

## HOW TO GET A HIGH PERFORMING SOW

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## HOW TO GET A HIGH PERFORMING SOW

Fantastic production progress

- We went from 30 → 40 piglets per year sow

But it has had a cost

- Quality of legs – not som good
- More sows have worsen their function in farrowing stable
- Higher sow mortality
- More small piglets at birth – problems with mortality
- Sows are more sensitive to poor management, imprecise feeding and poor feed quality

We need to optimise broadly in many spectres – if we want a high performance.

It all begins in the period of young females (polte)

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## PROGRAM

In this presentation I will focus on feedingwise steps

### Check list

- ✓ Feeding of young females (polte)
- ✓ Feeding of pregnant sows
- ✓ Feeding of lactating sows
- ✓ Feeding equipment and feed systems
- ✓ Is life as a sow in this herd good?
- ✓ We pull together

Shortened version - the most important check points

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## ✓ FEEDING OF YOUNG FEMALES (POLTE)

- **Agenda: That the young females are not too large at insemination (140-160 kg) -14-15 mm backfat**
- It's a challenge to feed correctly in many herds.
- Feeding equipment is not made for this
- Previous finisher feed and lactation feed → the animals have become too big and minimal backfat
- We need to reduce protein in feed for young females significantly.
- **Idealy individual feed: feed for young females adjusted to age**
- **Alternative:**
  - 30-65 kg Mix for farrowing stable
  - 65-110 kg Mix for insemination unit
  - 110-150 kg Mix for pregnant sows
- **In many places this can't be done! What do we do then?**

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## ✓ FEEDING OF YOUNG FEMALES (POLTE) – SOLUTIONS IN PRACTICE

**1 stable - 2 feed feeding systems** (or 2 stables/sections with a feed feeding system for each)

**30/40 kg → insemination section**

### EX 1

- Lactation feed on feed line 1
- Pregnancy feed on feed line 2
- Approached shift at 50-70 kg – if possible.

### EX 2

- Adjusted feed according to the weight intervals of the females on both units

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## ✓ FEEDING OF YOUNG FEMALES (POLTE) – SOLUTIONS IN PRACTICE

**1 stable - 1 feeding system.** Young females from 30/40 kg → insemination section

### EX 1

- Pregnancy feed on the feeding system.
- Manual allocation of 150/200 grams soya bean meal per animal per day until 60 kg. On the floor or in long trough
  - 60-90 kg = feed a little less than recommendation

### EX 2

- Pregnancy feed in feeding system.
- Manual allocation of lactation feed in feed dispenser for animals until 55/60 kg

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### ✓ FEEDING OF YOUNG FEMALES – SOLUTIONS IN PRACTICE

When I visit farms the number 1 reason for poor function of sows is: **wrong feeding in the periode when they were young females**

- This is confirmed by other consultants and veterinarians
- Maybe the young females are fed the wrong way in more than 50% of all farms

Let the creativity rule. There must and can be found a solution

I haven't been in a herd where we couldn't find a reasonable compromise



### ✓ FEEDING OF PREGNANT SOWS

Standard:

day	Gram dig.	
	protein	lysine
0-116	90	4,0
service	95	4,5(5,0)

- The insemination section is a challenged in many places
  - Lactation feed is OK from weaning until a few days after insemination
  - Lactation feed can't be used until 4-5 weeks after insemination!!
  - Separate feeding line for insemination section is necessary
  - NB. There are trials going on, which will show, if pregnancy feed in insemination section is OK



### ✓ FEEDING OF PREGNANT SOWS

The feed curve for pregnant sows – the latest from Seges

day	fat	normal	skinny
Backfat	>14mm	12-14mm	<12mm
1-30	2,5	3,0	4,5
30-84(90)	2,3	2,3(2,2)	2,3
84(90)-> exit	3,5 -(3,7)	3,5 -(3,7)	3,5 -(3,7)
Backfat farrow	14-17mm	14-17mm	14-17mm

- You can go down at 2,2 Feed units per sow on day 30-84.
- Possibly later increase to high feed strength: day 90 instead of day 84
- Possibly 3,6-3,7 Feed units per sow from day 90 → farrowing
- Wet feeding: preferably up to 4 liters of water per kilo dry feed



