

How do we obtain a high piglet survival

Danish Pig Congress 2022



- **Jette Bro,**
- *Pig producer;
Manager of farrowing
unit*

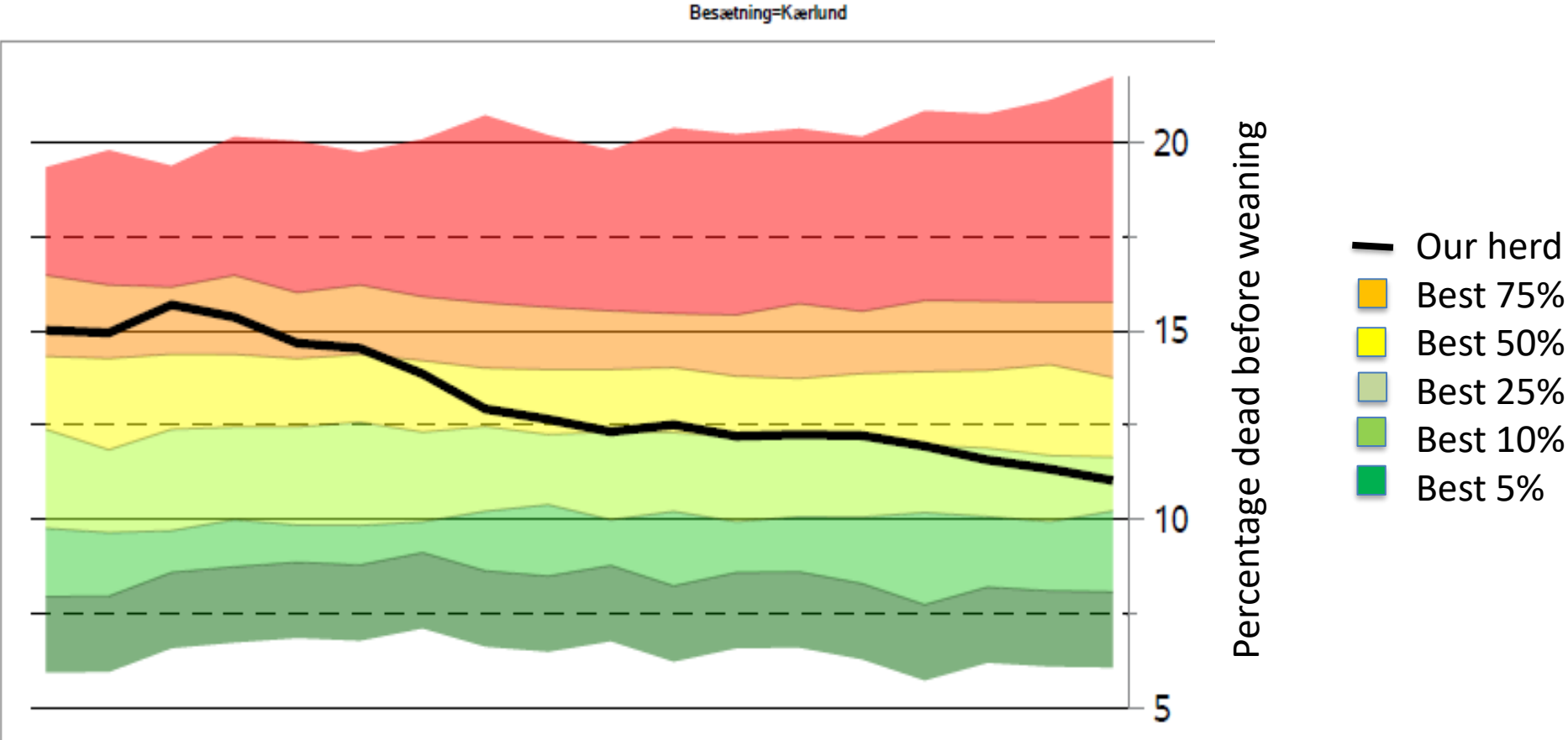
- **Helle H. Jessen,**
- *Veterinarian, Danvet*

