

How to make survival rate better

Fokus 35 Vital, March 24, 2021
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STØTTET AF

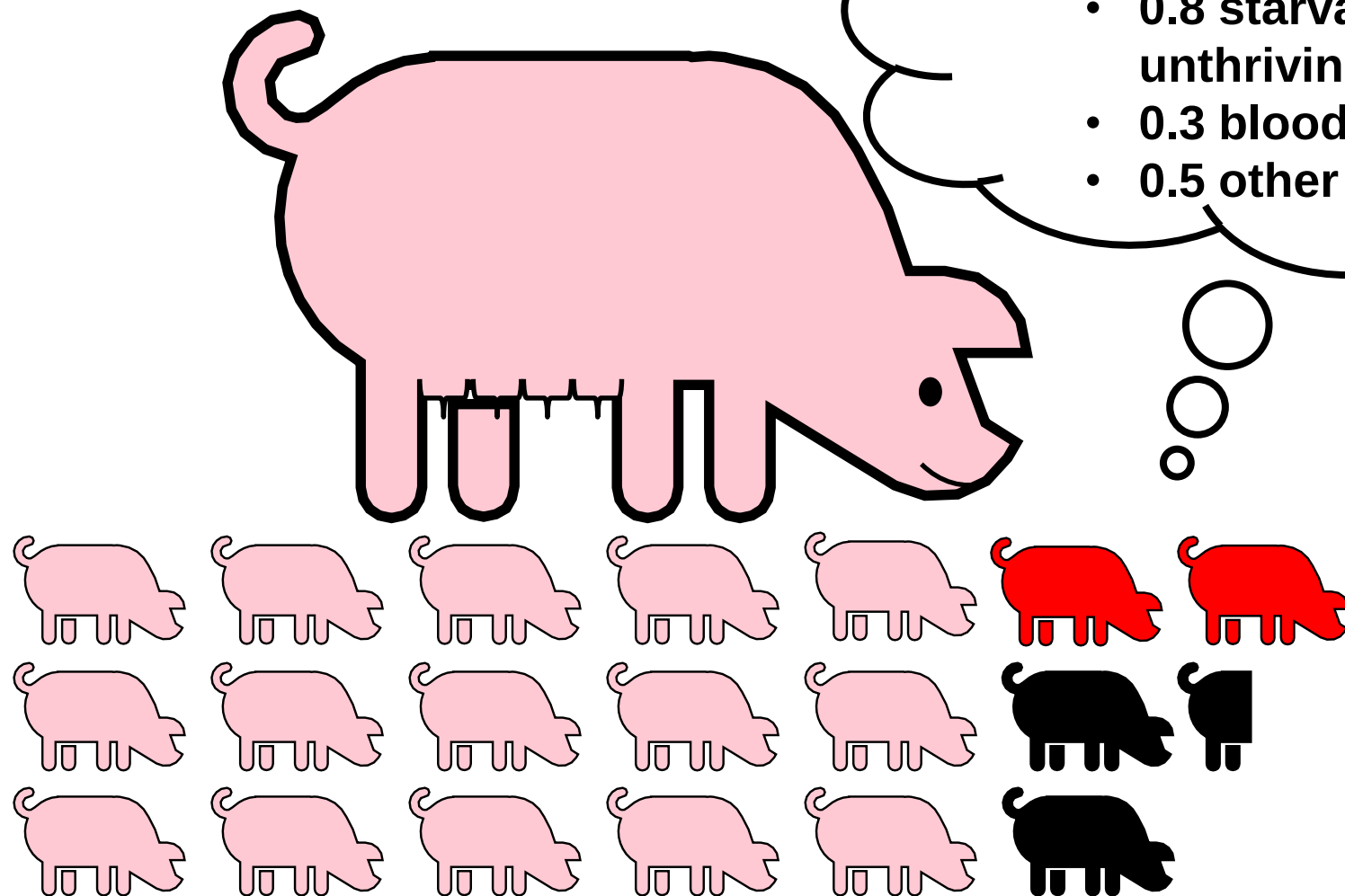
Svineafgiftsfonden

Agenda

- A sow fit for farrowing
- Farrowing surveillance
- Heat around farrowing
- Ensure sufficient colostrum uptake



A sow with 19.4 piglets



A photograph of a pig lying in a metal farrowing crate. The pig is positioned on a black plastic slatted floor. The crate is constructed from metal bars and has a white plastic partition on the left side. A piece of straw is visible in the background. The pig's head is turned towards the right, and its body is stretched out. The text "Before parturition" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

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 grams fibre/day



Nest building

Reduces farrowing length
and stillborn piglets

Improves nursing
performance



Farrowing

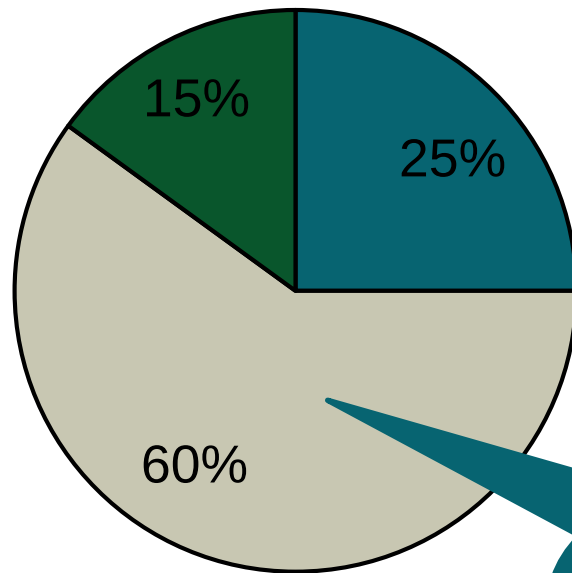
A close-up photograph of a pig lying on a dark metal grate. The pig's body is light-colored with some reddish areas around its rear. A newborn piglet, which is pink and wet, is lying on the grate just below the pig's rear. A blue-handled tool is visible on the left side of the frame. The word "Farrowing" is overlaid in white text on the left side of the image.

