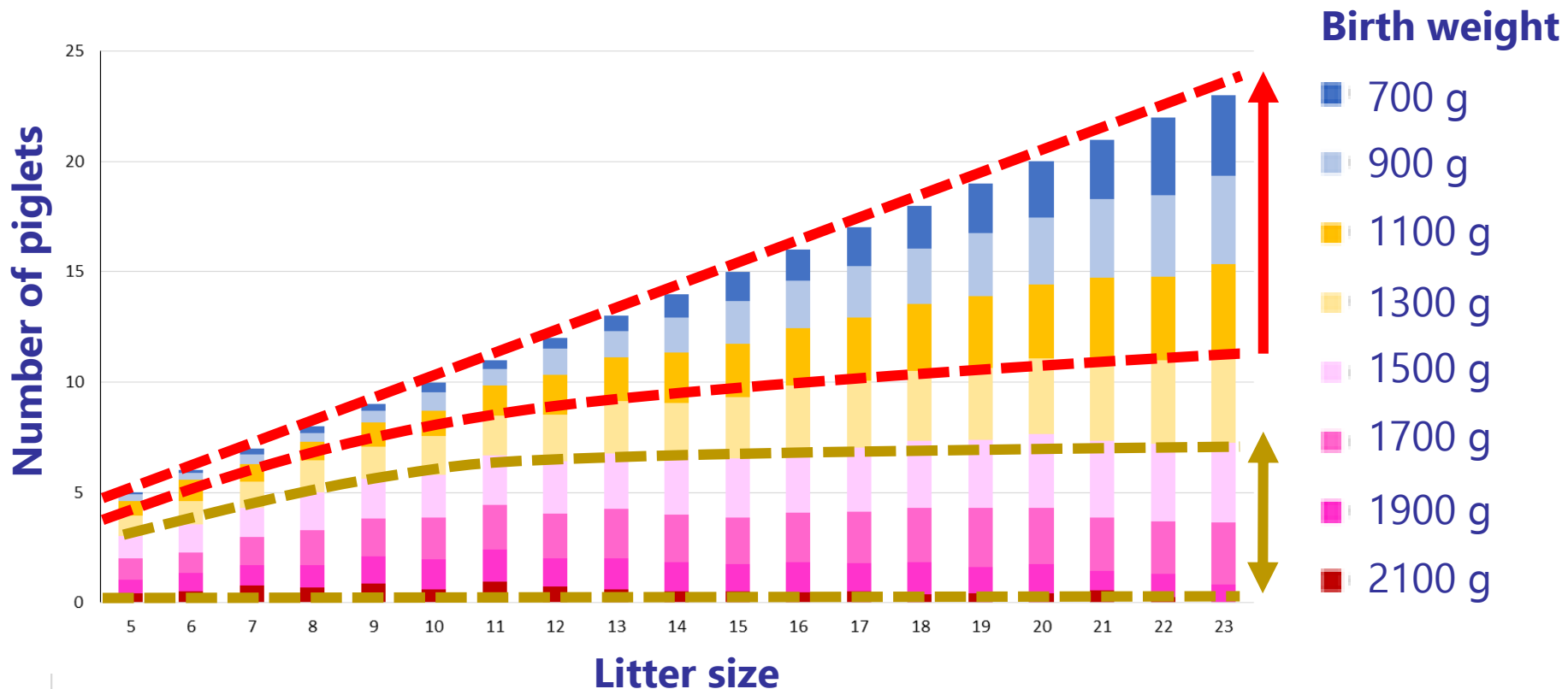


# New insights in dietary control of post-weaning diarrhea

Francesc Molist, PhD, DVM

# Genetic development sow - consequences

➤ Bigger litters → more piglets with a low birth weight (<1100 g)



# Types of feed piglets encounter in their life



Colostrum  
The first 24 hours



Milk replacer



Weaning



# Pre-weaning

- Important colostrum intake.
- Long-lasting effects are due to different programming of the gut immune system. What are the long lasting effect of modifying the gut microbiota?
- Creep feed supplementation as early as possible.
- Develop an stable microbiota and oral tolerance & a robust GIT.
- Minimize the negative effects associated with weaning.
- Role of complex diets vs. simple diets pre-weaning is poorly understood.