Kærlund 1600 sows, Give, Jutland



Liveborn piglet mortality during 2022

From 18% in 2020 to 15% in 2021 and down to 11-12% in spring 2022



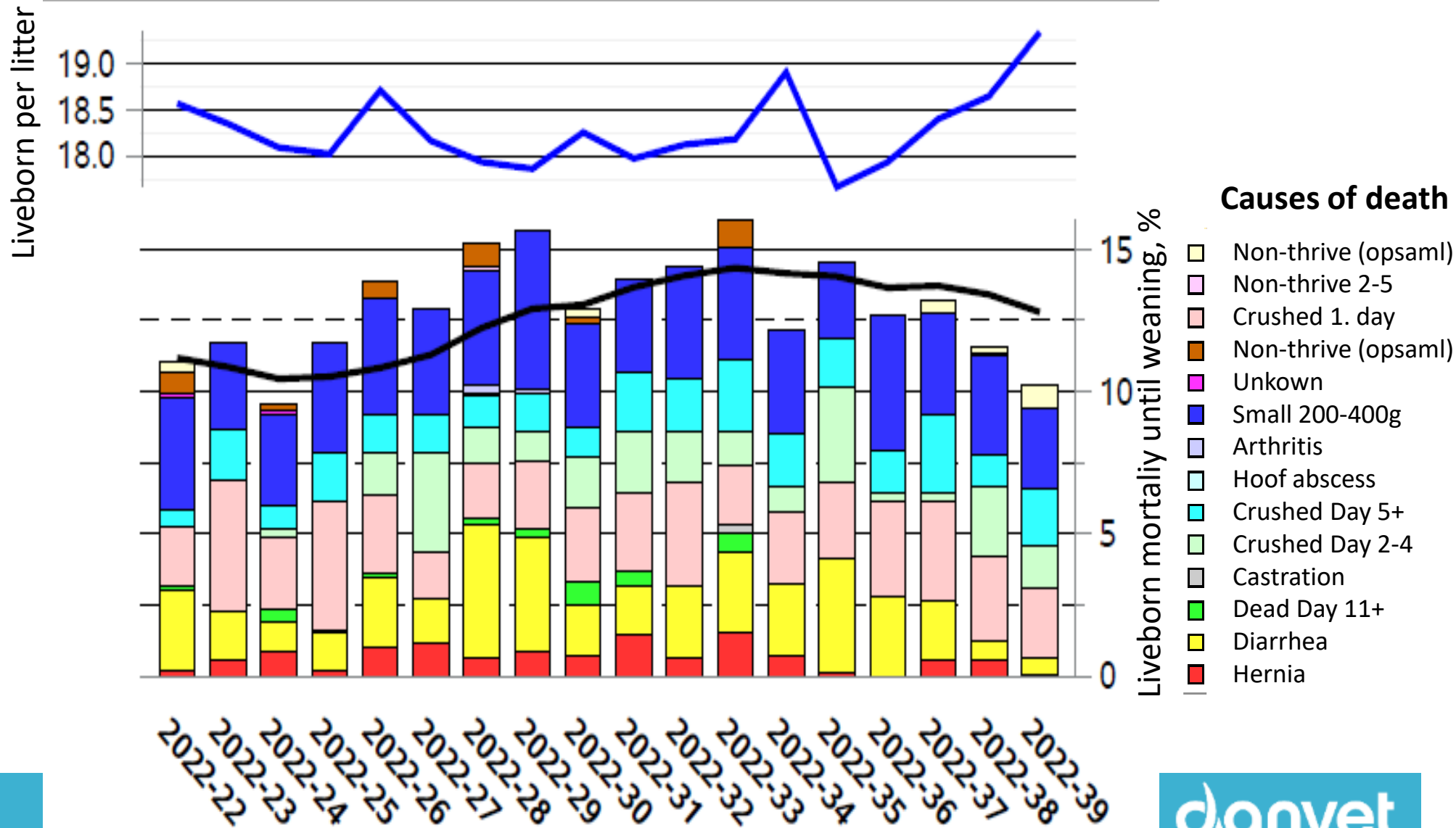
Piglet mortality in Cloudfarms

Our staff register while in the farrowing section



PHOTO: CLOUDFARMS

Causes of piglet mortality at Kærlund?

