

# Leg and hoof injuries

What do the best farms do?

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# Danvet Research: Interview of 13 of the best farms

- Low percent
- High management
- Gestation period
- Feeding strategy
- Sick-round in
- Hoof trimming
- Handling and treatment when the injury has occurred

## Gestation system

Transponder: 2/13 (stable groups)

Box per sow: 5/13

Floor feeding: 4/13

Wet feed long trough: 2/13

The image shows a stack of research forms. The top form is a checklist with several questions in Danish, such as 'Er der brug for transponder?' and 'Er der brug for boks?' Below the checklist is a table with multiple rows and columns, likely for recording data from the interviews.

# Hoof trimming and wound treatment

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ALL herds perform wound treatment and systematic hoof trimming

- Specific time of the day = prioritized task

Entry into farrowing unit (primarily)

Week before weaning

Once a week

Once every 14 days



# Strict slaughter strategy

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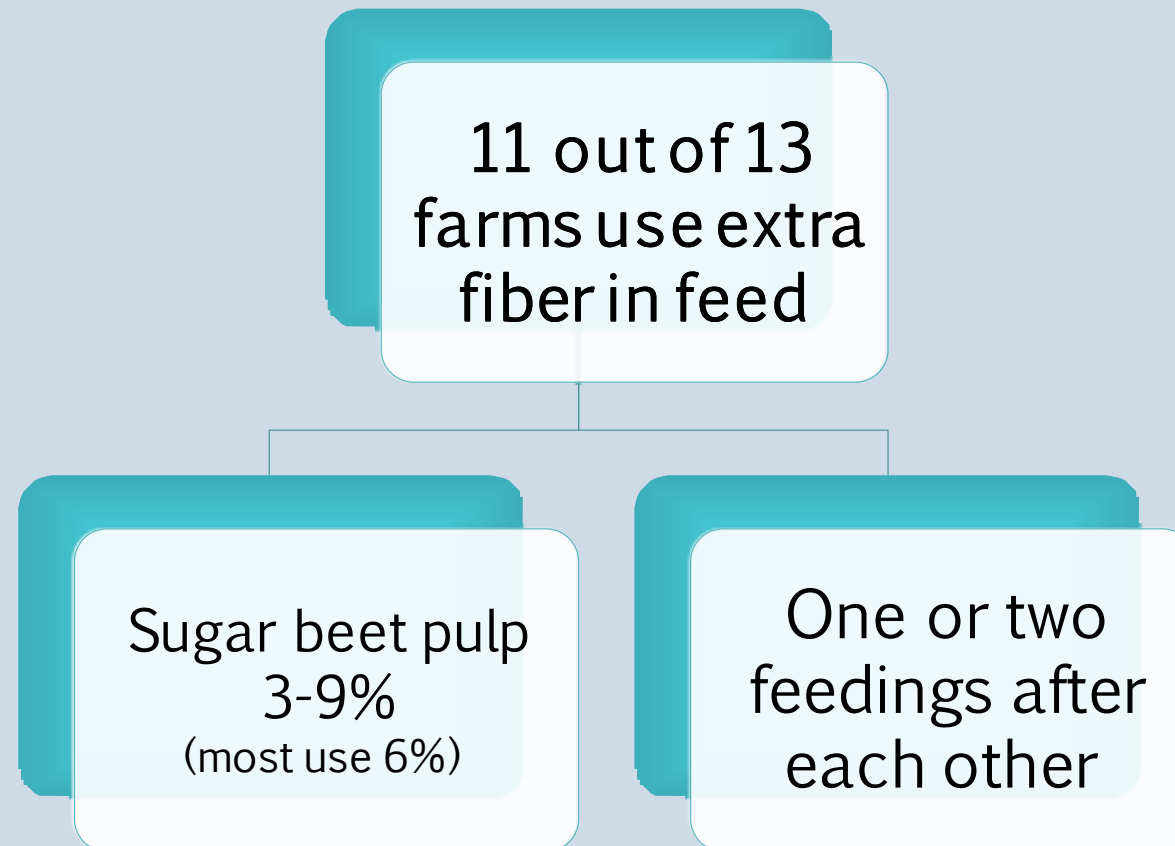
Top-performing herds slaughter risk animals early

- Max parity (5.-7.læg)
- Healed leg or hoof injury from sick pen
- Repeated hoof trimming
- Gilts with bad leg conformation or movement



# Feeding in the gestation barn

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# Mixing in the gestation barn

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# Mixing in the gestation barn

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ALL herds considered the risk animals

- Gilts alone or with young sows (11/13)
- Gilts moved the day before sows (2/13)
- Feed ration before and right after moving (13/13)
- Non-slippery slats and solid floor (13/13)  
(wash, scrape away shit, drying bedding materials)
- Marking of risk animals = more focus at sick rounds (3/13)



# Sick-round in gestation barn

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- High priority work task  
= same time, ALSO weekends
- Always when feeding  
(not transponder)
- Early detection of lameness  
and/or injury  
(skilled employees!)



# Treatment strategies

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**Front and hind leg lameness:** Penicillin 3 days + pain killer (12/13)



**Hoof lesions:** Tetracyclin 3 days + pain killer (11/13)

- Footbath
- Peroxide spray or another spray daily



**Acute broken nail:**

- Spray + attention/marking
- Footbath
- Tetracyclin or Penicillin for 3 days + pain killer



Effect evaluation after 2-3 days

## Summary – what makes a difference

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Gilts should be kept separate OR moved the day before

Gestation unit: non-slippery floor is essential

Systematic hoof trimming and wound treatment

Consistent slaughter of high-risk animals

Serious and proactive sick-rounds in gestation

Extra fiber in gestation feed