish Pig Research Centre

STØTTET AF

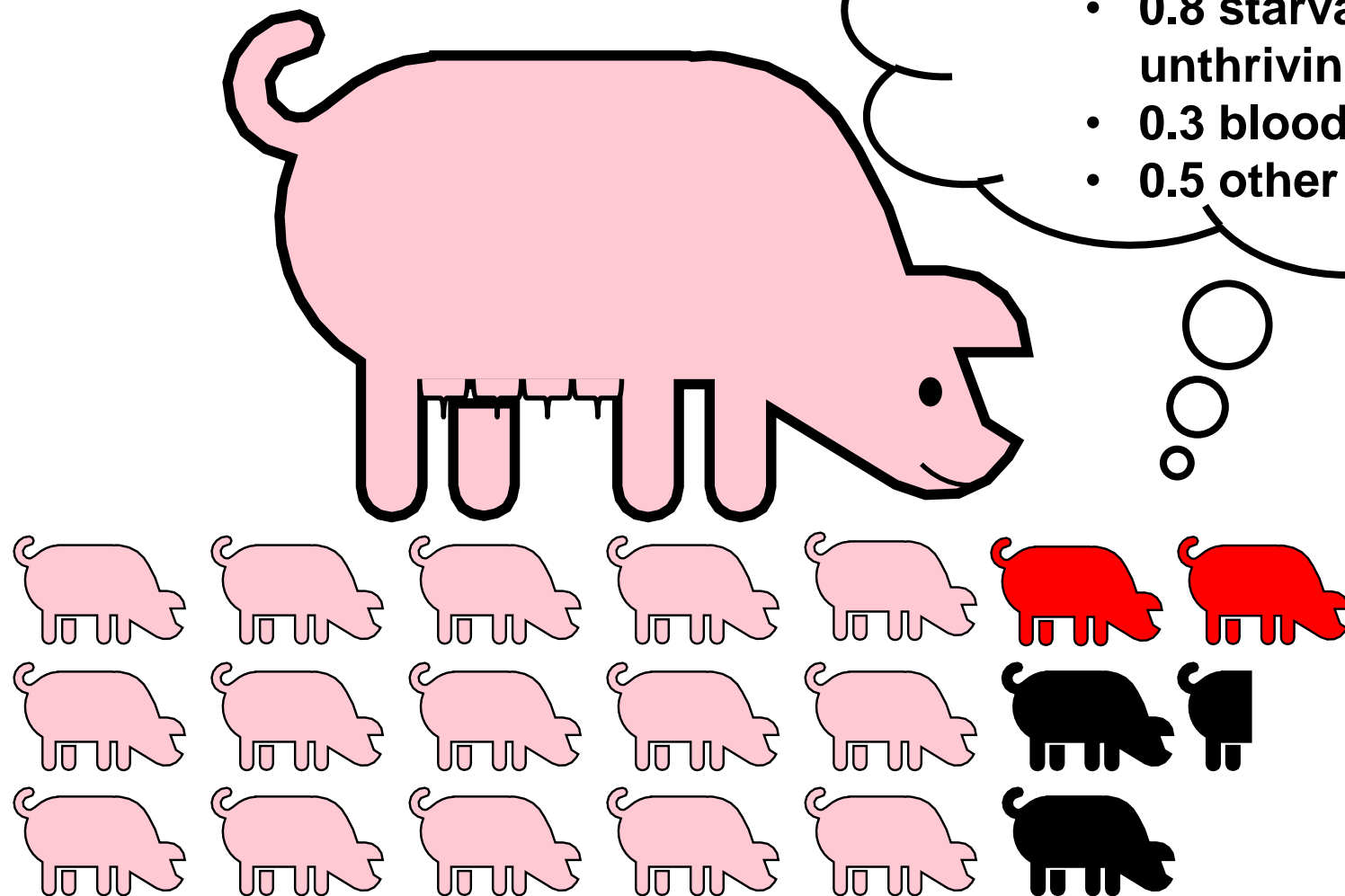
Svineafgiftsfonden

Agenda

- How to increase piglet survival and save time
- A sow fit for farrowing
- Farrowing surveillance
- Heating around farrowing
- Ensure sufficient colostrum intake



A sow with 19.4 piglets



A photograph of a pig lying in a metal restraint cage, likely a farrowing crate, before parturition. The pig is lying on a black plastic slatted floor. The cage is made of metal bars and has a white plastic partition on the left side. A piece of straw is visible in the background. The text "Before parturition" is overlaid in white. The background wall is light green. A dark brown metal bowl is visible in the background. A yellow tag is visible on the pig's ear.