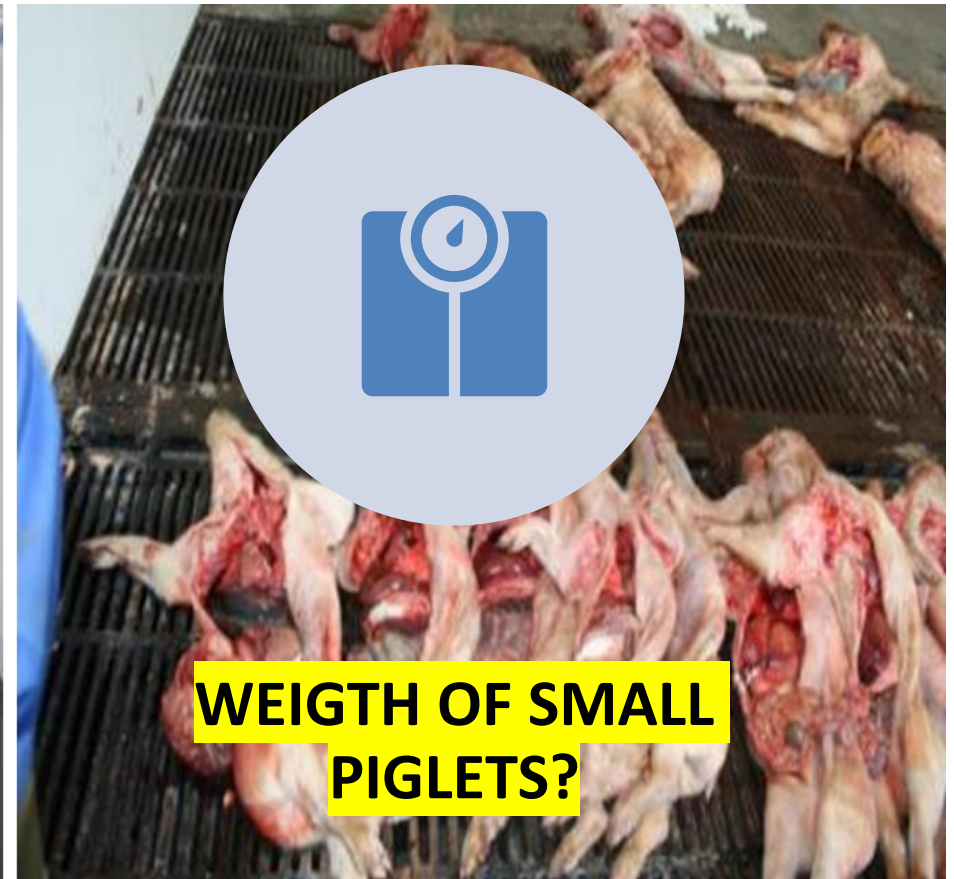


Causes of piglet mortality at Kærlund?



Photo: Private

Autopsy to verify causes



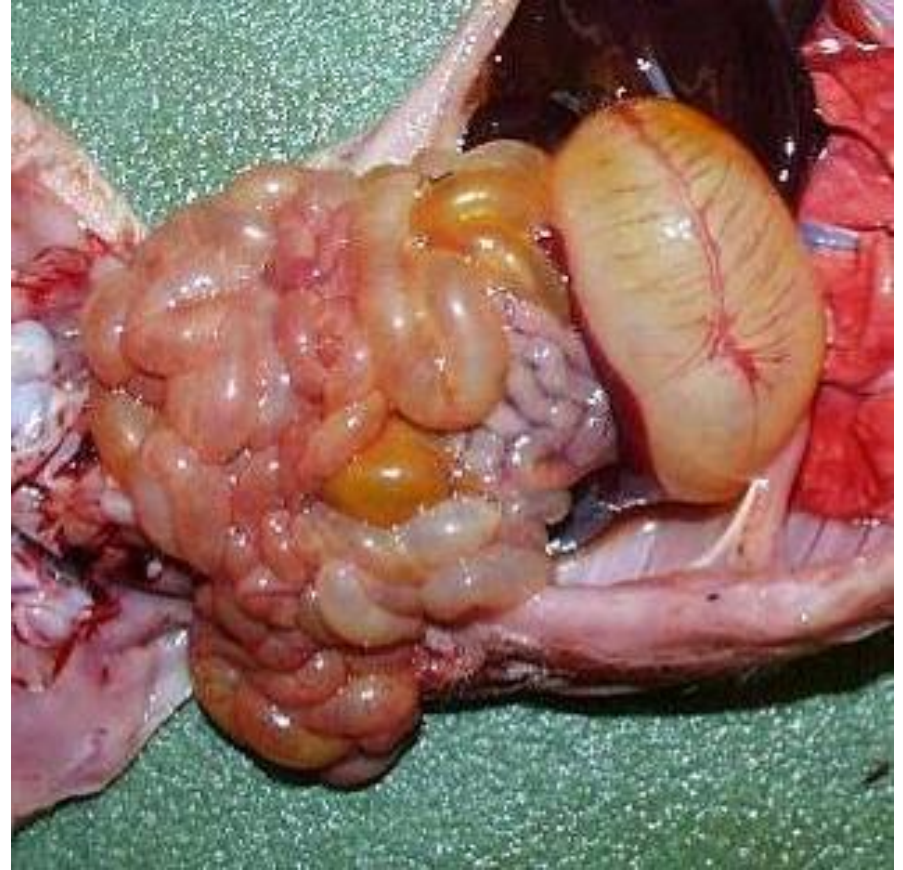
Piglets with birth weight < 600 gram

How
do we
handle
small
piglets
at
birth?