Good to know about the farrowing



- The sow wants 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ piglet

60% of stillborn piglets die in the process of farrowing



- Before parturition
- During parturition
- After parturition

Great potential
for increasing
survival rates



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	Number	Help	Number	Alarm
00.00				
00.30				
01.00				
01.30				
02.00				
02.30				
03.00				
03.30				
04.00				
04.30	24-2			
05.00				
05.30				
06.00				
06.30				
07.00				
07.30				
08.00				
08.30				
09.00				
09.30	2-0			
10.00	2-0			
10.30	10-0			
11.00				
11.30	14-0			
12.00	15-0			
12.30	15-0			
13.00	20-1	X		Gay
13.30	20-1			
14.00	21-2	X		Gay
14.30	22-2			
15.00	24-2			
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				

Indeks

7268

13

51

13

Faring

Løbsdag

nr	Dato	Dms	Medarbejder	Semen collection ID
1	12-05-18		d	hving
2	09-10-18		p	hving
3	12-03-19		d	
4	13-09-19		p	hving
5	14-01-20		o	
6	18-06-20		d	

Faring

Dato	Levende foster	Defectfoster	Sten foster	Scigfoster
04-05-18	19	1		
01-02-19	18	3		
06-07-19	24			
07-12-19	22	1		
10-05-20	11	5		
11-10-20	19	4		

Sølet tekst

15/10 15/12 18 3

13 PS 13p

22/10

13

13



🔍 f-skiven ✕ [Annuller](#)