Before parturition

A sow fit for farrowing

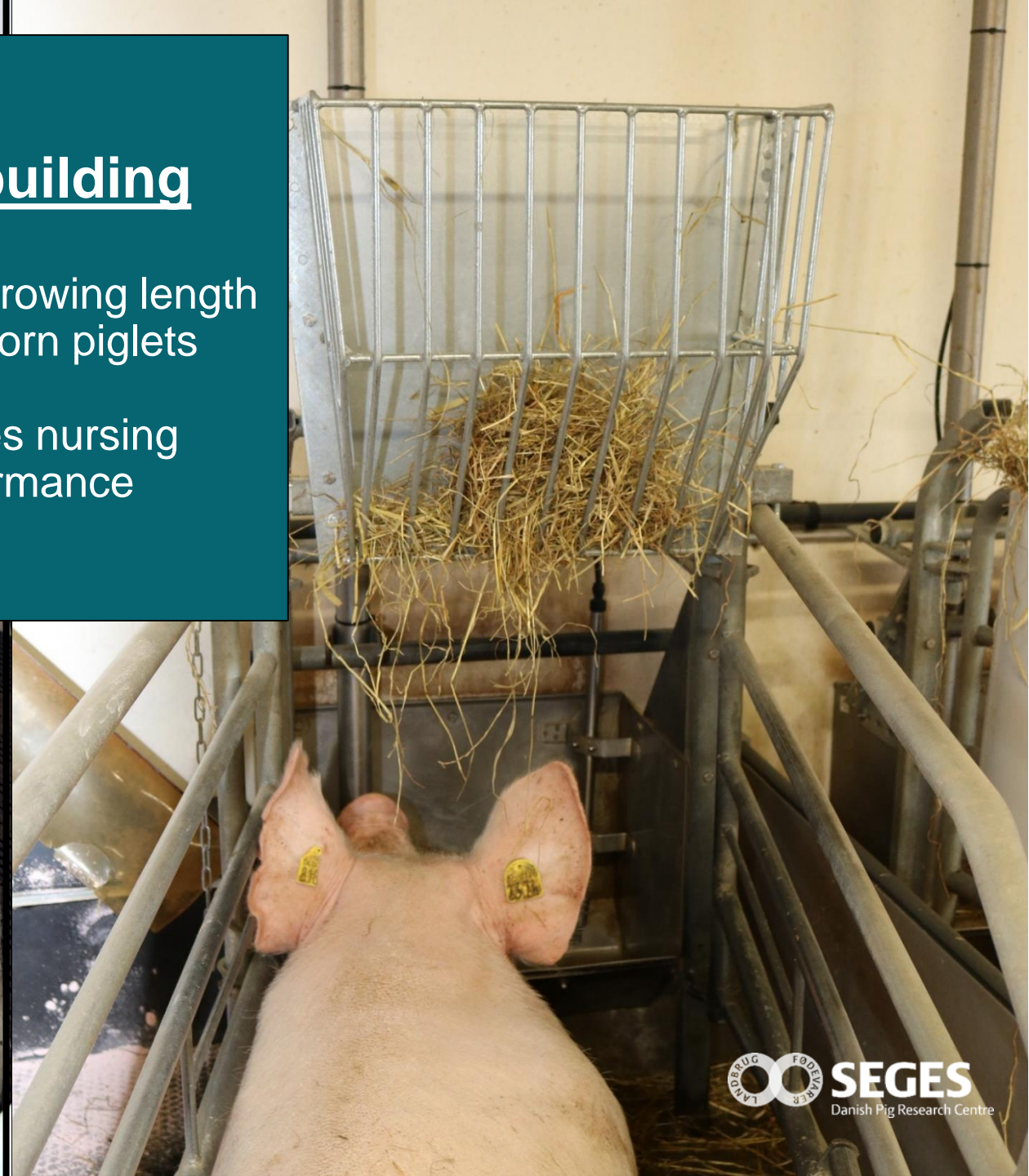
- 5-7 days before expected farrowing
- 16-19 mm backfat
- 3.4-4.1 FE/day
 - At least three meals a day (equally distributed around the clock)
 - 500-600 gram fibre/day



Nest building

Reduces farrowing length
and stillborn piglets

Improves nursing
performance



Farrowing

A close-up photograph of a pig in the process of farrowing. The pig is lying on a dark metal grate, and its hindquarters are visible. A small, pink, wet piglet is lying on the grate just below the pig's birth canal. The pig's skin is light pink, and the birth canal is open, showing a dark interior. A blue object, possibly a part of a restraint or a tool, is visible on the left side of the frame. The overall scene is clinical and focused on the birthing process.

Good to know about the farrowing



- Sows want to farrow in peace
 - most sows start to farrow after working hours
- On avg. the farrowing takes 6 h (1.5 - 14.5 h)
 - Risk of stillbirth increases with increasing farrowing duration
 - Risk of stillbirth increases with increasing birth order
- For every parity, the number of stillborn increases by ½ piglet

Organize farrowing surveillance and assistance

- When farrowing is in progress → Farrowing surveillance
- Put one person in charge
- Set an alarm for every 30 min
- Supervise all farrowing sows
- Count piglets and note the number
- No new piglets since last check = assistance
 - Piglet 1-3: 1 h between piglets
 - Piglet >3: 30 min between piglets



Tools for managing farrowing surveillance

Date: 3/9

Time	Number	Help	Number	Score
00.00				
00.30				
01.00				
01.30				
02.00				
02.30				
03.00				
03.30				
04.00				
04.30	21-2			
05.00				
05.30	2-0			
06.00				
06.30				
07.00				
07.30				
08.00				
08.30				
09.00				
09.30	2-0			
10.00	10-0			
10.30				
11.00	14-0			
11.30	15-0			
12.00				
12.30	13-1	x		
13.00	20-1	x		
13.30	21-2	x		
14.00	24-2			
14.30				
15.00				
15.30				
16.00				
16.30				
17.00				
17.30				
18.00				
18.30				
19.00				
19.30				
20.00				
20.30				
21.00				
21.30				
22.00				
22.30				
23.00				
23.30				

7268 1351 13

Labning	Dato	Orn	Medarbejder	Semen collection ID	Dato	Levende fødte	Dødfødte	Sten fødte	Sogreste	Dato	Ant
1	12-05-18		d	tvang	04-09-18	19	1			30-09-18	14
2	09-10-18		p	tvang	01-02-19	18	3			05-10-18	14
3	12-05-19		d		06-07-19	24				08-03-19	13
4	13-08-19		p	tvang	07-12-19	22	1			27-07-19	14
5	18-01-20		o		10-05-20	11	5			09-05-19	14
6	18-06-20		d		11-10-20	7	19	4		10-01-20	14
7										12-06-20	11