# Development of the gut microbiota: interventions via de sow and/or via pre-weaning diet(s)



SIMPLE AND UNSTABLE COMMUNITY

COMPLEX AND STABLE COMMUNITY

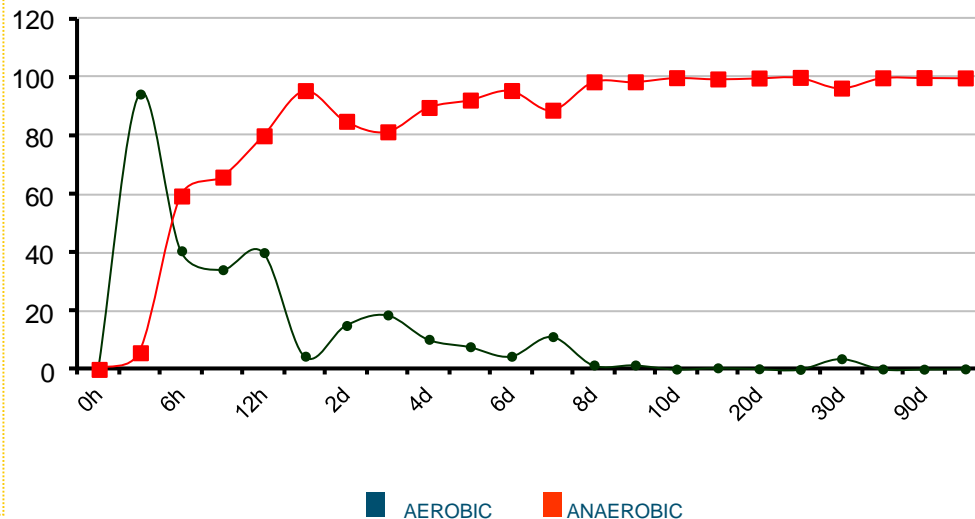
ANAEROBIC  
↑  
ANAEROBIC FACULTATIVE

STERILE GIT

Vagina

Feces

Farm



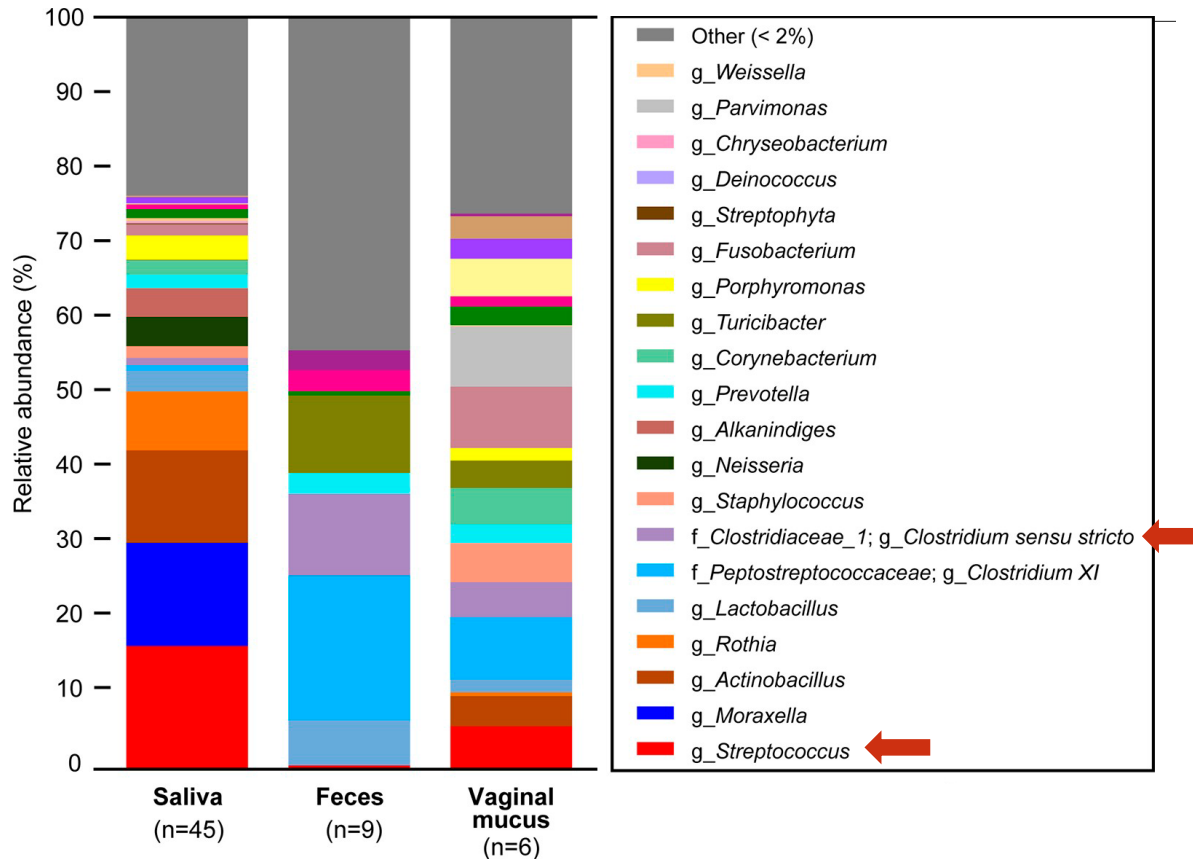
>500 different species

ANAEROBIC  
99%

90 % Gram +  
10 % Gram -

Swords, 1993