F-Skiven
Produktivitet

ÅBN

Opret faring i Stald 1

Dato: 25/06-2015
Tidspunkt: 11:04
146 23365

Levnedsfelte
16
17
18
19
20

Deadfelte
02
03
04
05
06

Fødselsår
Måske færdig
Færdig

Gem & Ny
Gem & Luk
Aflyd

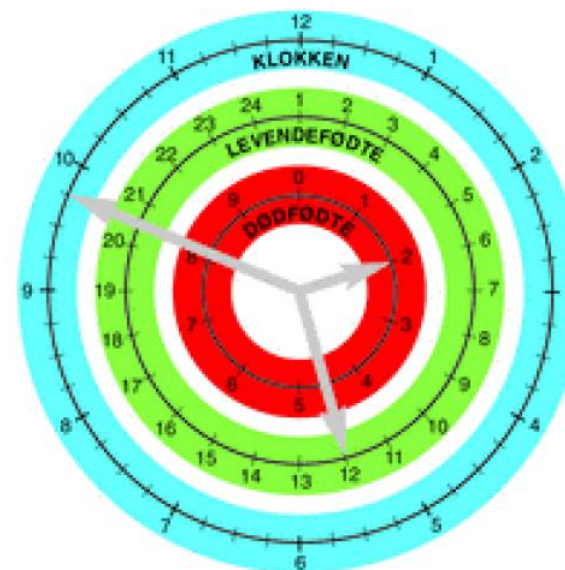
Tilføj Alarm til Stald 1

Alarm om 30 minutter
Alarm om 45 minutter

Antal aktuelle faringer med fødselsår i