Solort tæket

15/10/18 3

27/10 PS 13p

12/4

13/10 - 4L - 12 OH

14/10 - 8L - 1P

15/30 - 10L - 2D

16/10 - 12L

16/10 - 13L - 5L - 4d - 1hd

Far



f-skiven

Annüller



F-Skiven
Produktivitet

ÅBN

Opret faring i
Stald 1

Dato: 25/06-2015
Tidspunkt: 11:04

146 23365

Levende fødte: 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

Dødfødte: 02, 03, 04, 05, 06

Fødselshjælp: ☒

Måske færdig: ☒

Færdig: ☒

Gem & Ny
Gem & Luk
Afbrud

Stald 1

St Nr. 142 - So 10562

St Nr. 146 - So 23365

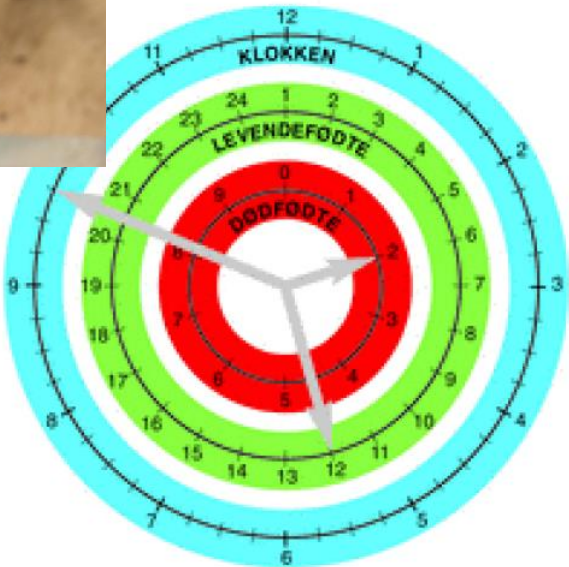
Tilføj Alarm til Stald 1

Alarm om 30 minutter

Alarm om 45 minutter

Antal aktuelle faringer med fødselshjælp i
Stald 1
2

F~Skiven

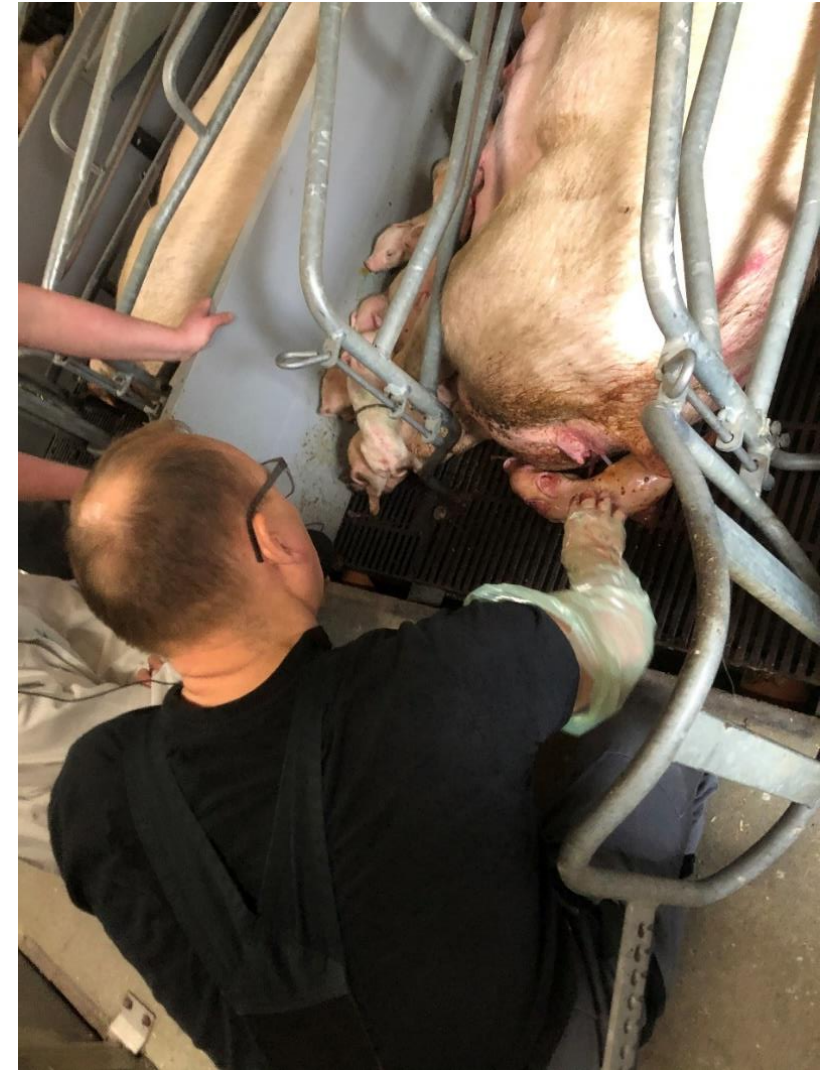


FarrowTech



Spend your time on the most important periods

- When no or only a few sows are farrowing
- The first two hours after sows start farrowing
- When only gilts are farrowing



Extra benefits from surveillance

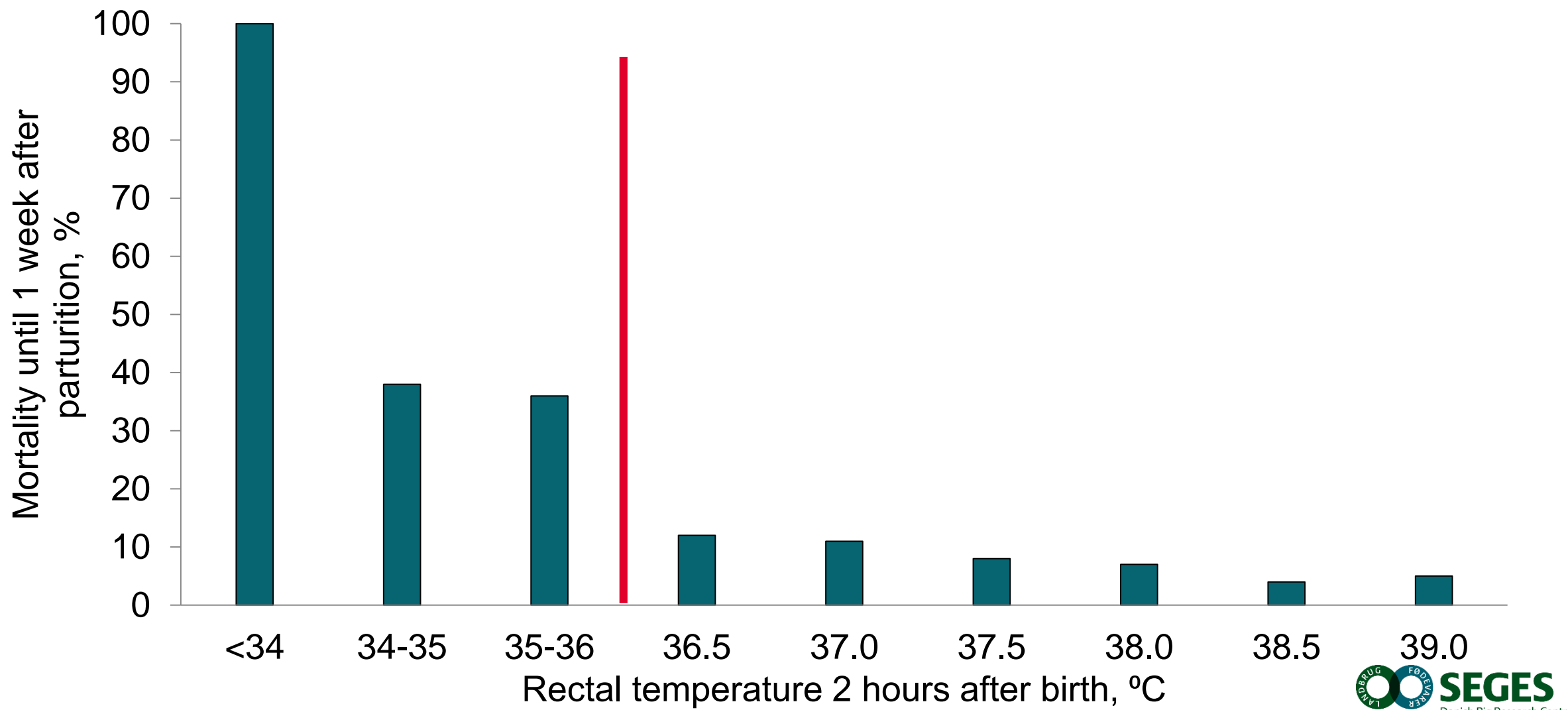
- Help piglets to the udder or into the heat/creep
- Mark the first-born piglets
 - Ready to be moved early
- Help newborn piglets out of the amniotic sac