- Energy
- Warmth



Diarrhea or hunger



Piglet diarrhea



Diarrhea sample (March 2022)



Non-treated piglets



ROTA VIRUS positive



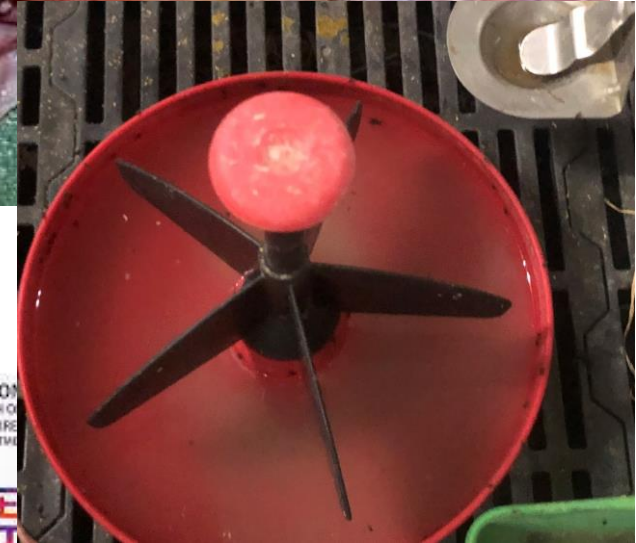
CLOSTRIDIUM PERFRINGENS type A



Vaccination

We've had effect of

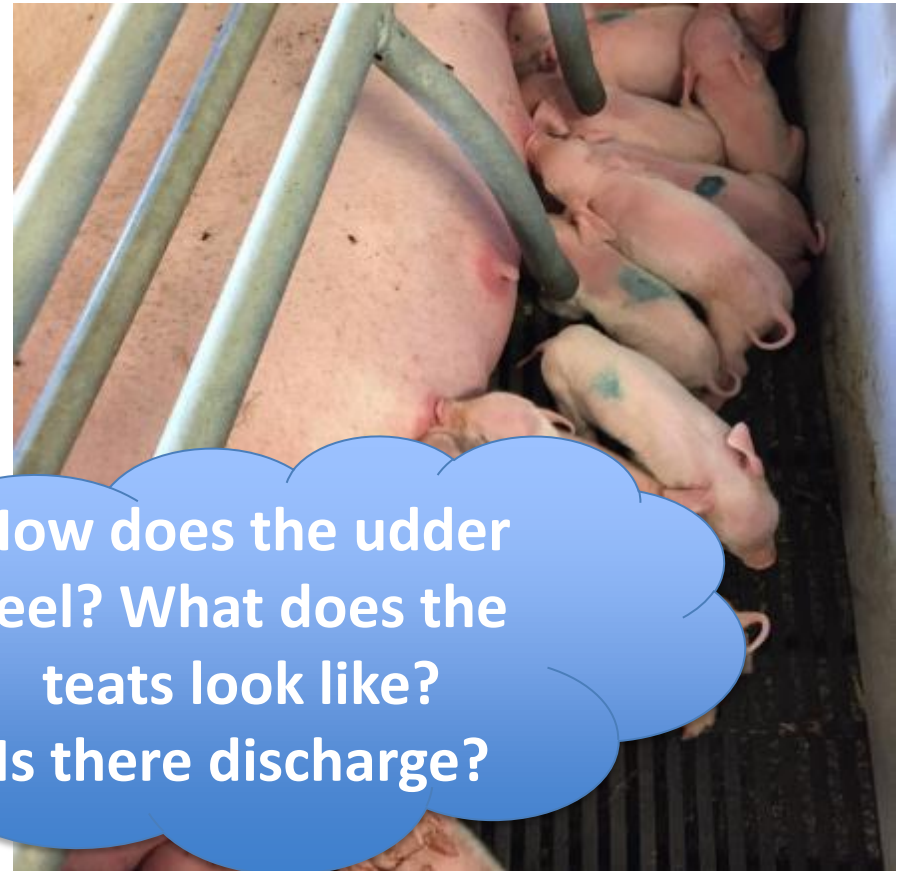
- Warmth + paper 'curtains'
- Attention – hungry piglets
- Colostrum 12 hours !
- Early Coccidiosis treatment



Is the sow healthy and well?



Motivated to eat?
Stand up?



How does the udder
feel? What does the
teats look like?
Is there discharge?