Stald 1
2

Tilføj Faring
Slet Stald
Luk & Tilføj Alarm

F~Skiven

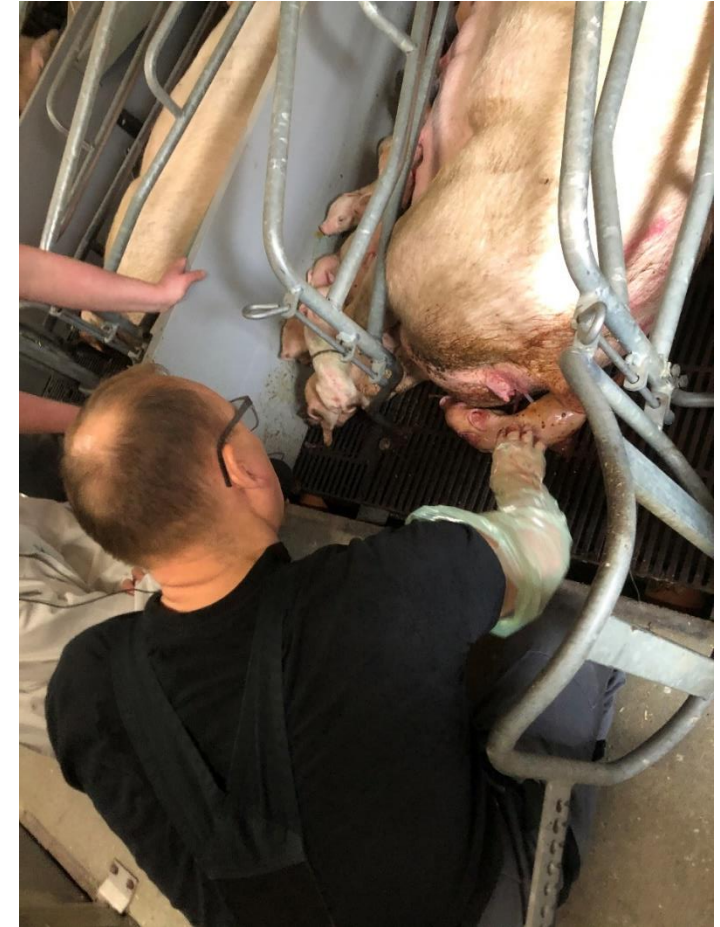


FarrowTech



Where to save time on farrowing surveillance

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

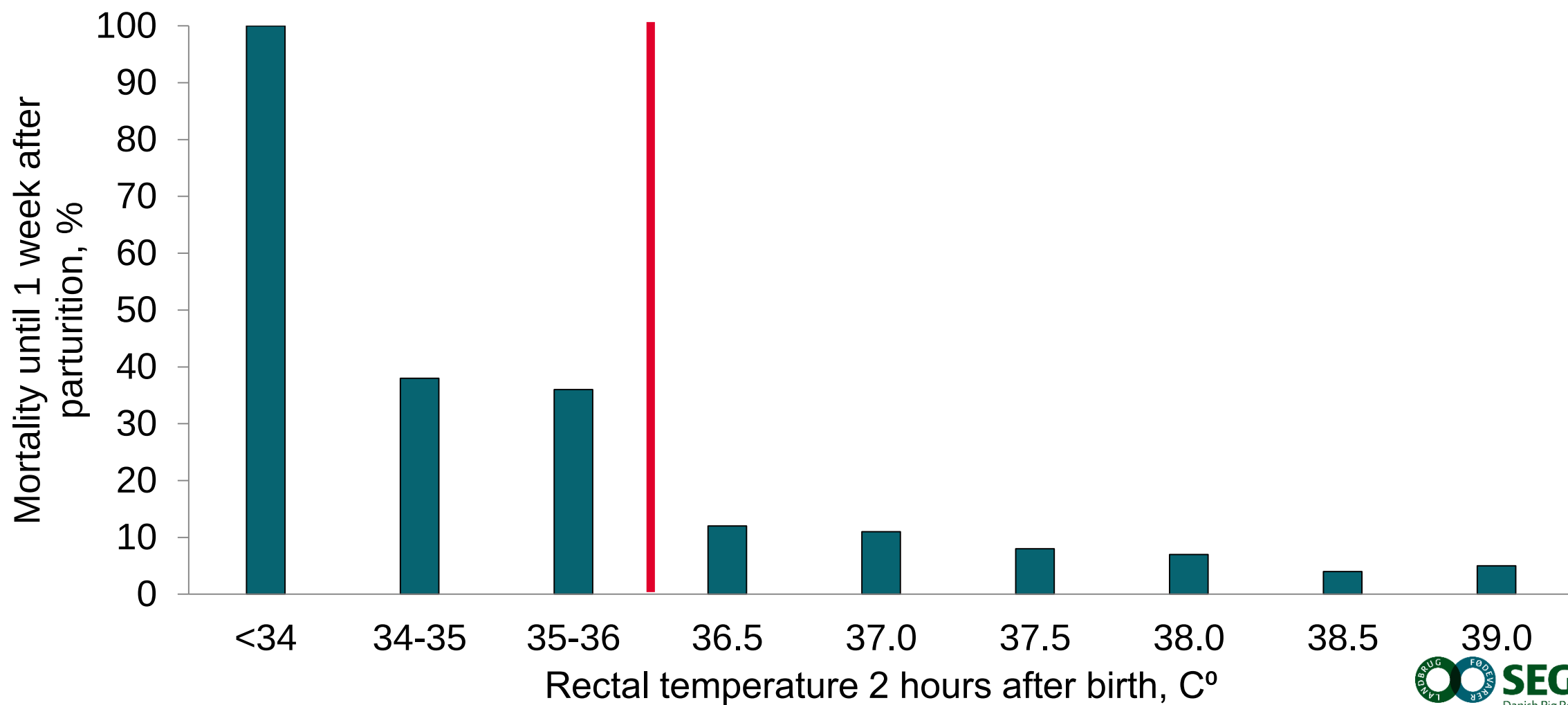




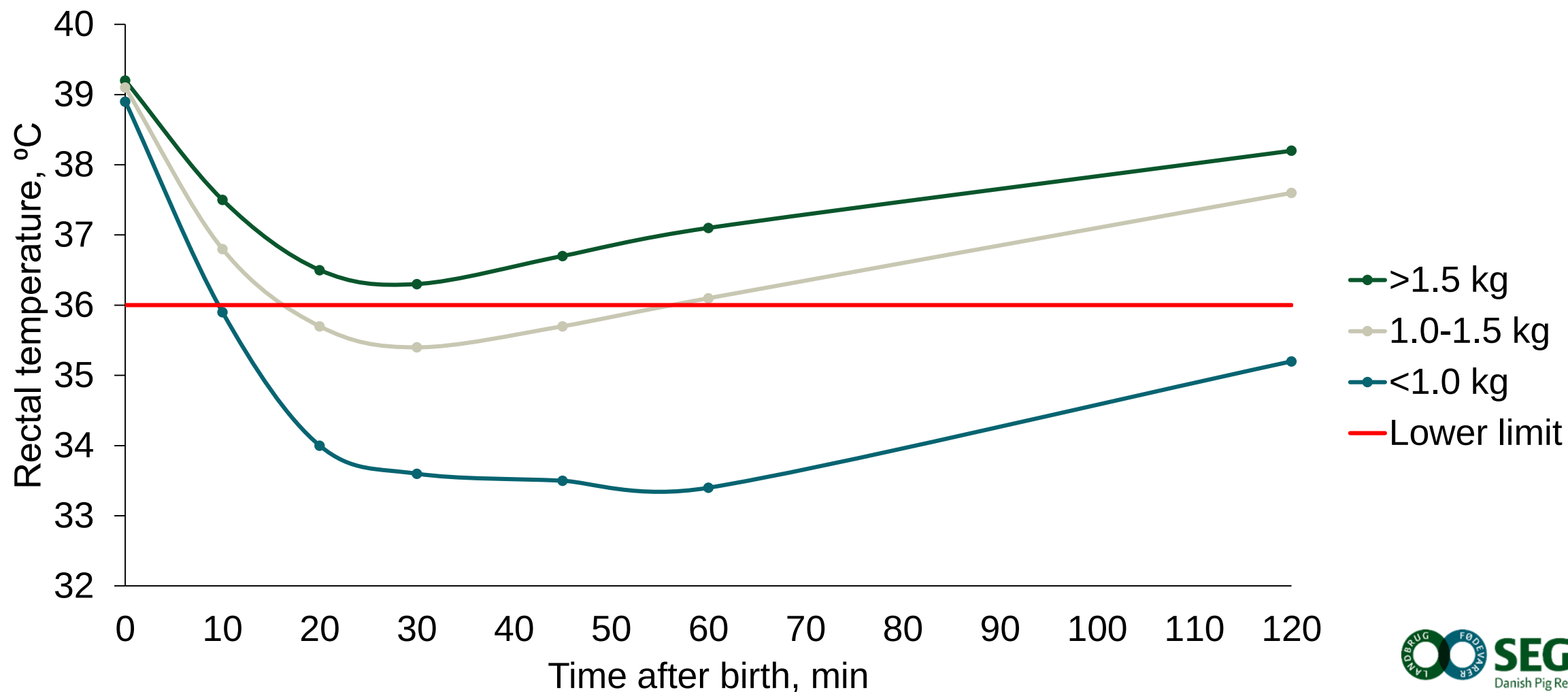
After parturition

Heat