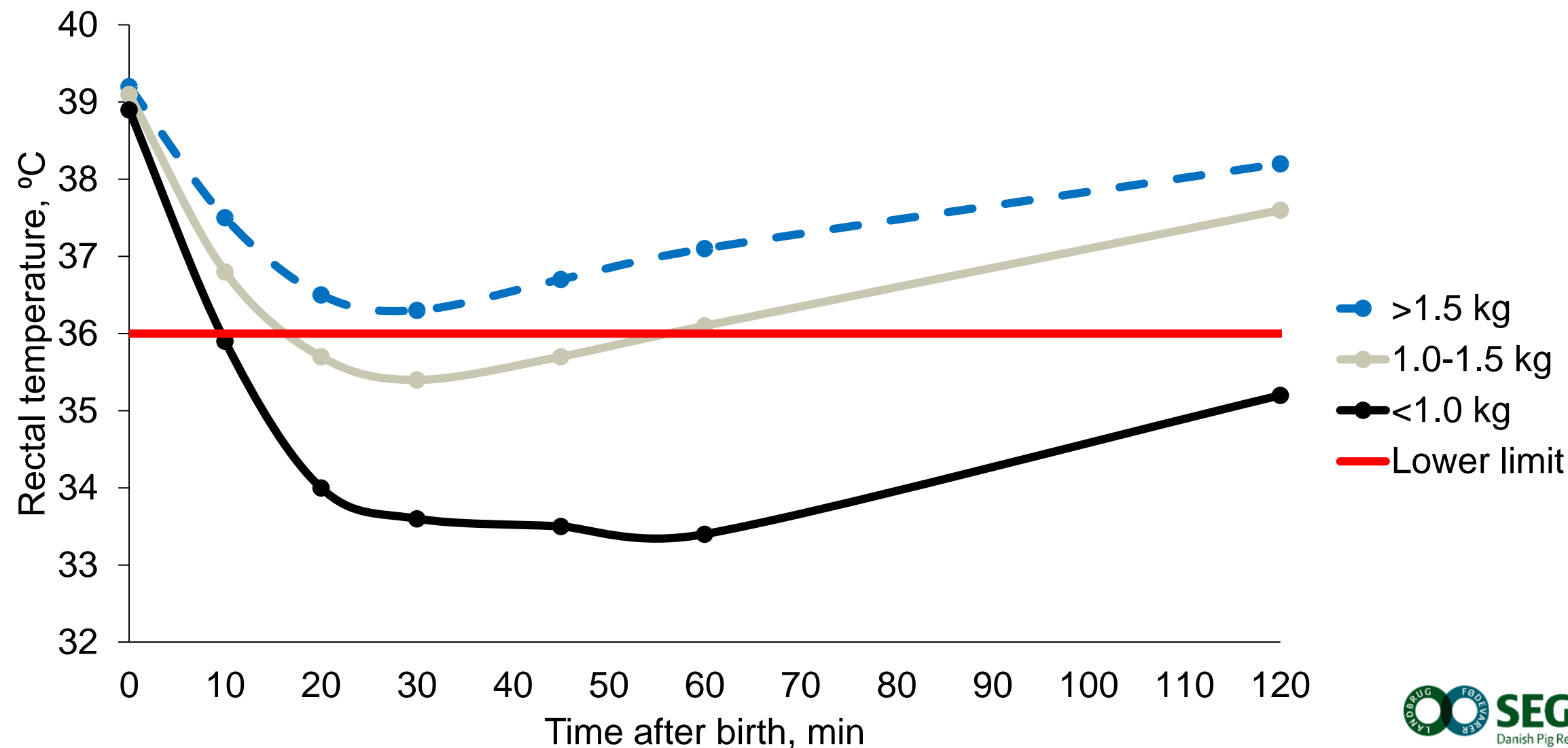
After parturition

Heating

A temperature above 36 °C increases the survival rates

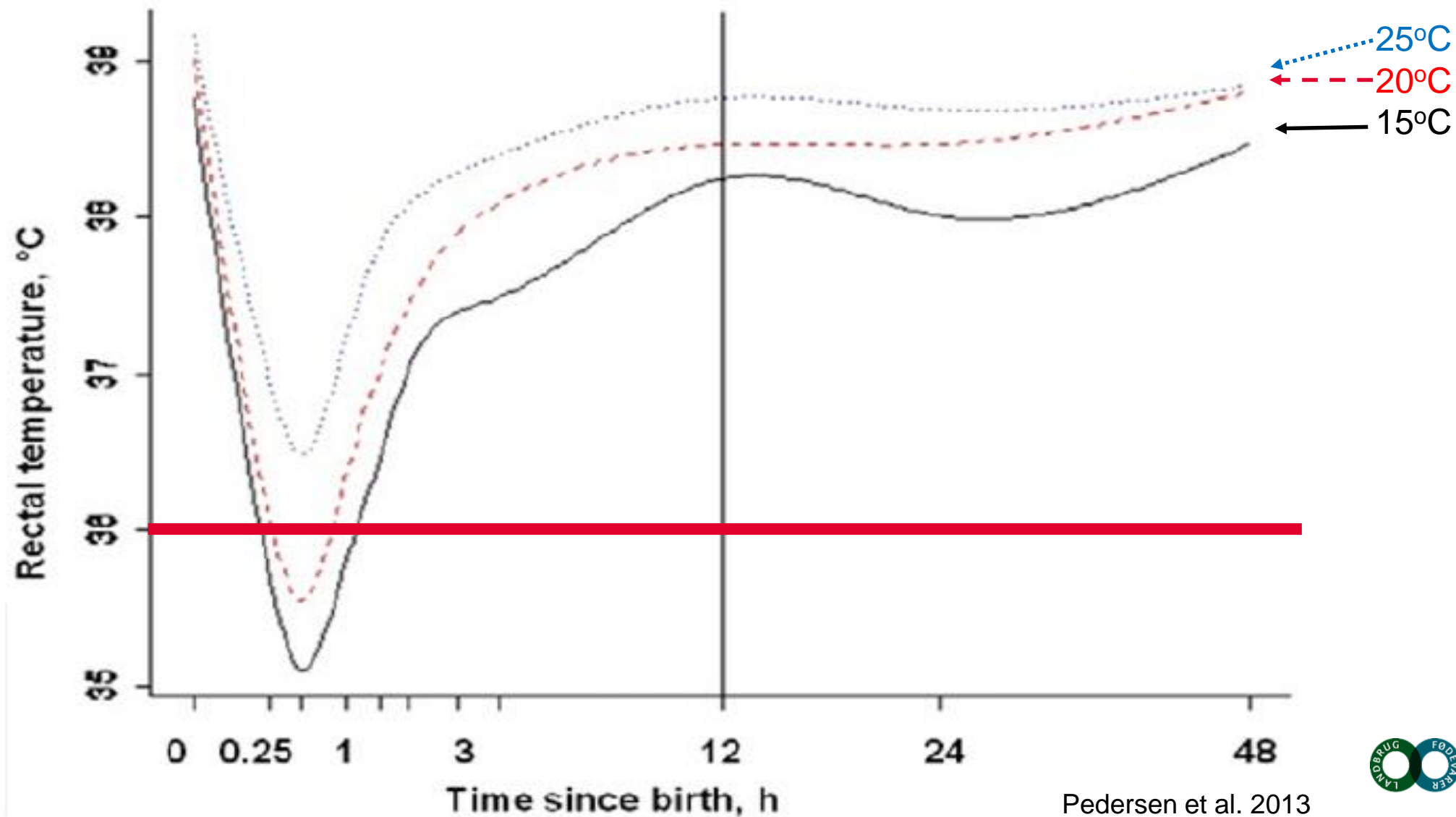


Rectal temperature after birth at different birth weight