# Composition of bacteria in the sows



Probably we need different strategies to reduce *S. suis* problems vs. Clostridium neonatal diarrheas

# Feeding strategies in pre-weaning diets



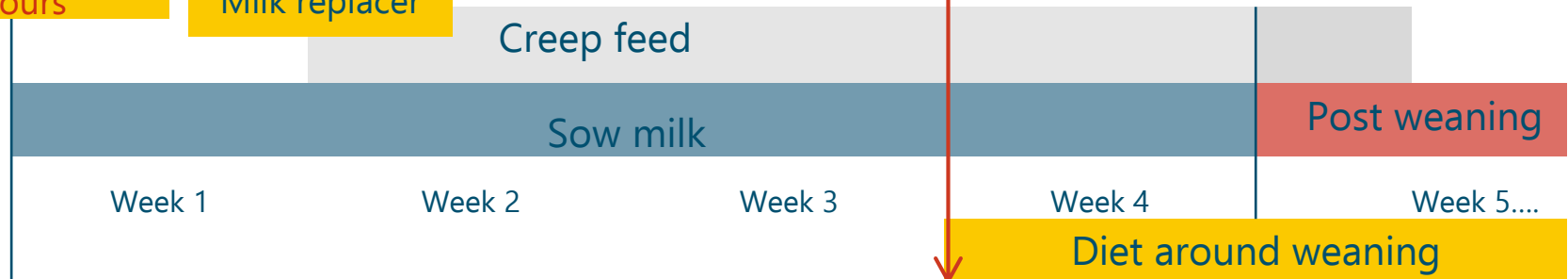
Colostrum  
The first 24 hours



Milk replacer

Focus on developing microbiota and innate immune system > **Role for prebiotics via milk replacer or creep feed?**

Focus on having a robust GIT and preparing the piglets for the weaning period > **Role complex vs. simple diets**

