

Robust breeds for organic pig production

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Ordinary breeds used in Denmark



x



Landrace

=

Yorkshire

LY/YL gilt

Ordinary breeds used in Denmark

LY/YL gilt

x



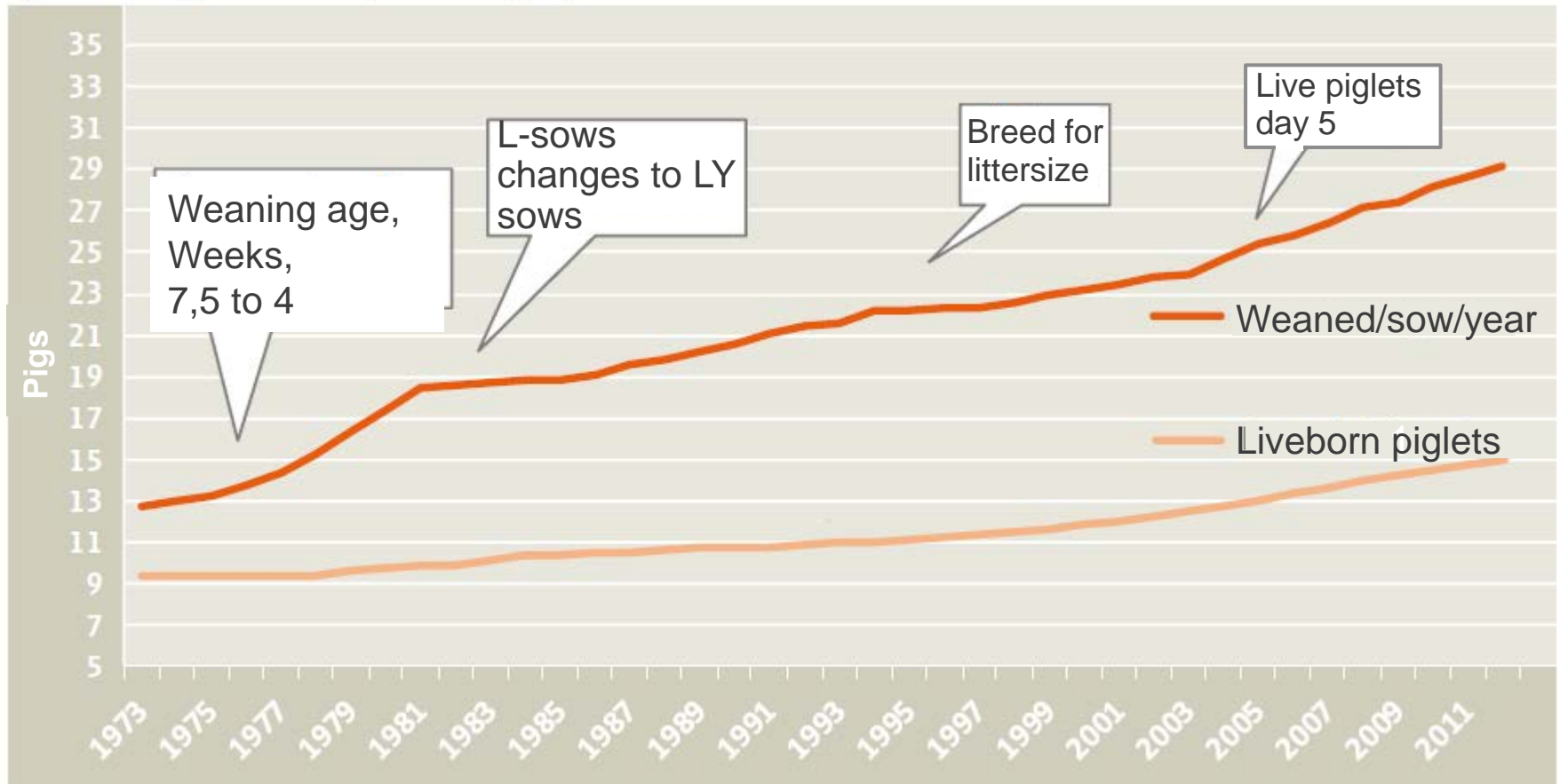
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Duroc