Photo: Morten Thomsen

Standard morning procedure – rectal temperature

It can be 40° C close to farrowing



Photo: SEGES

Backfat as a measure of quality



Recommendation from
SEGES
14-17 mm at farrowing

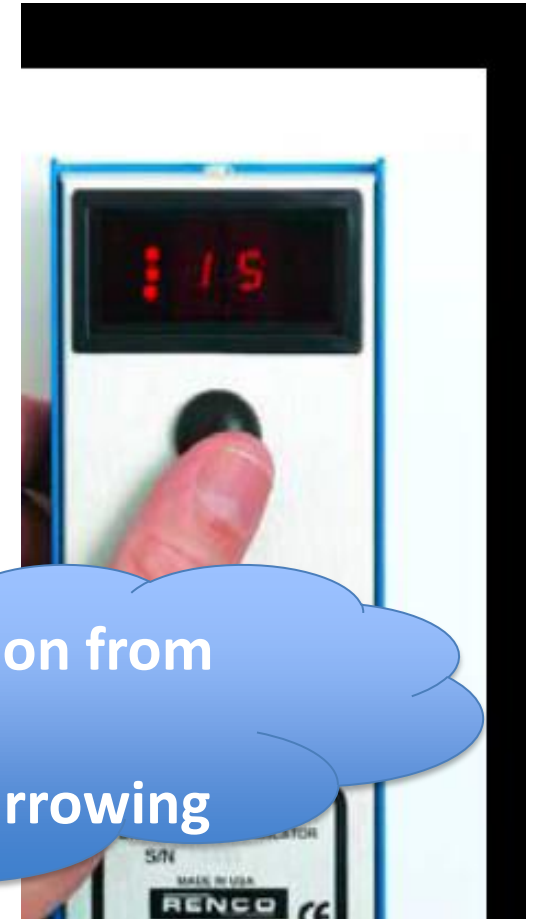


Photo: SEGES

Our focus in the herd is



Drying before sows are placed in farrowing pens



Increase number of weaned per weaning

0.5 piglet per weaning = 10 farrowing pens

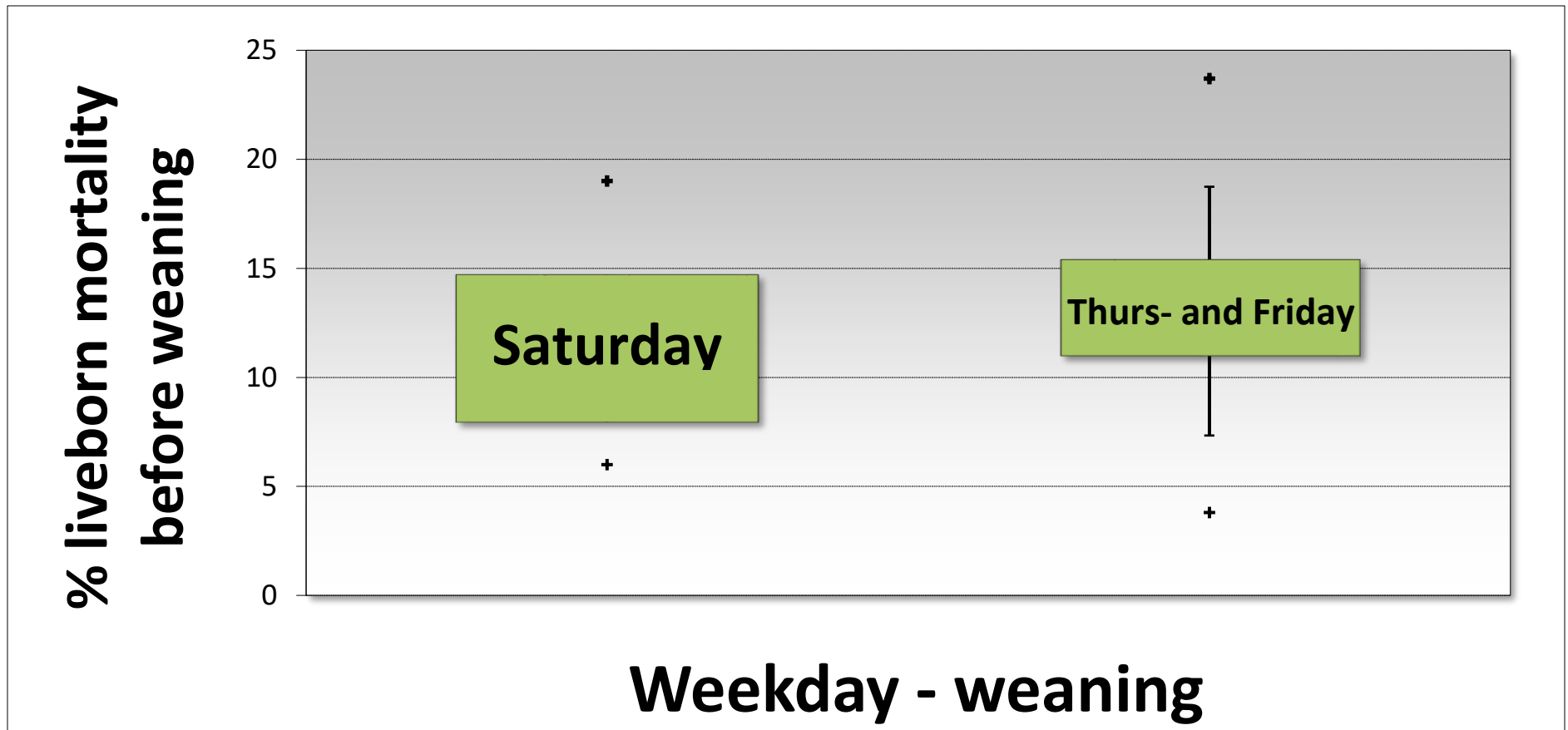


Surveillance at night

Reduce stillborn, more focus on sows and piglets small at birth

Does the weekday of weaning matter?

Saturday weanings led to 2.1% drop in mortality



Danvet Golden Standard herds

10 herds with low mortality

What do they do?

Same staff weekdays and weekends

90%

3-4 feedings per day of lactating sows

100%

Litter equalization before lunch

100%

Procedures to ensure a high level of hygiene

100%

Two or three step nurse sows

100%

Average seniority in farrowing unit

8 years

What is missing in our recipe?



CHOOSE SUBJECT



Who is in our team at Kærlund?

- **Jette** – I am a trained shop assistant
 - Have worked in farrowing unit since 2008
 - Today I'm manager for our employees

- **Who is in the team?**
 - 12 employees
 - 3 managers
 - 6 different nationalities; age 19 – 70 years
 - Our common language is English



A great chemistry is important



Who fits in on your farm and in your team?