A temperature above 36 °C increases the survival rates

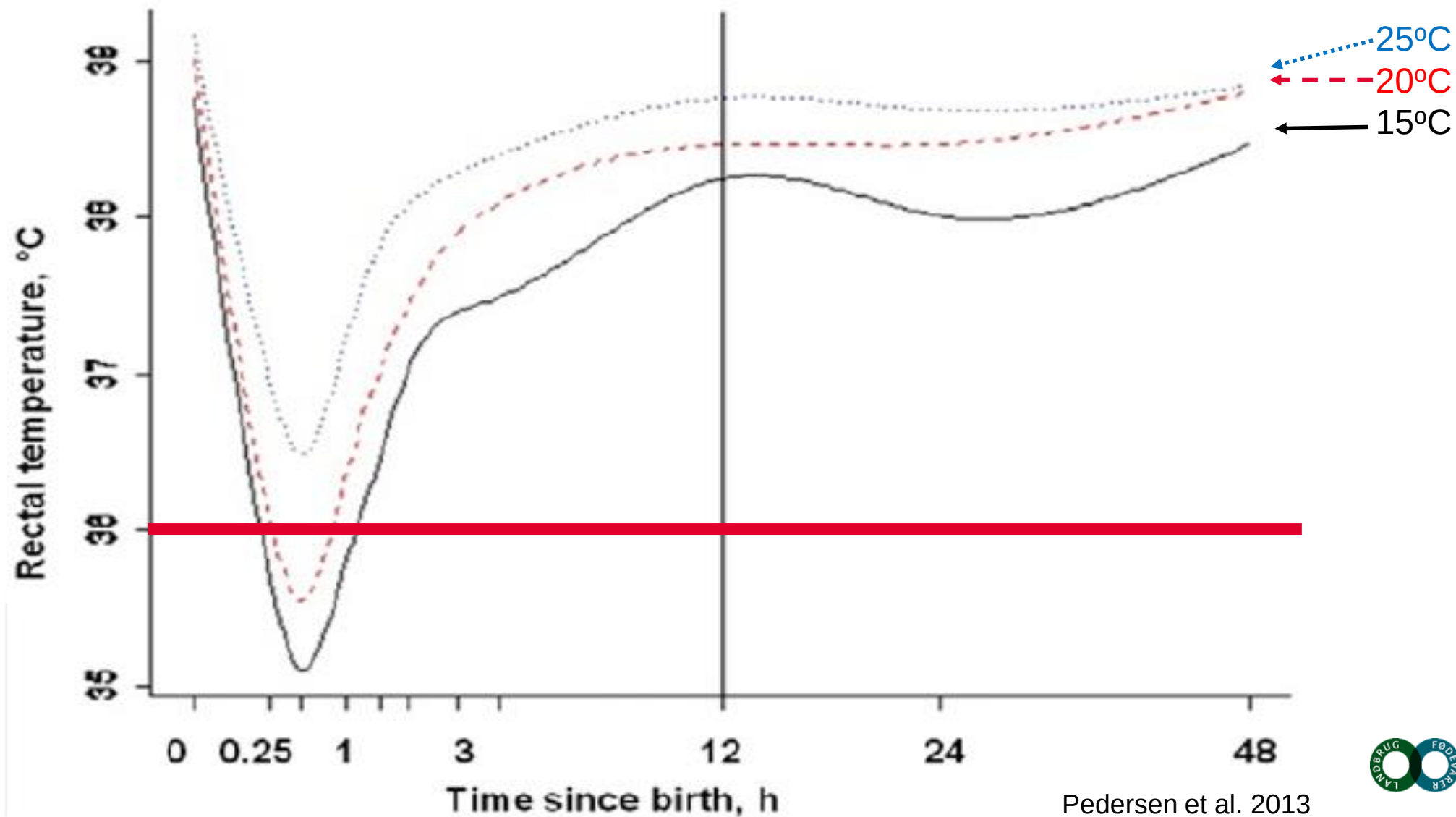


Rectal temperature after birth at different birth weight



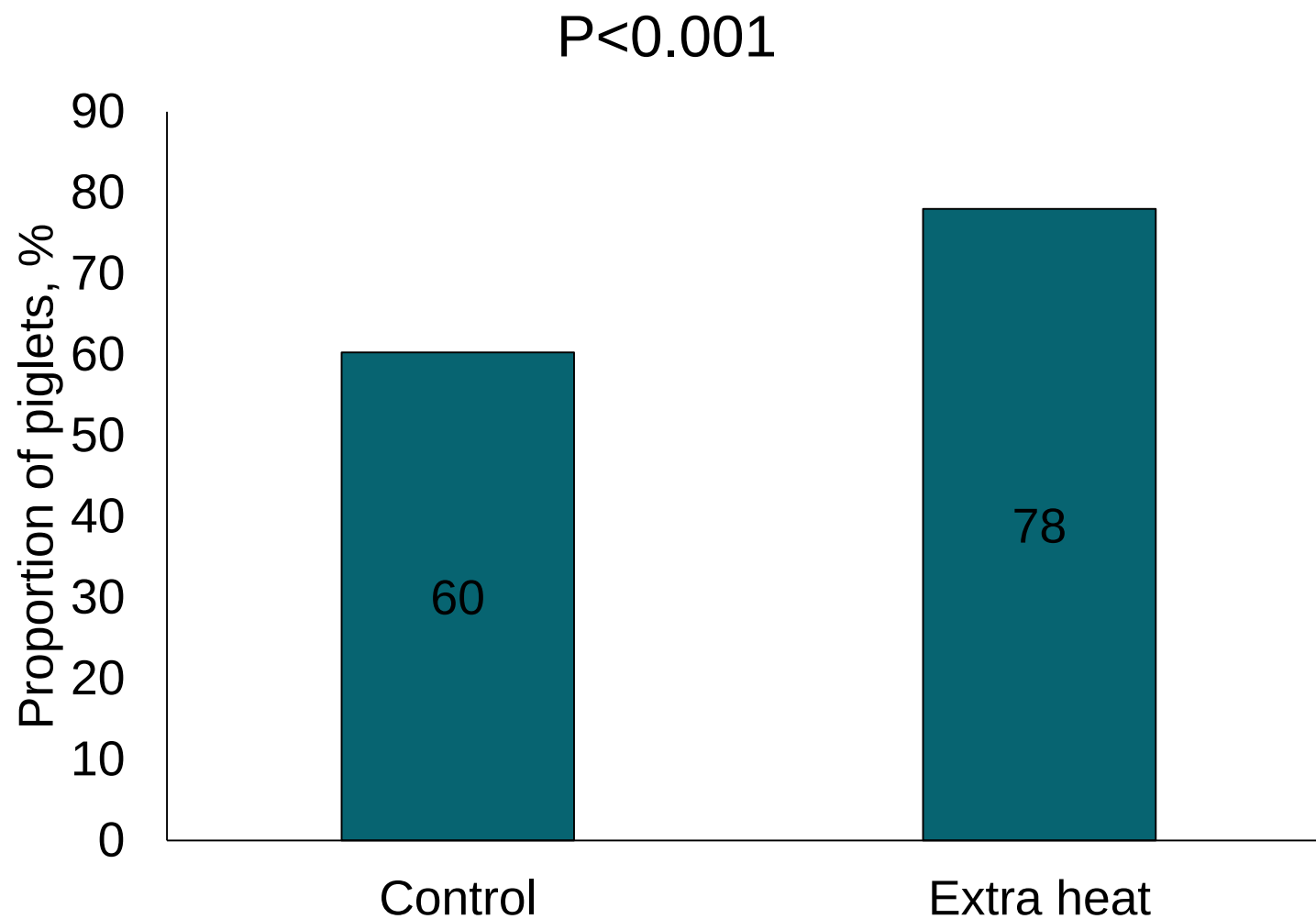
Pol et al. 2020

Piglet temperature after birth



Pedersen et al. 2013

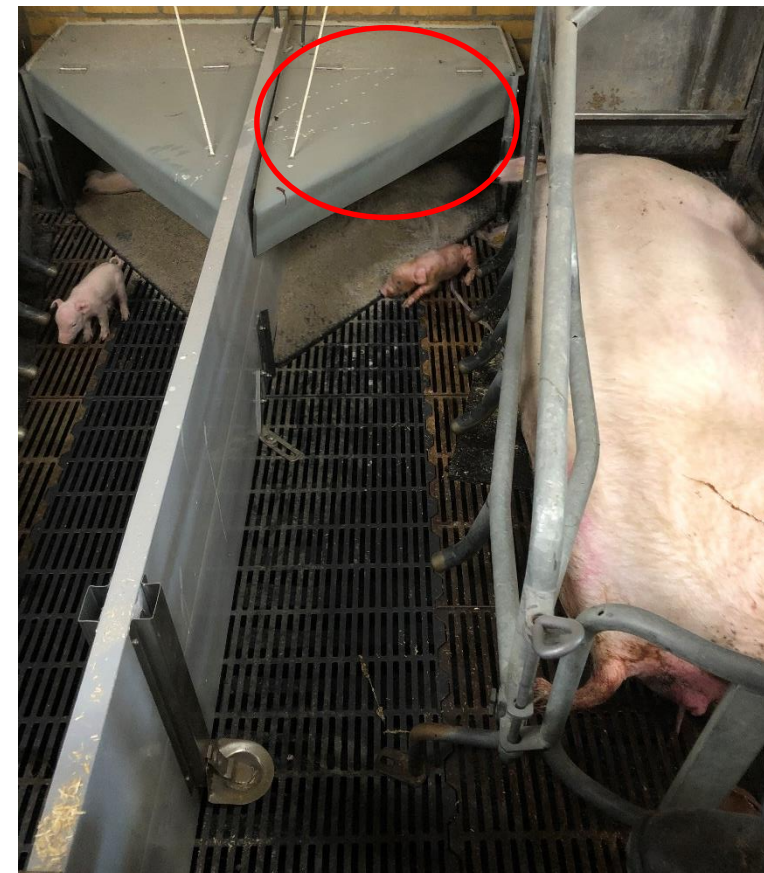
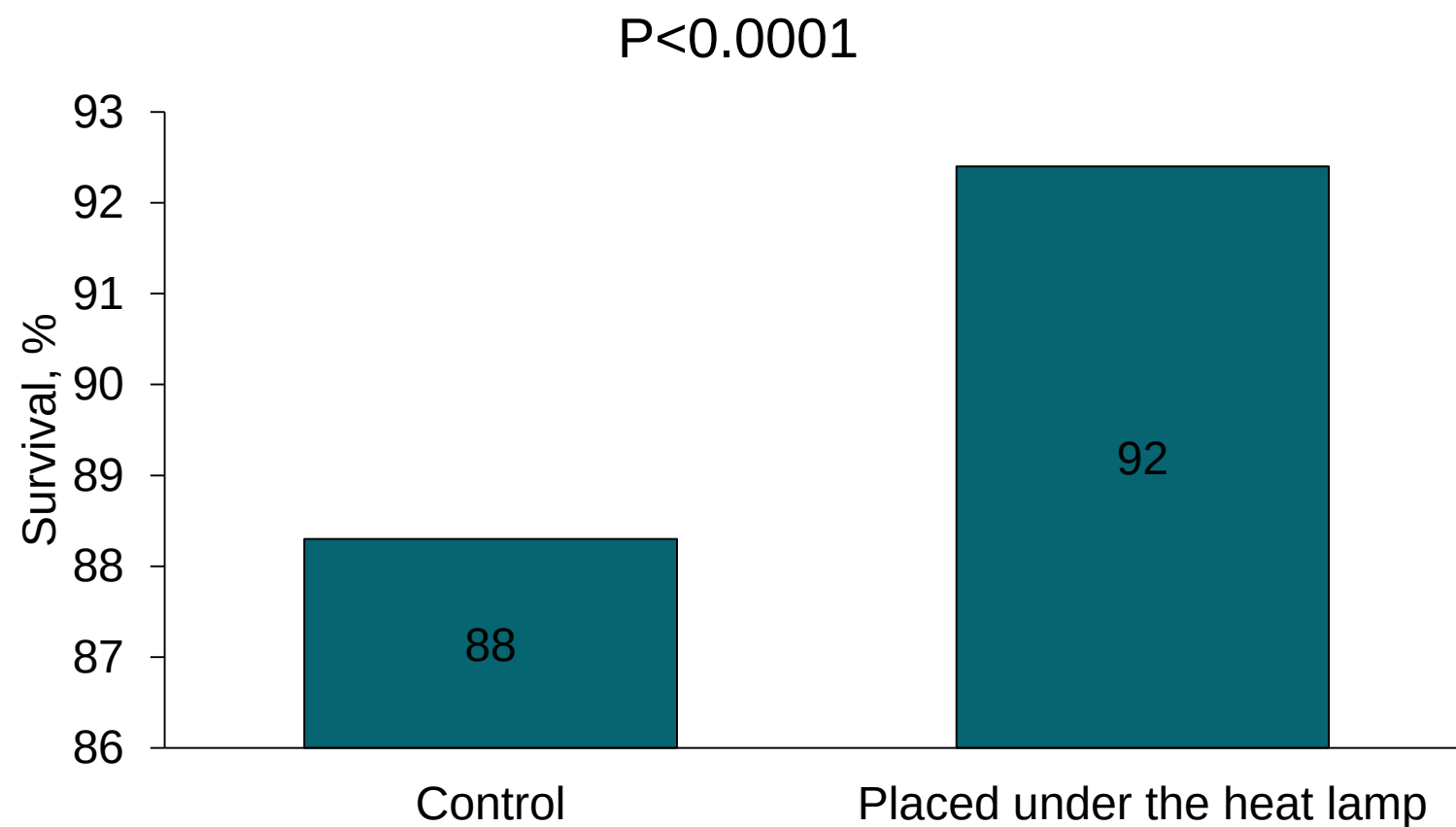
Extra heat around the sow during farrowing