### ✓ FEEDING OF LACTATING SOWS

Standard: Still 118 gram digestable protein pr Feed per sow

Good starting point for feed:

- ½ barley + ½ wheat
- 3% sugar beet pellets (+) wheat bran
- 2,7-2,9% fat
- Additives if necessary: Acid, Bactocell, Levucell, EP199, organic minerals etc.
- Toxin binder sow feed in general : Mycosorb, Mycofix, X-bond
- Feed adjusted heat stress – during summer
- Phase feeding ?:
  - Effect in trials are very limited.
  - My experience:
    - It's not all feed plants where it's possible
    - High in fibre and min. 110-112 grams digestable protein in phase 1
    - Phase 1 only until farrowing



### ✓ FEEDING OF LACTATING SOWS

Step 1: 175 g 14,33% soyas + 25,43% sofablat  
 Step 2: 159 g 15,29% soyas + 25,43% sofablat  
 Step 3: 132 g 18,38% soyas + 29,43% sofablat  
 Step 4: 125 g 17,28% soyas + 25,43% sofablat  
 Step 5: 129 g 18,29% soyas + 27,43% sofablat  
 Step 6: 131 g 18,29% soyas + 27,43% sofablat

No.	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg	Udsalg
11.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
12.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
13.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
14.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
15.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
16.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
17.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
18.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
19.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
20.800	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000

Examples on lactation feed

- Green steps for regulating protein – many use this today
- If you buy grain weekly or use grain from silo without mixer - protein level can vary between 110 – 130 gram digest. pr feed unit per sow – that's a problem!
- Future – red steps for regulation of soya bean meal in relation to protein in grain



### ✓ FEEDING OF LACTATING SOWS

Feeding times:	Time	3 feedings	4 feedings
1.		7,00	7,00
2.		13,00	11,00
3.		20,00-22,00	15,00
4.			20,00-22,00

- More feedings pr day – we follow the trials from Seges
- I prefer 4 feedings if it's possible

Feed curve:

Day after farrow.	FSo	FSo gilts
before F.	3,5(3,0)	3
day 1	3,5(3,2)	3
day 7	7,5(6,5)	6,5(6,0)
day 14	8,5(8,0)	7,5(7,0)
15-->	9,0-9,75	9-9,5

Wet feed: up to 3 liter of water per kg dry feed



### ✓ CHECK LIST – SHORTENED VERSION

#### ✓ Wet feed hygiene

- ✓ Yest test – take a wet feed sample from wet feeding mixer – after recirculation and just before feeding and let it stay overnight – hot place 25 degrees
- ✓ If there is air expansion – and the feed run out of the bottle, the reason must be found



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### ✓ CHECK LIST – SHORTENED VERSION

#### ✓ The most common mistakes in barn and feeding system – also dry feed

- ✓ Cleaning of mixing tank
- ✓ Used water tanks
- ✓ Transport system and silos
- ✓ Grain intake
- ✓ Water tanks
- ✓ just go through feed barn - there are several places where we can find poor feed quality
- ✓ Condensation filters – need to be changed and cleaned !



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### ✓ CHECK LIST – SHORTENED VERSION

#### ✓ If there is still yeast / air expansion in wet feed after check

- ✓ Addition of acid is required ex: Selko BE
  - ✓ New yeast test
- ✓ Still air expansion → Cleaning of system
  - ✓ Caustic soda + hot water

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### ✓ CHECK LIST – IS LIFE AS A SOW IN THIS HERD GOOD?

- ✓ Is water supply good – clean water?
- ✓ Is there enough space in the farrowing rail?
  - ✓ Is it maximum space until farrowing - important that the sow can move freely
- ✓ Is the sow in the farrowing stable too long before farrowing?
  - ✓ as late in the farrowing pen as possible
- ✓ Is the temperature suitable?

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### ✓ CHECK LIST – WE PULL TOGETHER

#### ✓ If we work together to get through the check list with all it's relevant points:

- ✓ Correct feeding of all animals – remember young females
- ✓ healthy feed
- ✓ And good sow health in general – Porcus fixes this ☺

#### ✓ Then we have done nearly all we can, to have a well performing and well functioning sow

- ✓ *But, the breeding companies have also a responsibility to produce a stronger sow – and they know it.*

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