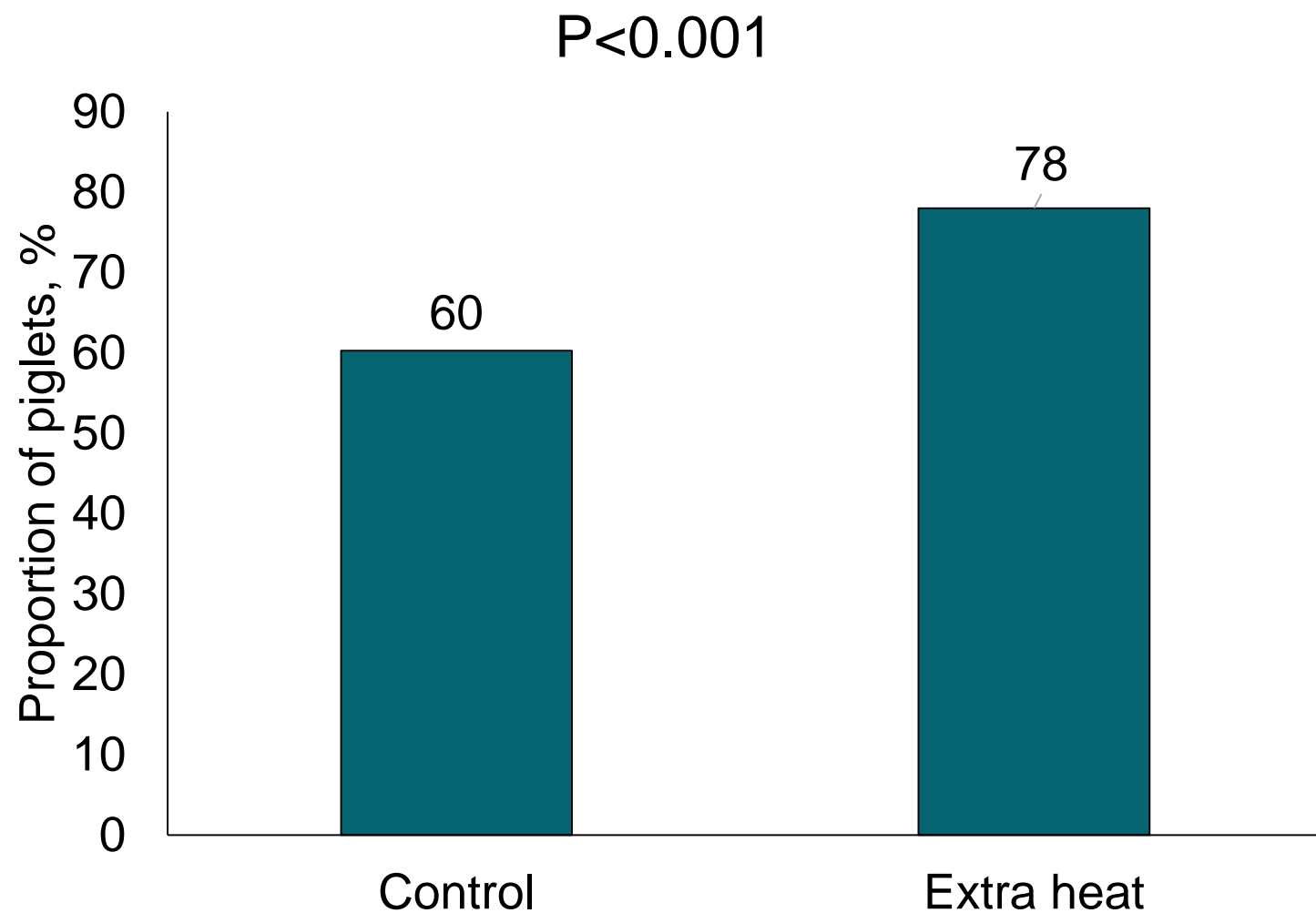
Pol et al. 2020

Piglet temperature after birth



Pedersen et al. 2013

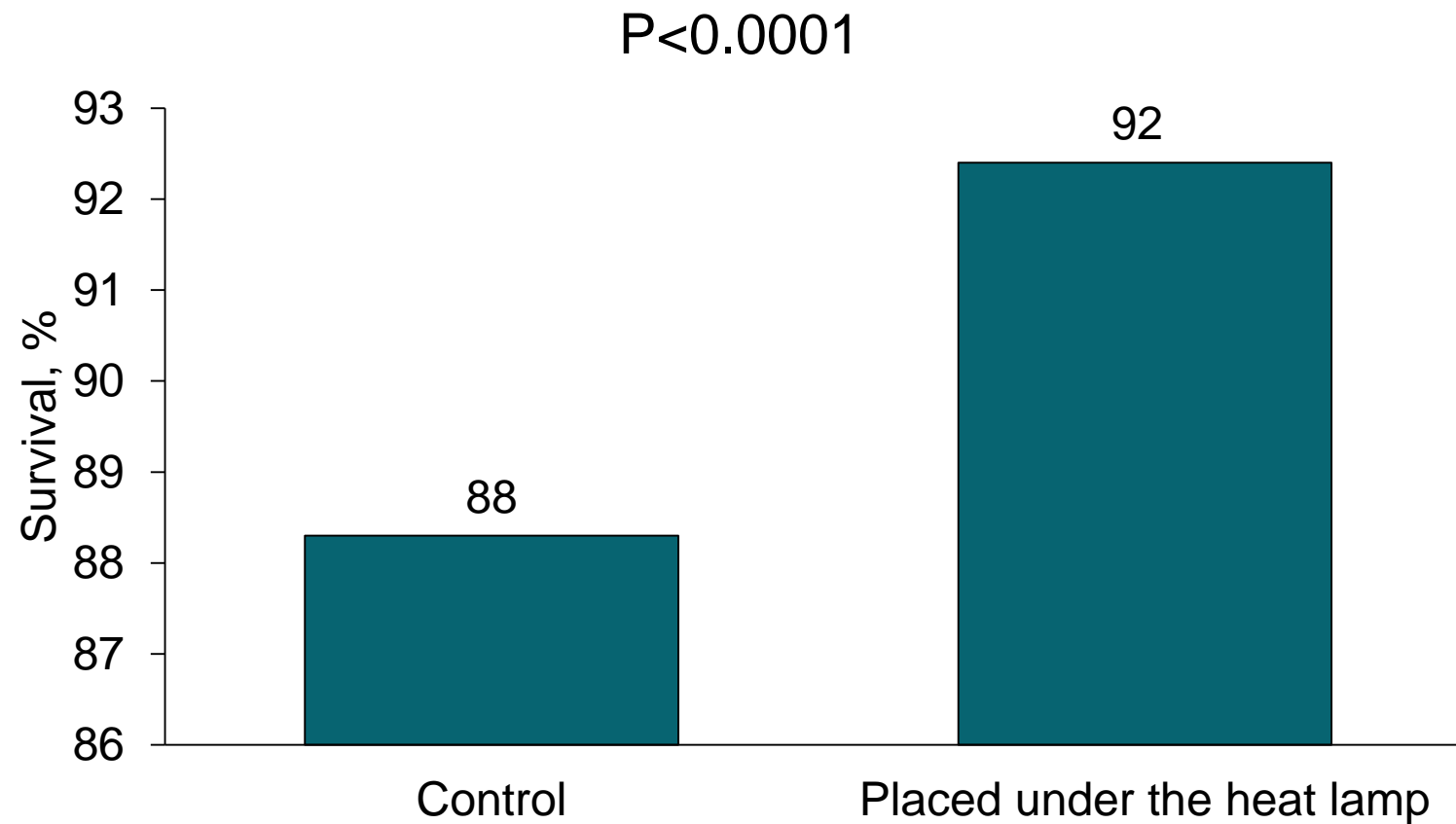
Extra heating around the sow during farrowing



Trial report no. 1176