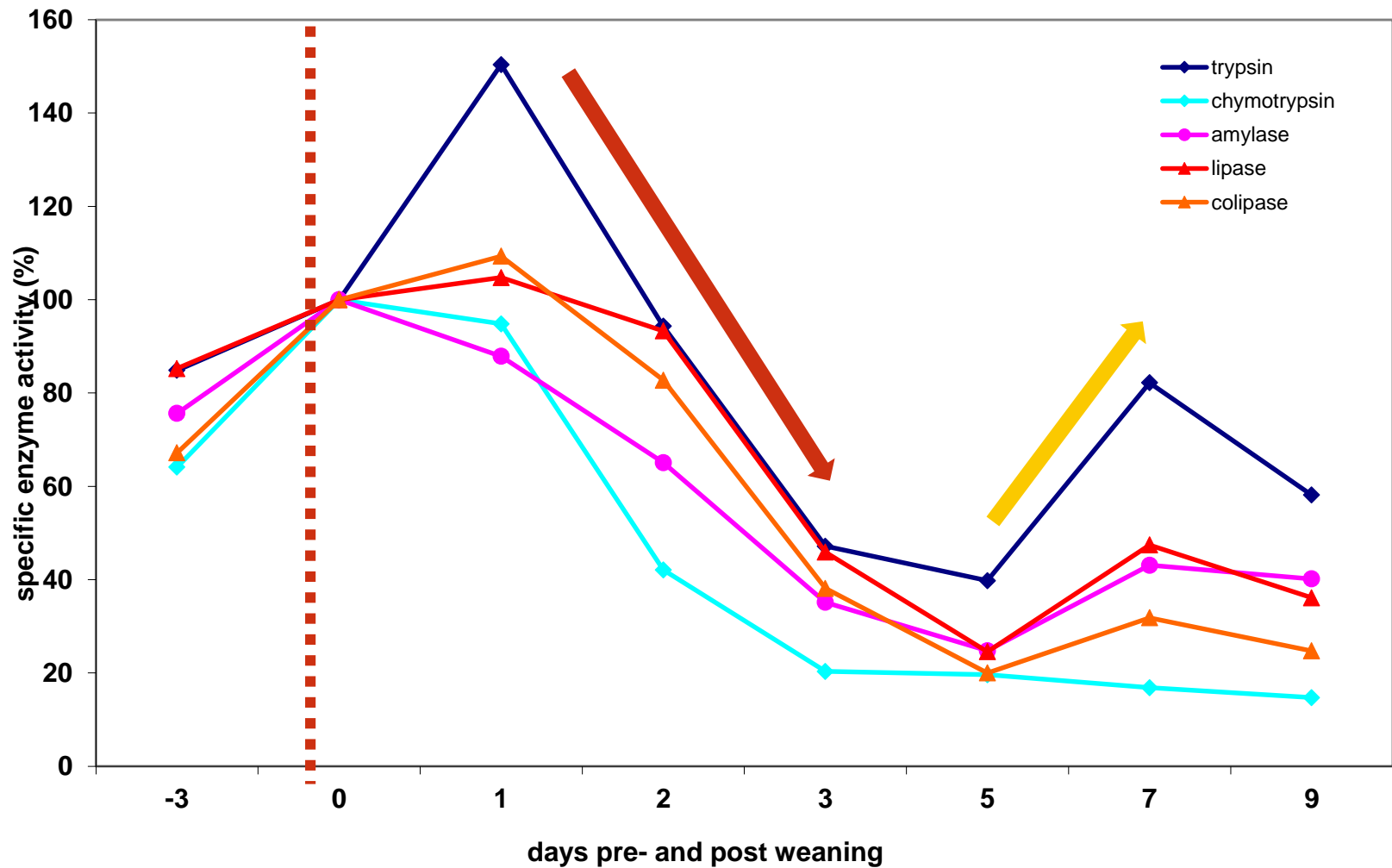


# Post-weaning

- Important feed intake with control of substrate.
- Phase feeding with nutrient adaptations can help to minimize the risk factors.
- Important management to reduce stress.
- Better knowledge nutrition and vaccination.
- Better understanding substrate – bacteria interactions.
- Animals should remain healthy and then they should grow

