

# TEN WEEKS OF LACTATION - A CASE STUDY

Anne Grete Kongsted & Bertel Hestbjerg



# WHY INCREASE BEYOND SEVEN WEEKS?

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- Reduce risk of weaning diarrhea
- Complies with the organic principles of 'natural living'
- Consumer interest (a market for premium organic pork)
- Eliminate the need for a 'weaner-department'

# BUT... WHAT ABOUT

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- Sow body condition?
- Sow reproduction?
- Feed efficiency?
- ...and does it eliminate the need for extra Zinc oxide?

# FARM DATA AND PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE

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# 10 weeks of lactation from a practical point of view



## Sow performance

1500 sows 10 weeks weaning

1,77 litter/sow/year (1,9)

21,0 weaned/piglets/year (22,1)

554 kg/piglets/sow/year (316)

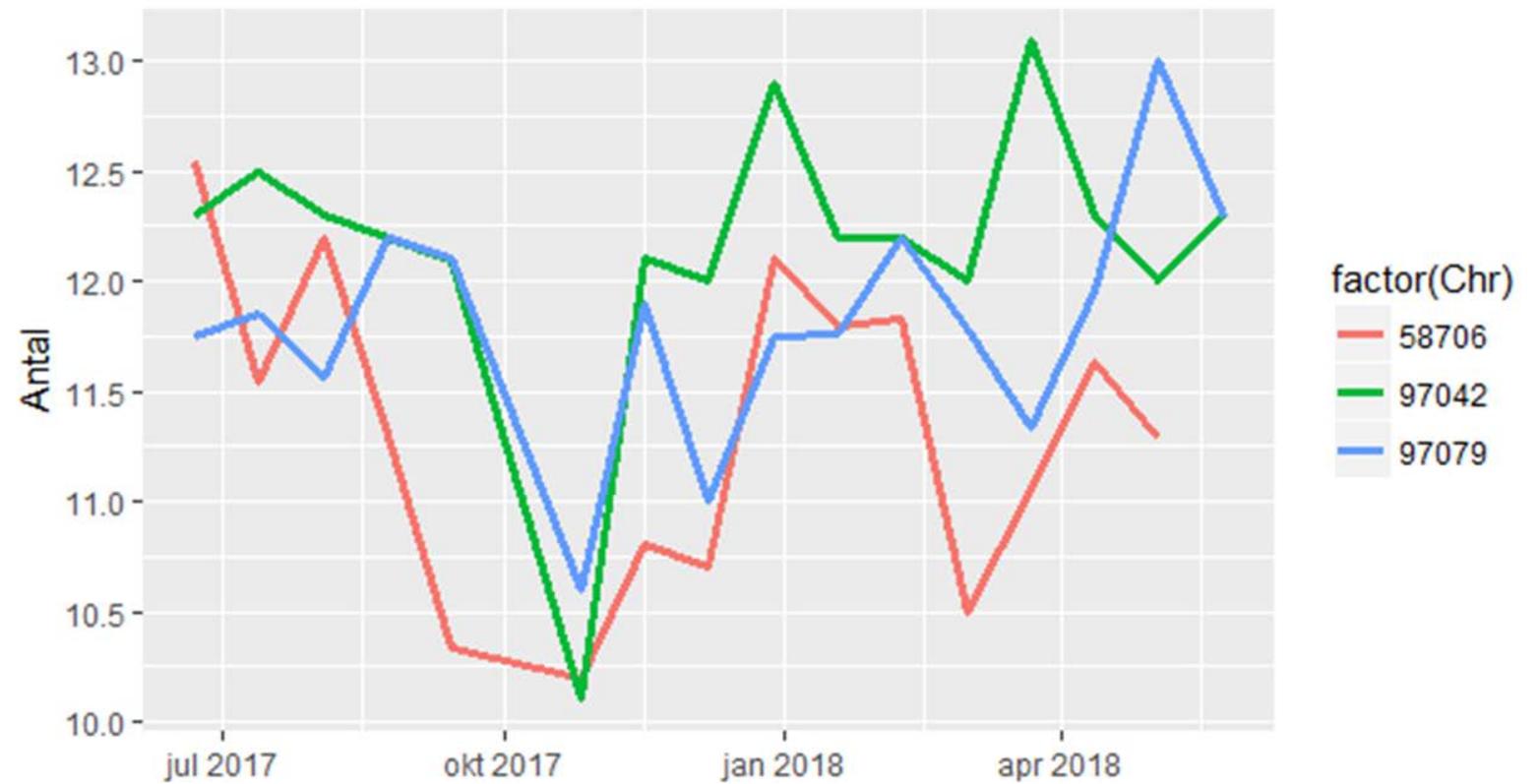


1.500 sows 10 weeks weaning

11,9 (11,6)