Advisors



Even when it's difficult to find employees – take your time



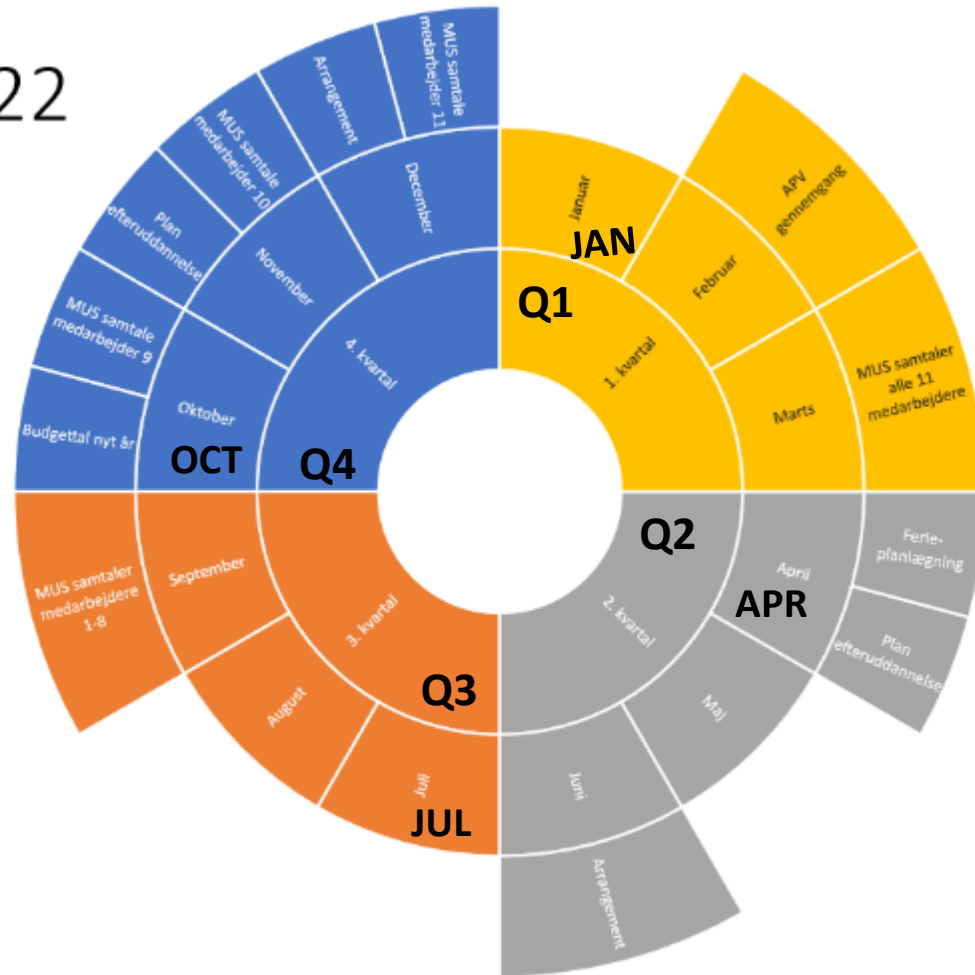
Inspiration when the chemistry is good



Interested in work = motivation

Kærlund's annual wheel

Årshjul 2022



Know the work routines

MINI piglets

- ✓ First 24 hour you give yoghurt oral 3 times
- ✓ Strong lamp 150-175 watt
- ✓ Good sow
- ✓ Good smell tits
- ✓ 2,3, time sow
- ✓ Eat good
- ✓ Not sick
- ✓ No fever
- ✓ Powder in the whole place
- ✓ Give piglets more, 14 tits + 16 pigs
- ✓ Put all these pigs working hard, but sow you are a bitch, so do not jump over important things, that
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HANDLINGSPLAN

- 1. Selected Sow**
 - ✓ This time as an early base
 - ✓ Use more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
- 2. Preparation**
 - ✓ This time as an early base
 - ✓ Use more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
- 3. Sow**
 - ✓ Use more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
- 4. Farrows**
 - ✓ This time as an early base
 - ✓ Use more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here
 - ✓ Give more time here

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It is important to know the jobs that need to be done

To know how long a job takes

Training + follow up

Follow up even after years of employment

Our employees take responsibility



How do we handle conflicts?

Be happy when you come – and happy when you leave

No negative information in Messenger



Conflict management:
say two positive things
about one another.
Handle conflicts



What does it take to be a good leader?