Heating after birth increases survival



Modified from Andersen et al. 2009

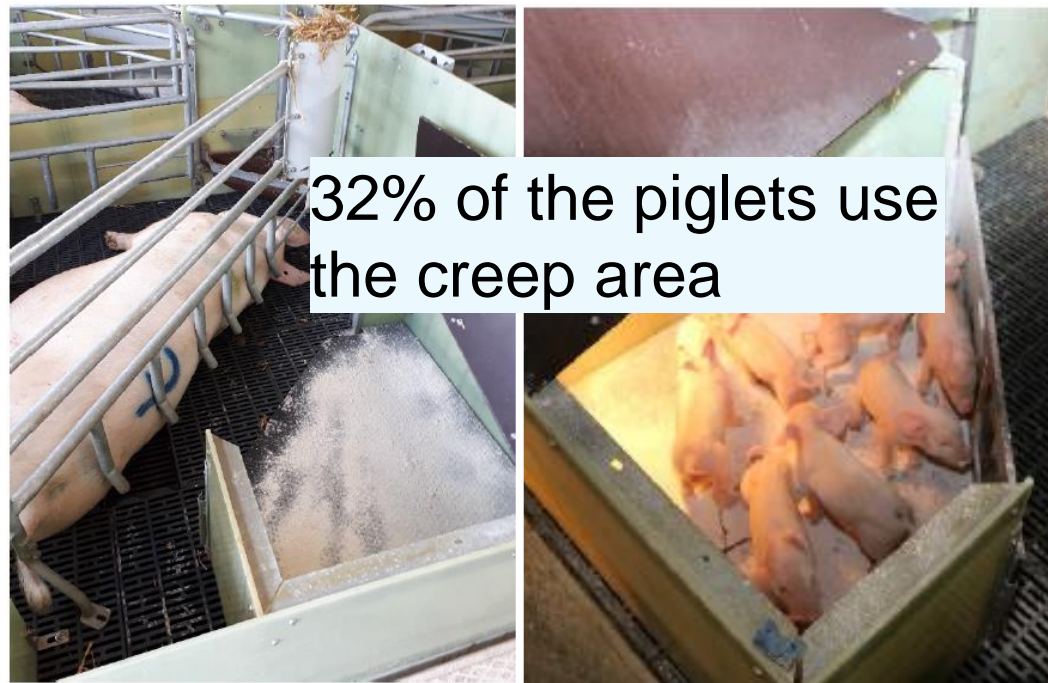
**How much time do you spend on creep training?
And how much time is taken away from the sow and piglet?**