Finisher pig



Figur 1. Development liveborn and weaned piglets /sow/year



VIDENCENTER FOR SVINEPRODUKTION ARSBERETNING 2012



Intensive versus extensive conditions

	Intensive	Extensive
Frame	Inn door	Out door
Weaning age, days	30 - 35	49 - 52



Status for the organic production

- Litter size more than 20 is common
- Number of teats 12–14
- Dead in the lactating period higher than 20 %
- Litter equalization is practiced
- Still learning how to practice nursing sows...





Information about sow herds in other countries

- England - tradition for outdoor production/organic
- Sweden - Scandinavian example for organic prod.
often indoor
- Germany - tradition for organic – often indoor
- Netherlands - high efficiency - indoor
- Norway - although no tradition for organic/outdoor
interesting!



Demonstration test

1. English Saddleback x Danish Landrace = SL
Y x SL = finisher pig

2. English Duroc x Danish Landrace = DL
Y x DL = finisher pig



Demonstration test

	Sow SL	Sow DL	Av. DK organic LY
Number of litters	11	7	
Number of live born/litter	12,9	11,7	13,7
Number of weaned/litter	10,9	9,3	10,9
Number for slaughter	111	60	
% dead, lactating	15,5 *)	20,7	20
% dead, born to slaughter	21,8	26,8	

*) one litter had 6 dead because of *Clostridium perfringens* type C
calculating 10 litters the mortality was 8,5, %



Quality criteria

Carcass weight,	75,0 – 92,9
Meat content - total	56
Meat content - mid	59
Fat, lion, mm	10 – 22



Slaughter result – demonstration test

Genetic komb.	Number			
	Delivered,	Rejected,	With colour	Accepted, for highest price
Y x SL	111	1	3	41
Y x DL	60	1	0	39



Slaughter result

Genetic komb.	No.	Av. carcass weight, kg	Meat content			Pct. accepted for the high price
			Av.	Min.	Max	
Y x SL	106	82,9	55,1	48,0*)	60,6	38,7
Y x DL	52	82,6	57,8	51,5	63,6	75,0
D x LY, herd	1131					81,1



Farmers experience and judgment

- No difference in birth weight (visual)
- No difference in weaning weight (visual)
- The sows have had the same amount of feed – the SL and DL sows kept weight better than the YL

Especially the SL sows have a obvious different behaviour – they were very calm!



Farmers experience and judgment

- The weaned Y x DL had diarrhoea (33 %)
- The weaned Y x SL had no diarrhoea
- The weaned D x YL had “some diarrhoea”



Over all indications

Slaughter result were not satisfactory!

No difference in behaviour between DL sows and LY

The SL sows had a very different behaviour....
They were phlegmatic, easy to get along with
and spend more time outdoor than the other



Over all indications

The (Y)SL piglets were more robust:

- lower mortality in the lactating period
- no diarrhoea after weaning



Reflections

Saddleback is interesting – how far can we get if:

- they are selected for meat content?
Some had more than 60 %
- there only is 12,5 % S in the finisher?



Reflections

Should we:

- re-introduce Hampshire?
(high meat content – small litter size)
- Try something else?



New initiative

A group of farmers now import semen from Norway, because their breeding target include:

- Strong piglets that the sow can foster herself
- 12 piglets/13 kg or 13 piglets/12 kg at day 32
- High milk yield, 16 teats, strong legs
- Slowed down the priority of litter size (2008)



New initiative

The organic pig production is not a big issue in Norway, but:

- The have loose housing farrowing sows
- No tail docking

Which makes it interesting to try to implement in Denmarkresults will follow.....



The Rapport is to be found here:

- www.Landbrugsinfo
- /Økologi
- /Svin
- /Svinehåndbog, pkt. 9.7

.....only in Danish...I am sorry.....

What's up – what's down....?

