

Backfat and feeding curves

Sows

Backfat at weaning	Day 0-30 after insemination	Backfat 4 weeks after insemination	Day 30 – day 84	Day 84 – farrowing***	Backfat at farrowing
Skinny: < 12 mm	4,5 FE*	+ 3mm	3,5 FE**	3,5 FE	
Medium: 12-14 mm	3 FE	+ 1mm (13-15 mm)	2,3 FE	3,5 FE	14-17 mm
Fat: > 14 mm	2,5 FE	+ 0,3 mm	2,3 FE	3,5 FE	

* The increased amount of feed after insemination should lead to that the skinny sow gains 3 mm backfat and ends up in the medium group with a backfat of 13 – 15 mm.

** If the skinny sow hasn't gained enough, it should be fed with extra feed (3,5 FE) in this period.

*** Please note that if the sows go into the farrowing section early (e.g. one week prior to farrowing), they must still be fed this amount so the piglets won't be too small at birth

Skinny sows will restore 4,5-5 mm backfat in total

Medium sows will restore 2,5-3 mm backfat in total

Fat sows will restore 0,5-1 mm backfat in total

Backfat and feeding curves

Gilts / First parity sows

90 – 145 kg	Flushing	Backfat at insemination	Day 0-30 after insemination**	Backfat 4 weeks after insem.	Day 30 – day 84	Day 84 – farrowing***	Backfat at farrowing
2,9 FE	3,5 FE	Skinny: < 12 mm	2,4 FE	<12 mm	2,5-2,7 FE		
2,9 FE	3,5 FE	Medium: 14-15 mm*	2,4 FE	14-15 mm	2,3 FE	3,3 FE	14-17mm
2,9 FE	3,5 FE	Fat: > 16 mm	2,4 FE	16 – 17 mm	2 -2,1 FE		

*11-12 mm at beginning of synchronisation

At insemination the young females should preferably be inseminated at 13 mm rather than a weight of 175 kg to reach 15 mm

** Too high feed strength should be avoided during the implantation period (the first 5 – 9 days not above 2,6 FE), since it can have a negative impact on the implantation. N.B! There's no harm done if all get 2,4 FE. However, make sure that newly inseminated young sows don't stay in pens where flushing is done.

*** No harm done if they get 3,5 FE like the sows

N.B!

- These recommendations for feed curves must be considered in the individual herd's feed systems. They are ideal where there is one eating box per. sow, but more challenging with other feeding systems. It may be necessary to allocate more feed so that we don't have sows that are undersupplied due to some "winning sows" that eat a lot!
- When feeding on the floor, make sure that the feed is distributed
- When using a transponder, make sure that it is correctly calibrated and that the dominant sow doesn't eat other people's feed.
- Wet food:
Remember to make sure that the feed comes completely out into the long trough so that the middle sows don't eat the whole feed.