My guess		
Day 1	At	Time in the creep area
Morning feeding (8 o'clock)	7.00-10.00	3 hours
Afternoon feeding (13 o'clock)	12.00-14.00	2 hours
Evening feeding (19 o'clock)		No training
		5 hours

Make the creep area attractive to the piglets

CONTROL – Creep training

- 1 h around feeding (day 1 and 2)



TRIAL – Attract piglets to use the creep area

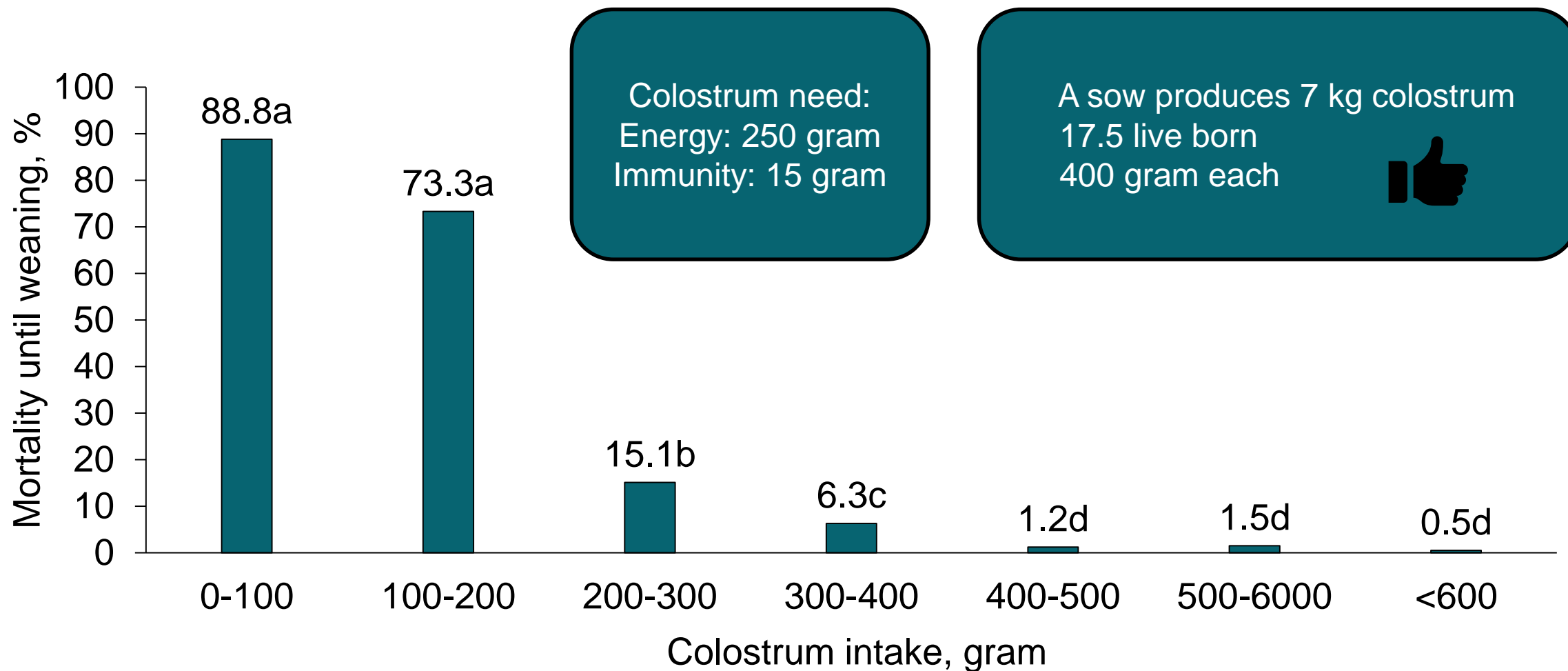
- Straw, sock with grains, jute sack



After parturition

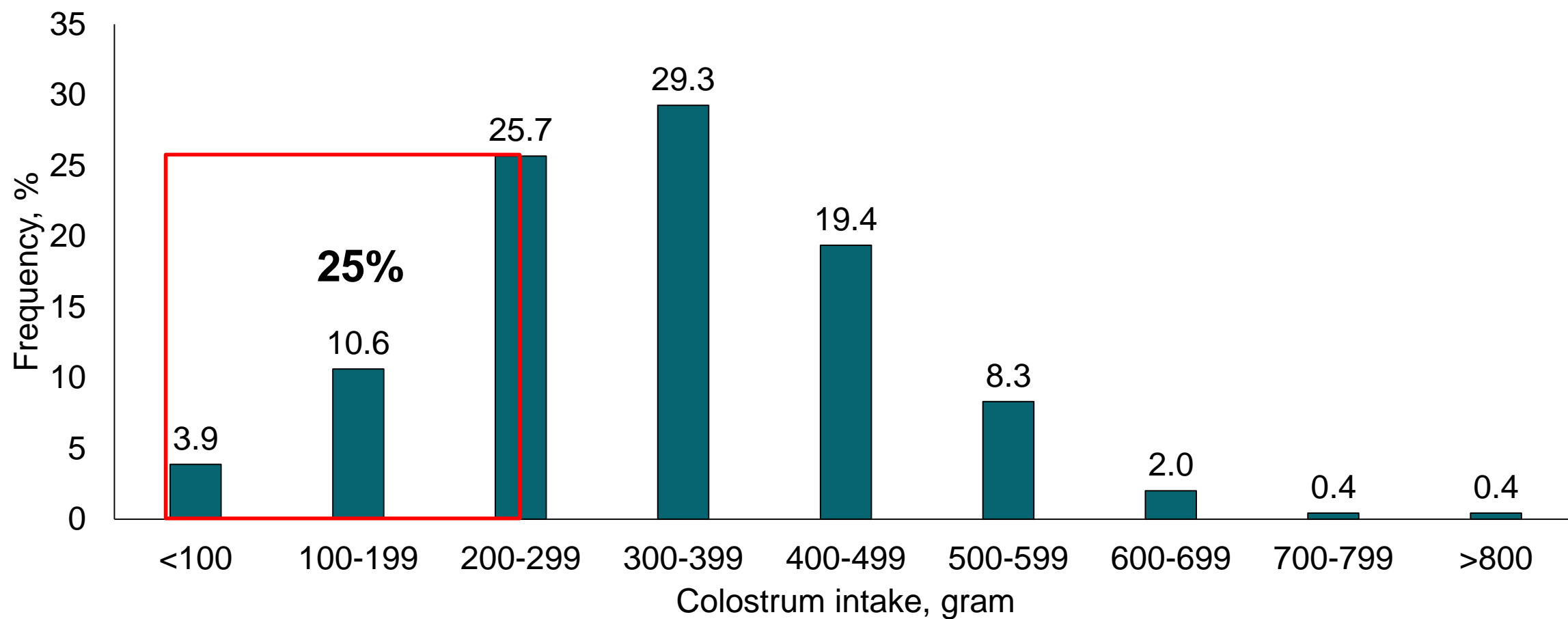
Colostrum

Piglet colostrum intake is positively correlated with survival



Nuntapaitoon et al. 2019

Variation in piglets' colostrum intake



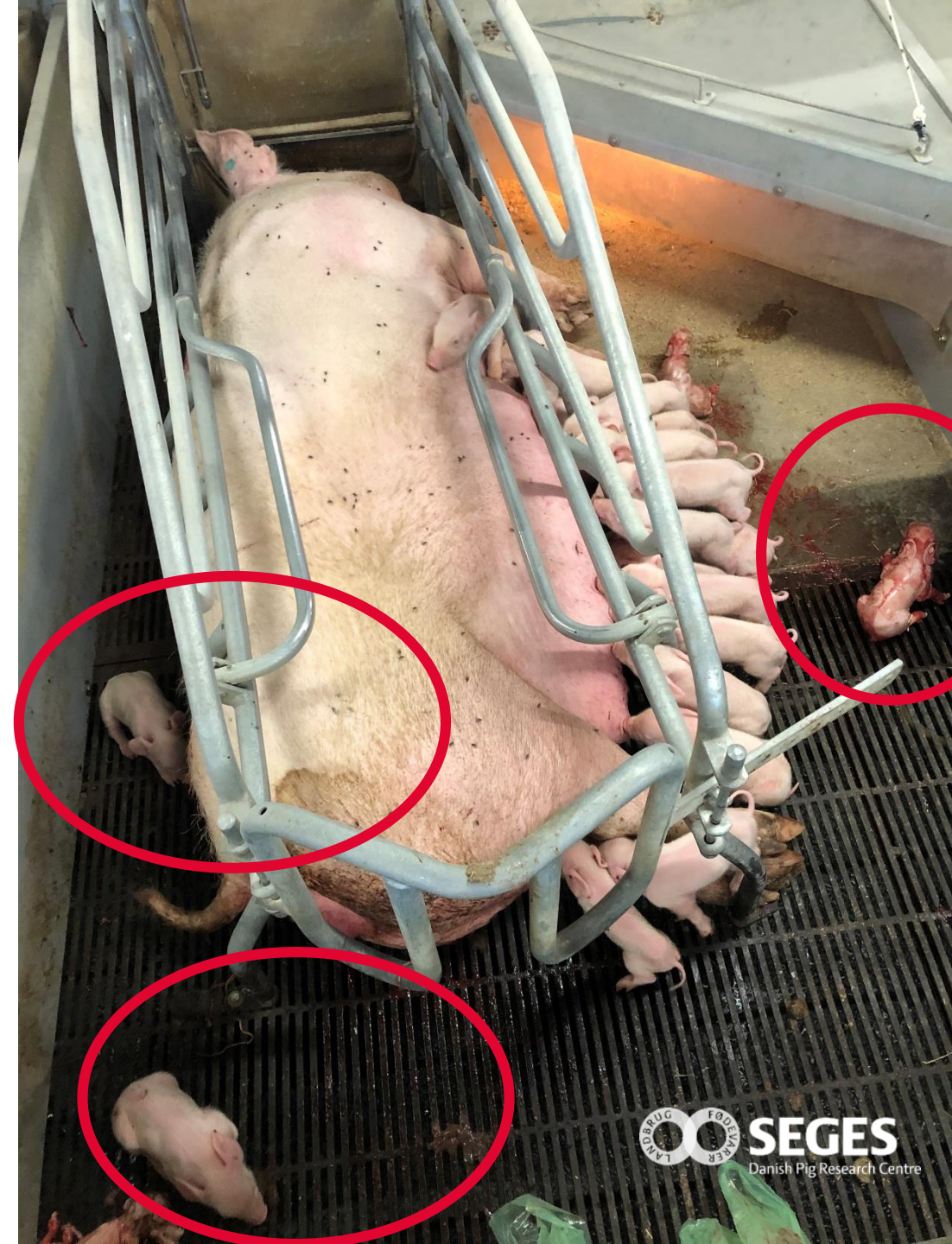
Ensuring antibodies

- RISK FACTORS
 - High litter size
 - Low birth weight
 - Long birth interval
 - Late in the birth order
- All sows have enough IgG
- Most piglets have ingested enough colostrum after 8 hours
- Colostrum from another sow is equally good
- After colostrum, sow milk is a good energy substitute



How to secure colostrum for all piglets

- Help small and weak piglets to the udder
- Adjust litter size (continuously)
 - Mark first-born piglets
 - Move first-born large piglets
 - Move small piglets to a small nurse (with colostrum)
 - The remaining piglets stay with own mother
- Alternatively: Split suckling



Energy supplements and glyucose at litter equalization = no go

- No documented effect ~ Only negative
- Expensive
- Instead spend your time wisely



Do it right around farrowing

DO'S:

- Make the sow ready for farrowing
- Make sure that sow has access to nestbuilding material
- Surveillance on farrowing days
- Extra heating around the sow at farrowing
- Make the creep area attractive to the piglets
- Help small and weak piglets to the udder
- Continuously adjusting litters or split suckling

DON'TS:

- Creep training
- Energy supplements and glucose

A close-up photograph of several piglets huddled together, with a teal semi-transparent banner across the middle containing the text 'Time for questions'.

Time for questions