Trial report no. 1176



Drying and warming after birth



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?**

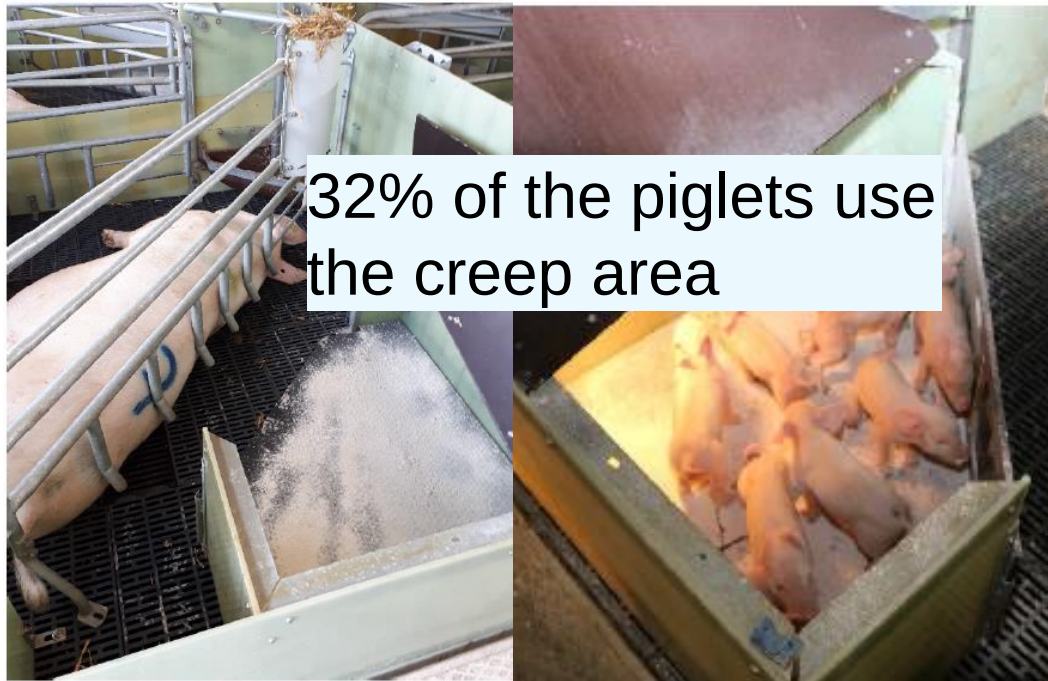


My guess		
Day 1	At	Time in the creep area
Morning feeding (8 o'clock)	7.00-10.00	3 hours
Afternoon feeding (13 o'clock)	12.00-14.00	2 hours
Evening feeding (19 o'clock)		
		5 hours