## Weaned piglets/litter



## Feed consumption

1.500 sows 10 weeks  
weaning

1700 kg/sow/year

18 kg/piglet/70 days  
suckling

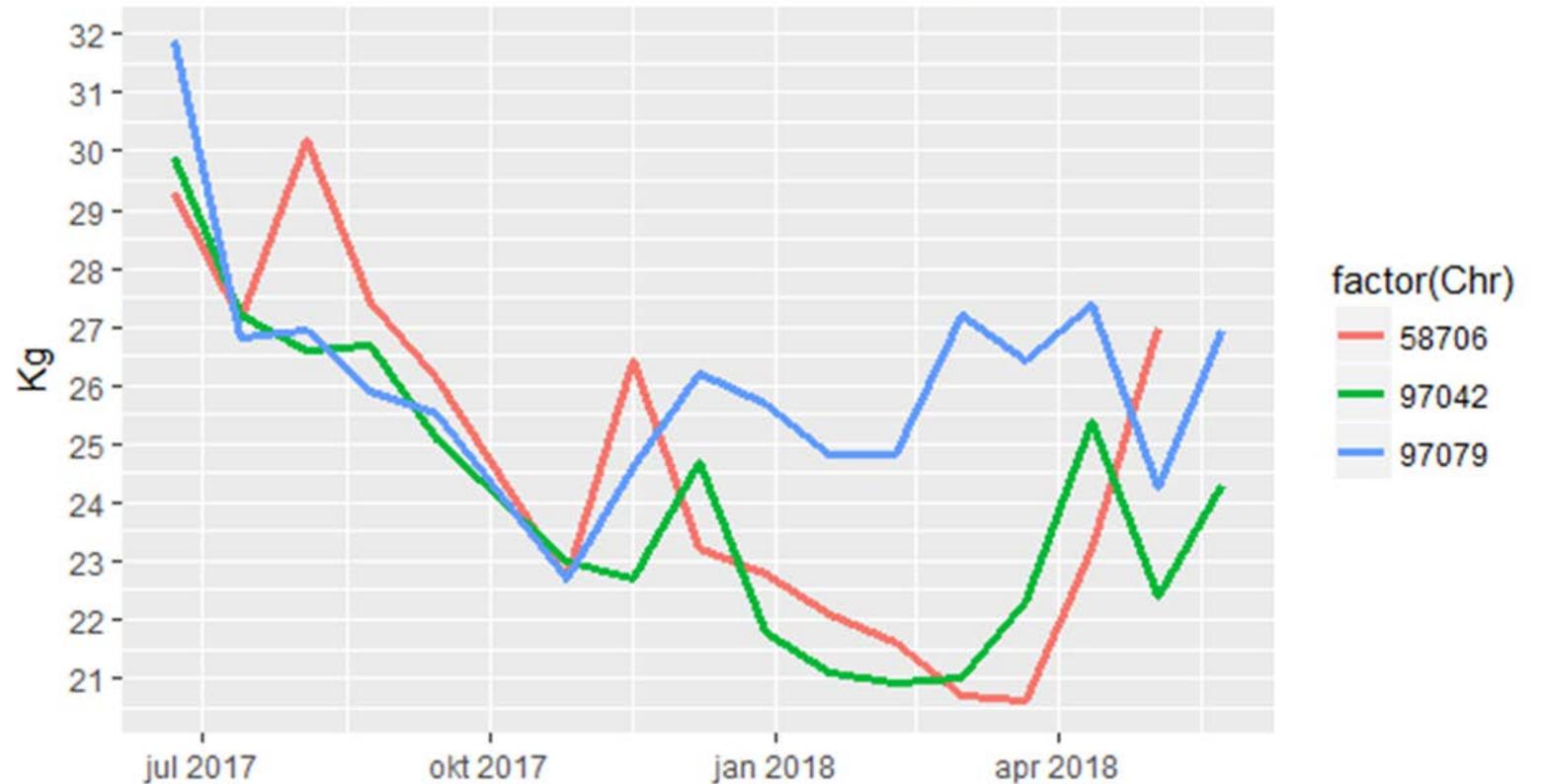


1.500 sows 10 weeks  
Weaning

24,7 kg. (14,3 kg)