Visible and accommodating



REMEMBER to acknowledge – there is always something good



Get to know your employees



Professional – close with distance

Have the energy



Pay attention to employees

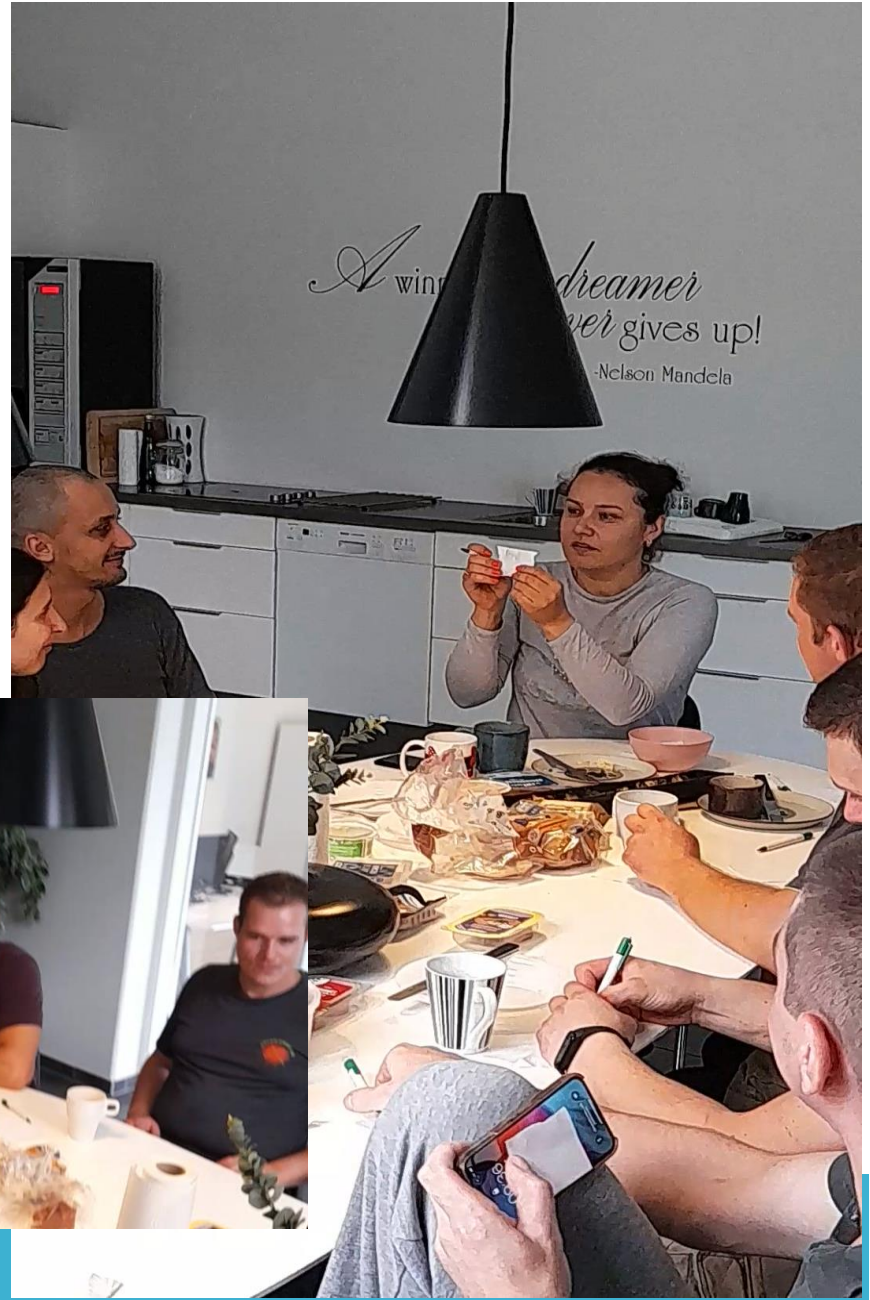
Unique employee = individual feedback

Have the energy

Day off after long days

Responsible for ensuring time off

Worker of the month



Biosecurity



Meals in canteen



Common food and meals



No phones – more talks

Social activities



Go kart



Cake "a job well done"