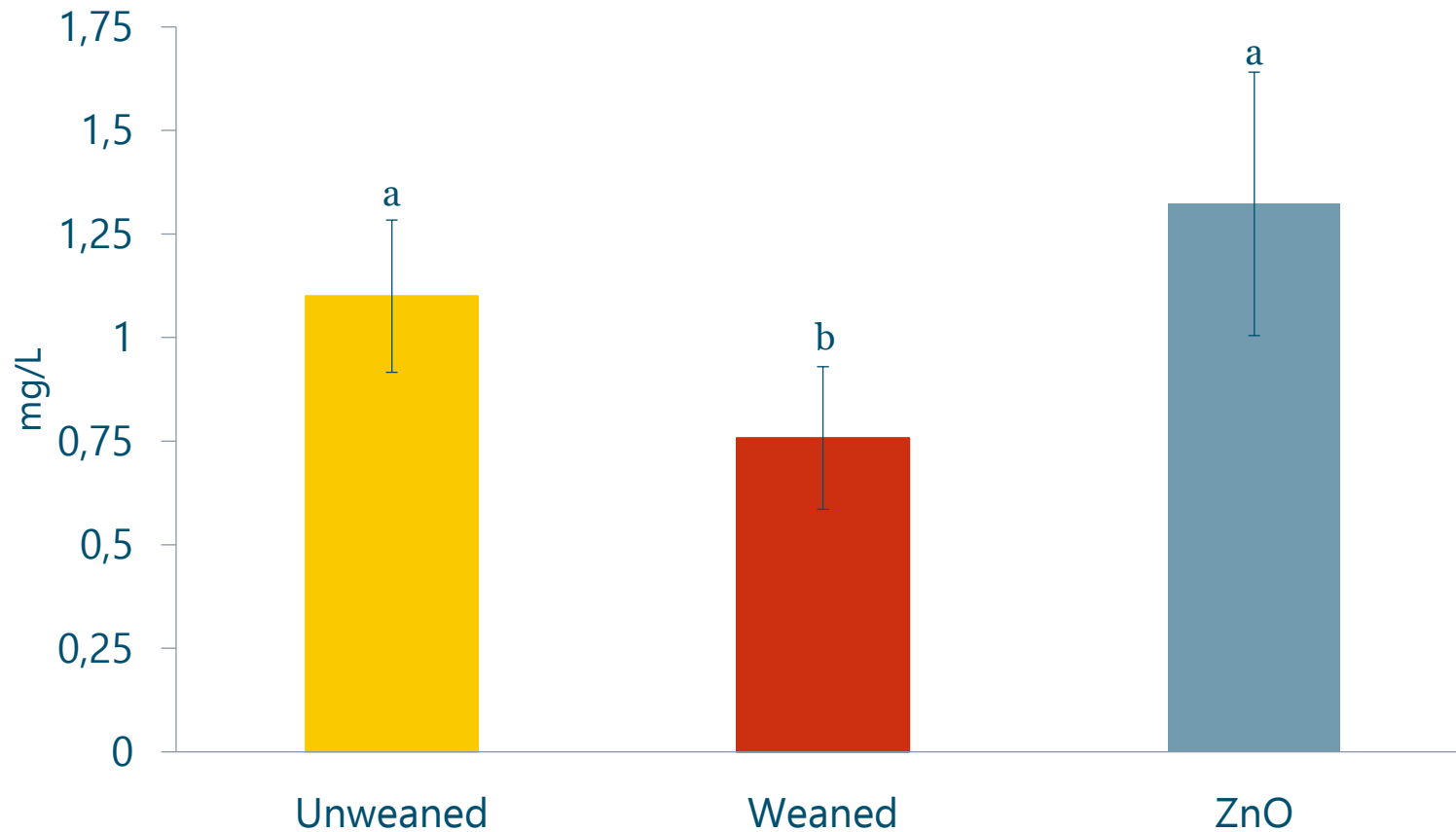


# PW effect on pancreas enzymes



Hedemann, 2004

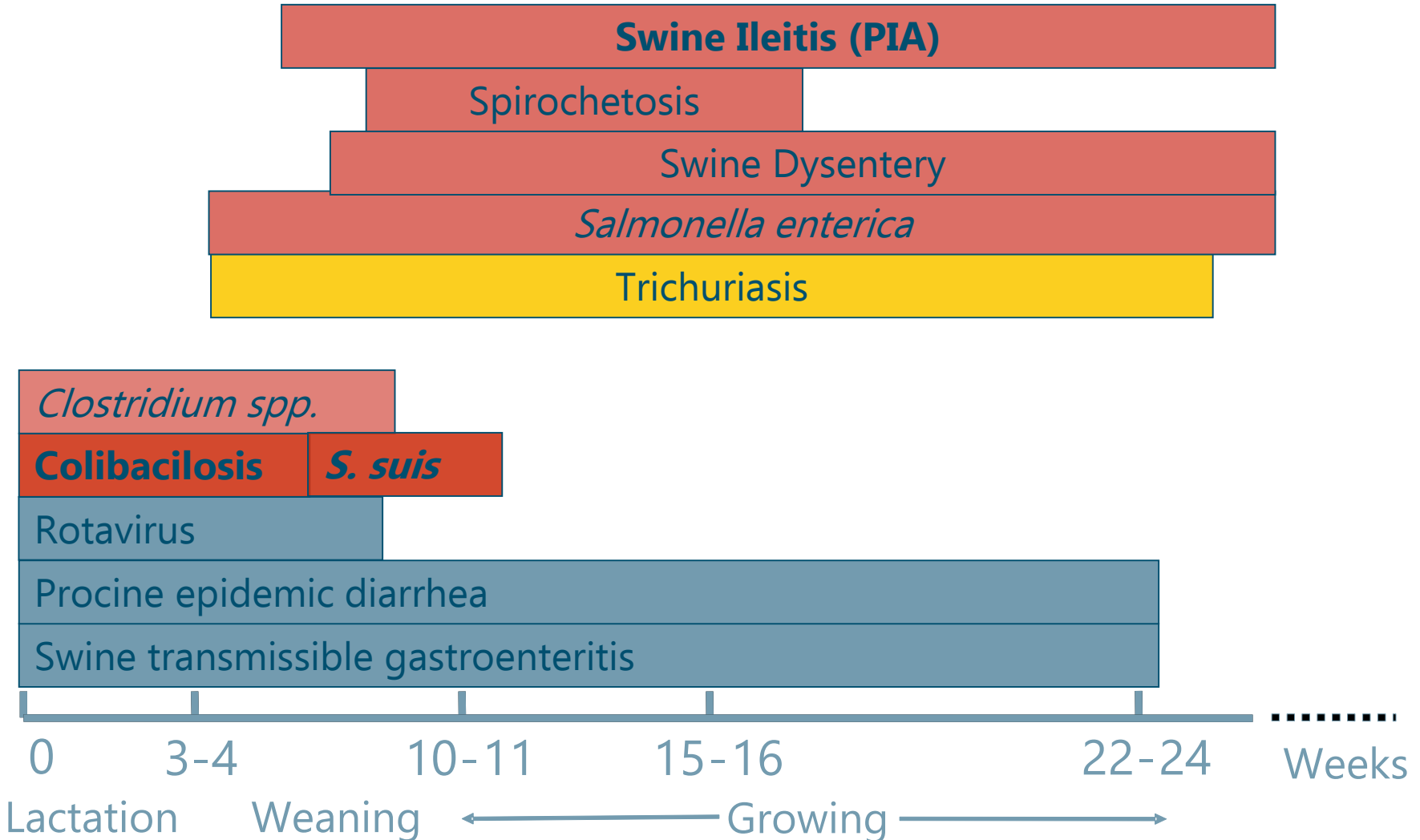
# Zn concentration in Plasma at 28 d of life



Davin et al., 2018

- Weaning creates a deep in the Zn plasma levels.
- Supplementation of 2000 ppm of ZnO was the only solution to keep Zn plasma levels high. What means this?

# Current gut health challenges in the pig industry





WEANING

20 DAYS

5 - 10 days

5-10 days

ACUTE PHASE

MATURATION PHASE

- Anorexia & intestinal stasis
- Malabsorption & absorption
- **PW diarrhea (PWD)**
- Intestinal inflammation
- Intestinal damage

- Feed intake
- Nutrient absorption
- **Excess nutrients increase the risk of *S. suis***
- Reduced immune system activity