## Weaning weight kg/piglet



## Post weaning

No weaning section

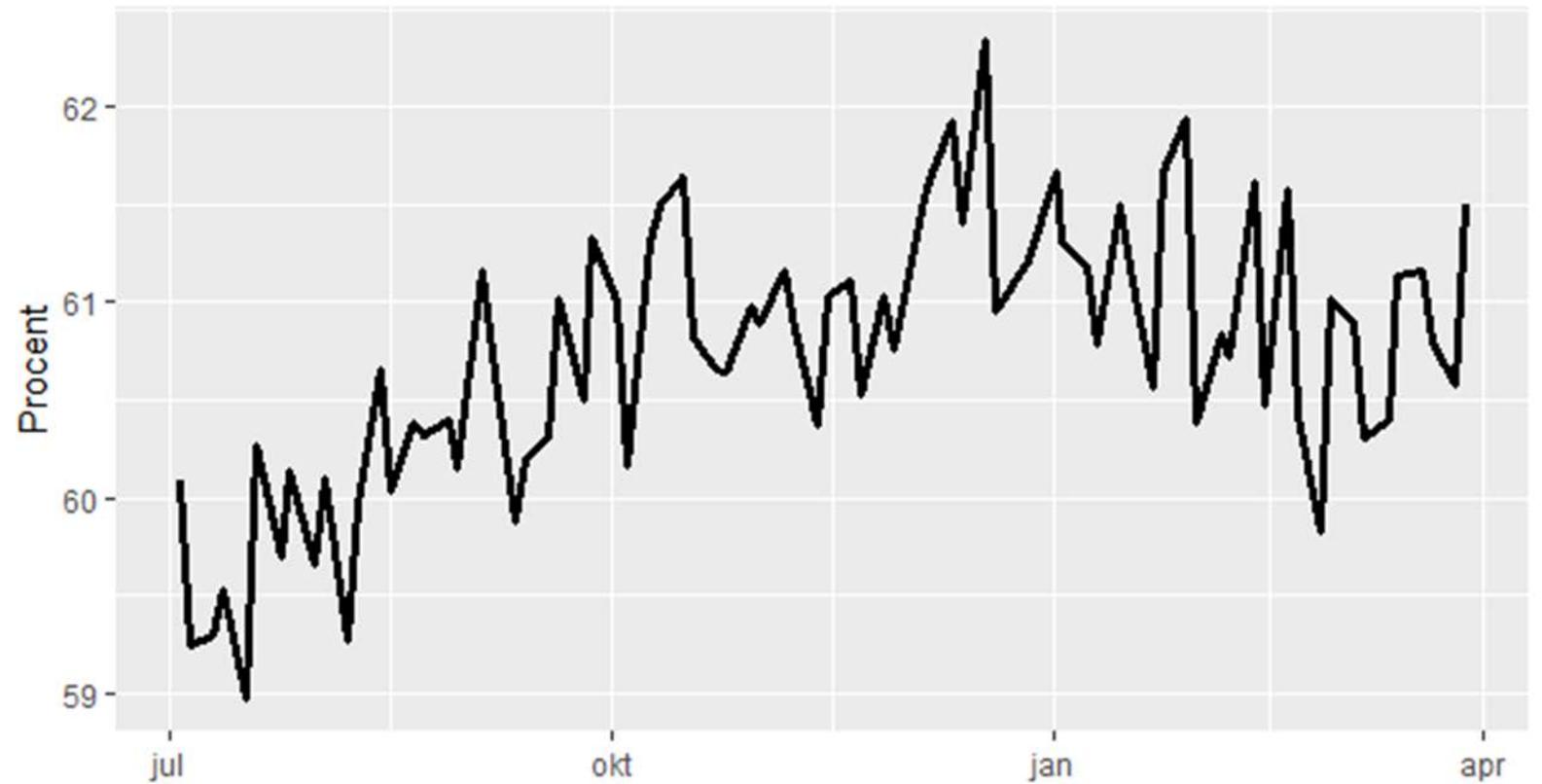
Zink/antibiotic



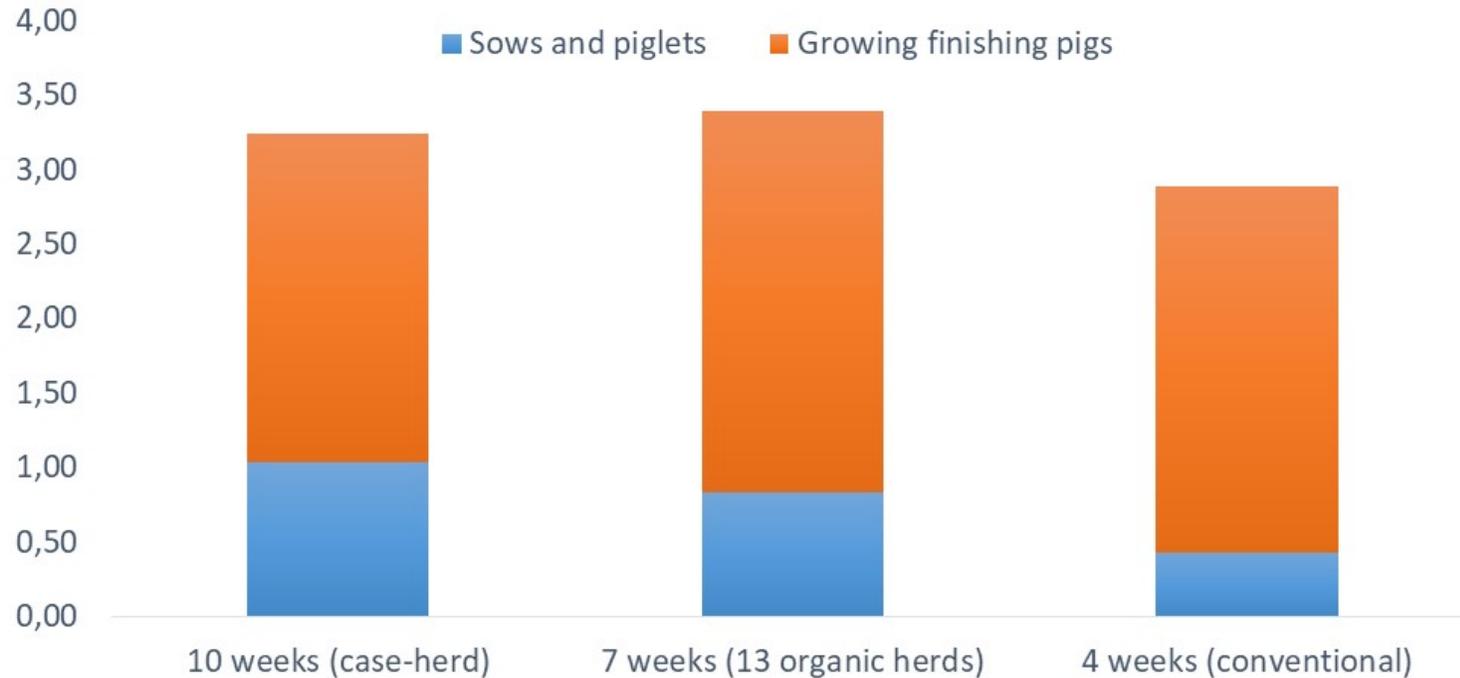
Last 18.000 finishers



## Lean meat percentage

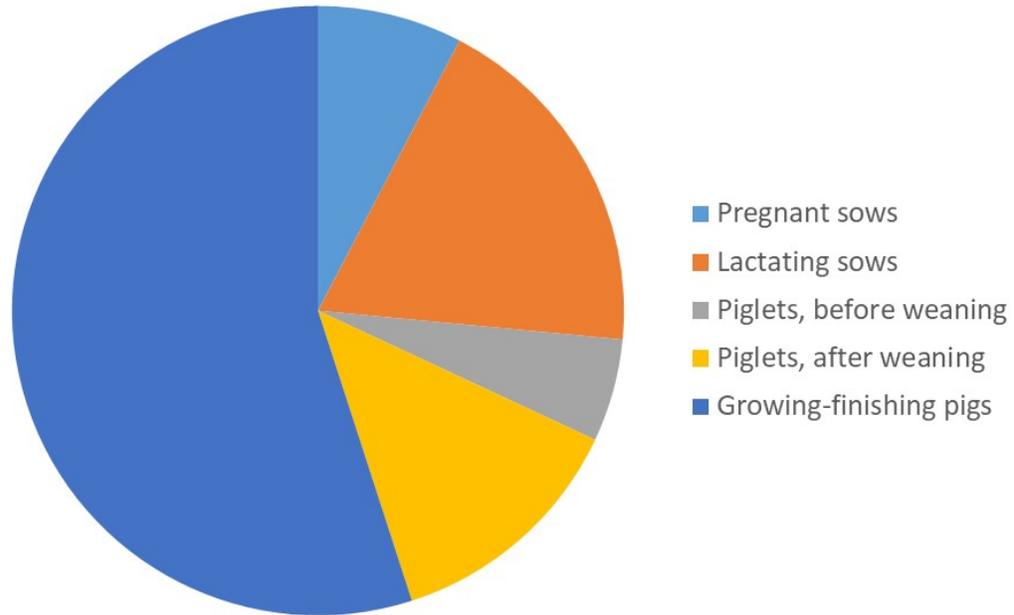


# OVERALL FEED EFFICIENCY KG FEED KG LW PRODUCED<sup>-1</sup>



# DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN ANIMAL GROUPS

10 weeks (case-herd)



# RESEARCH AND INNOVATION NEEDS?

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The piglets stay 3 weeks longer in the farrowing paddock -> more exposed to parasites etc.

➔ What are the long term consequences (other possible drawbacks)?

1 sow + 320 kg piglets take up much room in the hut!

➔ Larger huts needed?

Piglets of 25-30 kg give the grass a hard time

➔ Rotational concepts needed?

Huge sow feed consumption in the lactating period

➔ New feeding strategies needed?

Fewer litters per sow year<sup>-1</sup>

➔ Possible to induce/use lactational oestrus?

# THANK YOU