Carton of soda

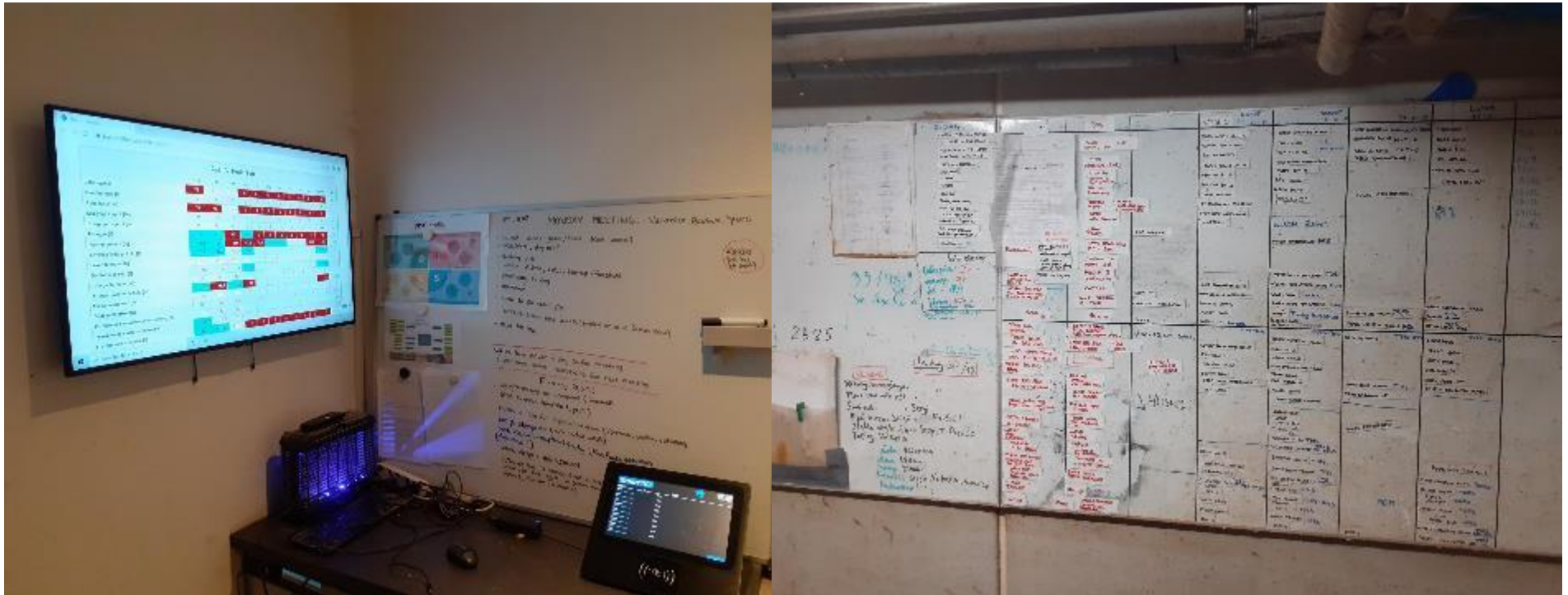


Acknowledge results



Modern workplace

Whiteboard and teammeeting



Need to and nice to



Staff can get what they ask for..



Such as new boots, or



Not a wishing well, but decide if needed

"A winner is a dreamer who never gives up"



If you can dream it –
You can do it

Piglet survival is about the small piglets!
But the success starts with the people taking
care of the piglets

A winner is a *dreamer*
who *never* gives up!
Nelson Mandela