Piglets can be lured in the creep area

CONTROL – Creep training

- 1 h around feeding (day 1 and 2)



TRIAL – Lure piglets to use the creep area

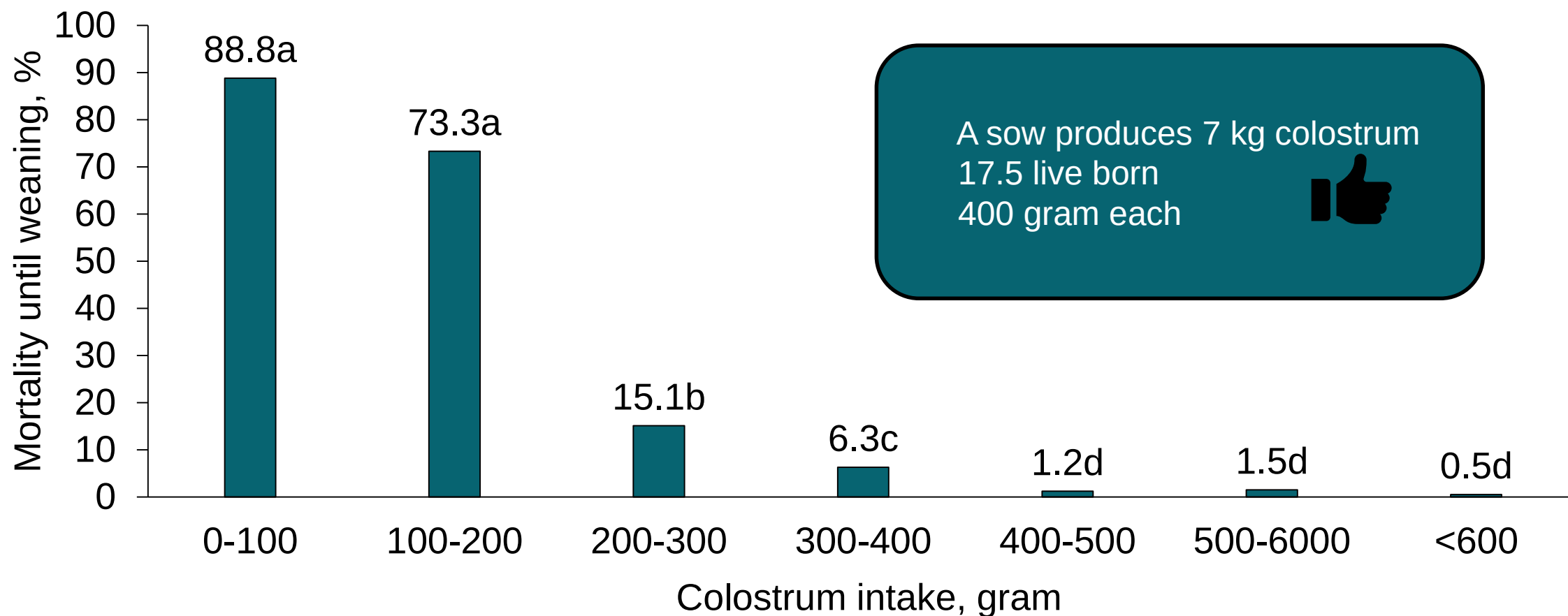
- Straw, sock with grains, jute sack



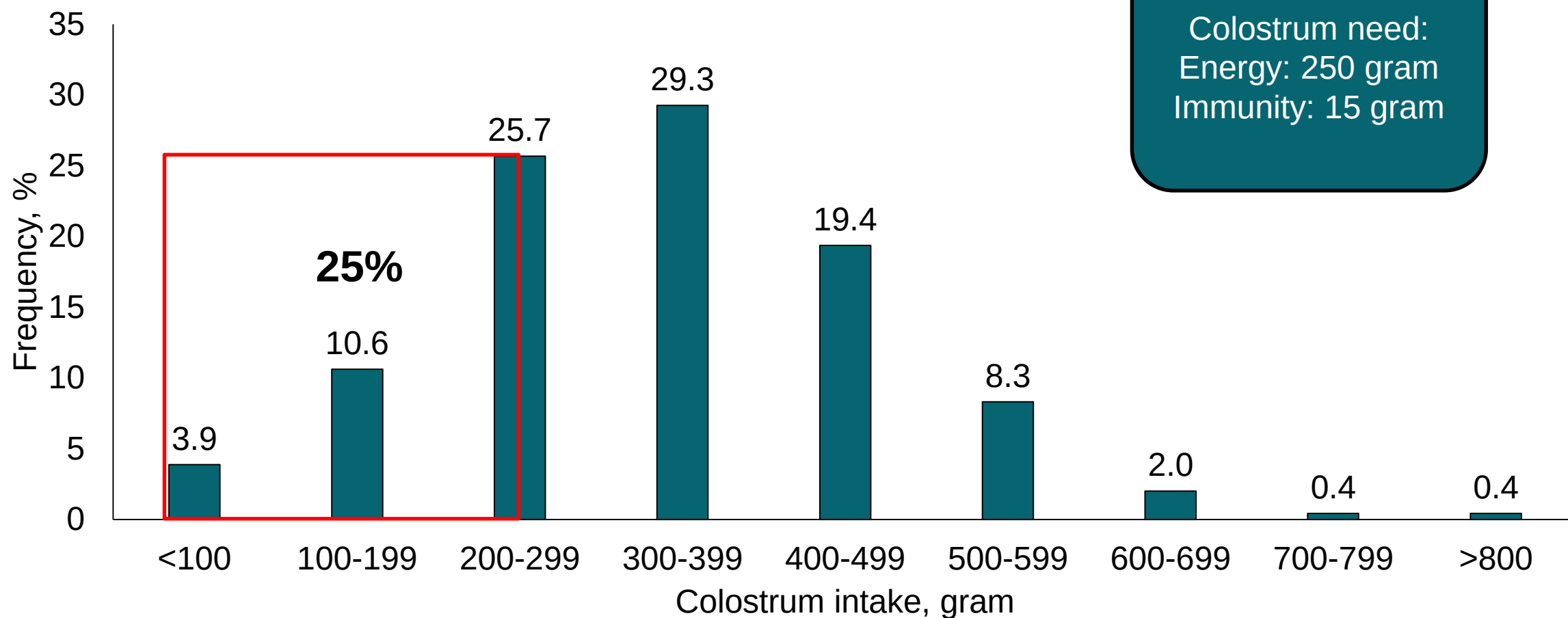
After parturition

Colostrum

Piglet colostrum intake is positively correlated with survival



Colostrum: A need for energy and a need for immunity



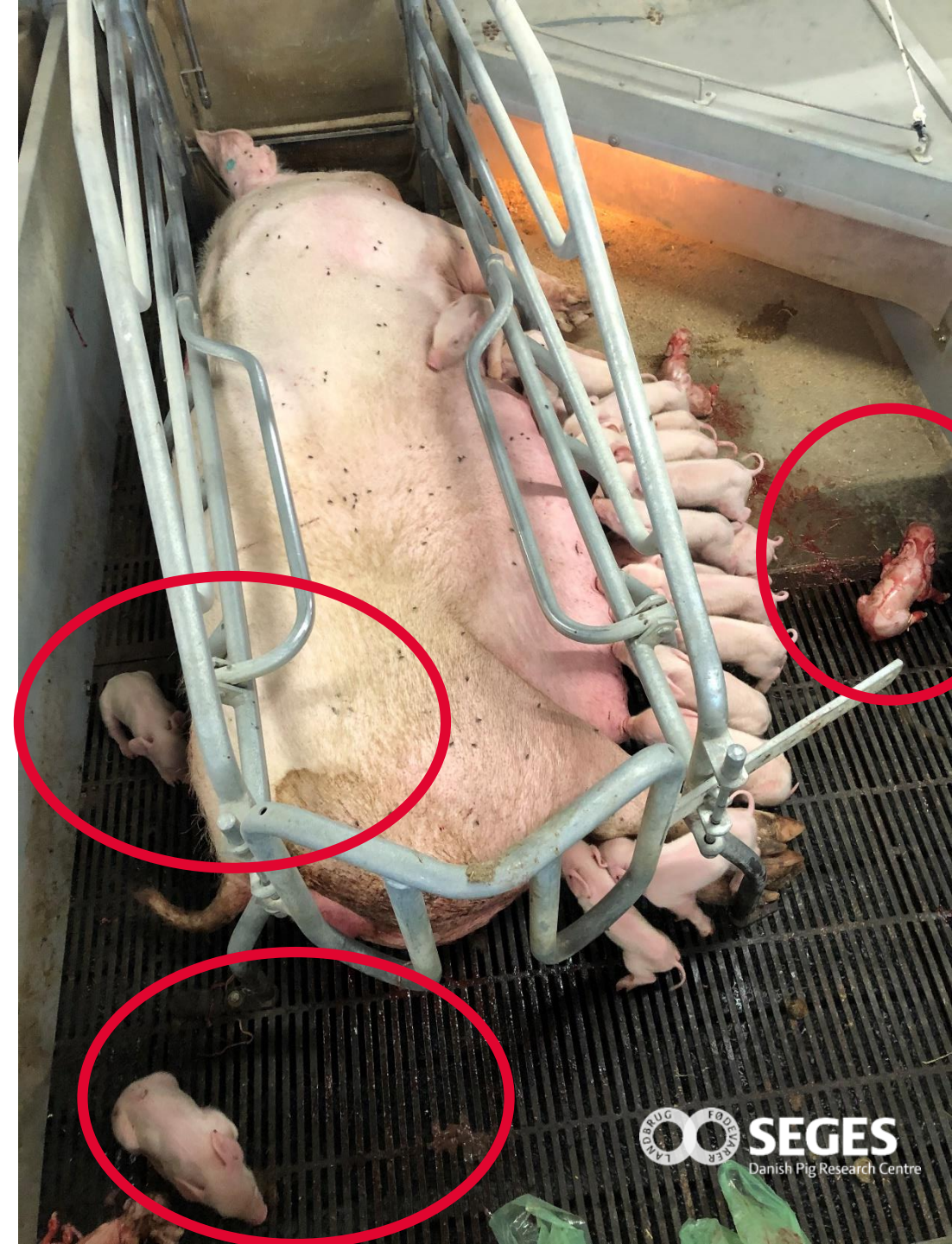
Ensuring antibodies

- RISK FACTORS
 - Litter size
 - Birth weight
 - Birth interval
 - 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



Take home messages



A sow fit for fight

Farrowing surveillance

Heat around parturition

Colostrum

A close-up photograph of several piglets in a pen. The piglets are light pink and appear to be resting or sleeping. A teal-colored horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "Time for questions".

Time for questions