# How we can help the piglets to have a good start?

## MODIFIERS OF THE MICROBIOTA OF THE GIT



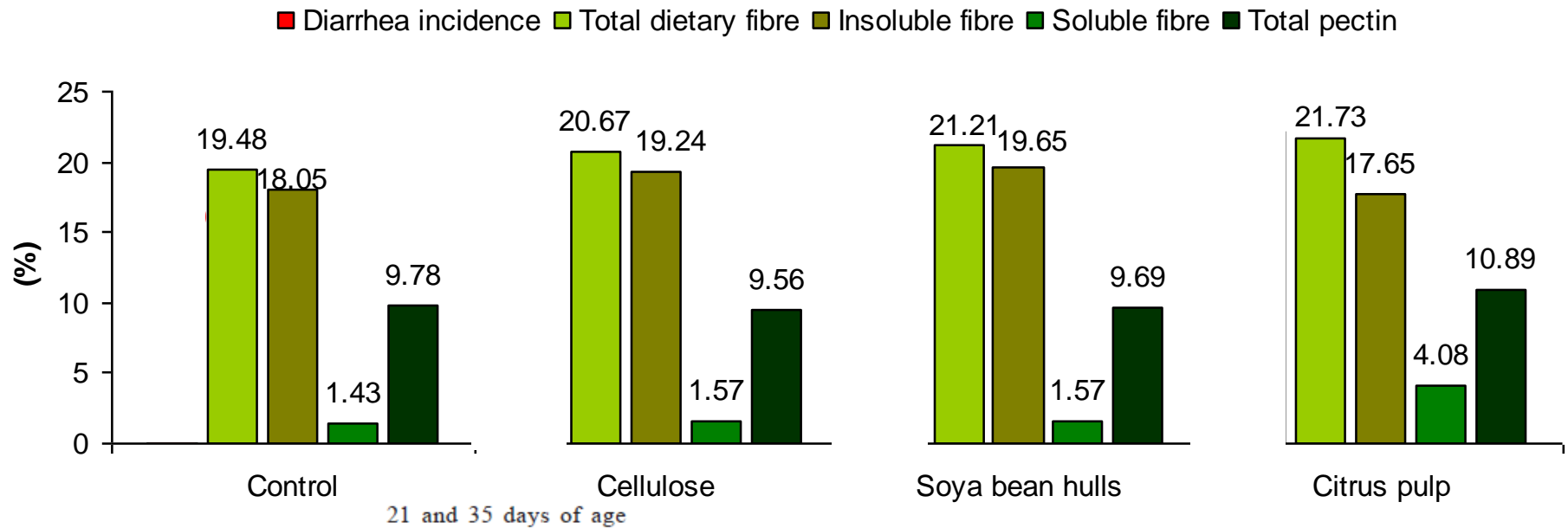
- Acidifiers
- Prebiotics
- Probiotics
- Symbiotics
- Plant extracts
- Minerals: ZnO & Cu
- Dietary fibre
- Low CP diet
- Role of fat

## PROMOTERS OF FOOD CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION ENHANCERS



- Palatable ingredients
- Digestible ingredients
- Flavours
- Synthetic amino acids

## Effect of diet composition on diarrhea incidence the first 2 weeks PW

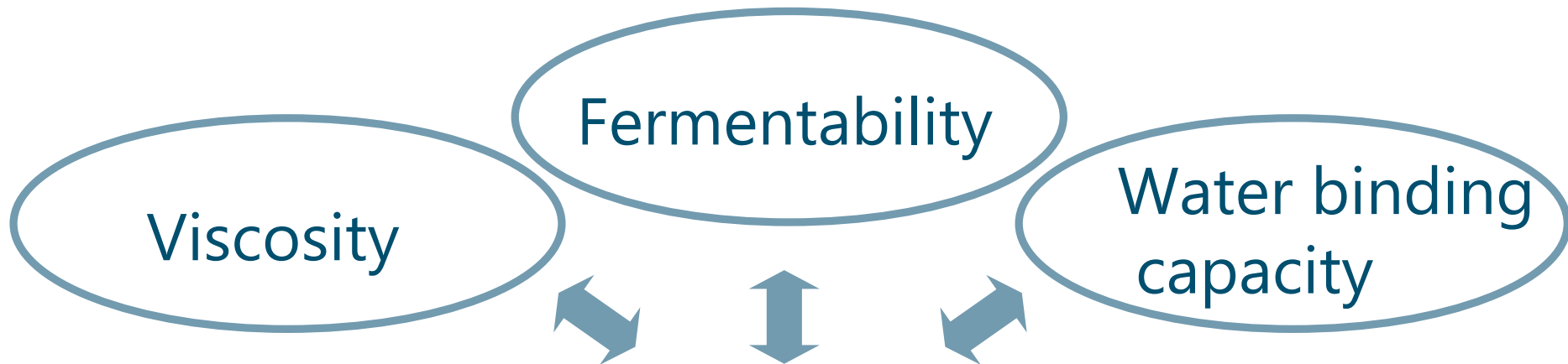


	C	CEL	SH	CP
Corn	47.13	45.09	44.19	38.73
Soybean meal	29.63	29.98	29.49	29.32
Milk product <sup>2</sup>	17.14	17.14	17.14	17.14
Soybean oil	1.48	1.96	1.86	1.62
Citrus pulp	-	-	-	9.00
Soybean hulls	-	-	3.00	-
Purified cellulose	-	1.50	-	-

**The analytical characterization does not predict the functional effect of fibre ingredients in piglets.**

Fonseca et al., 2012

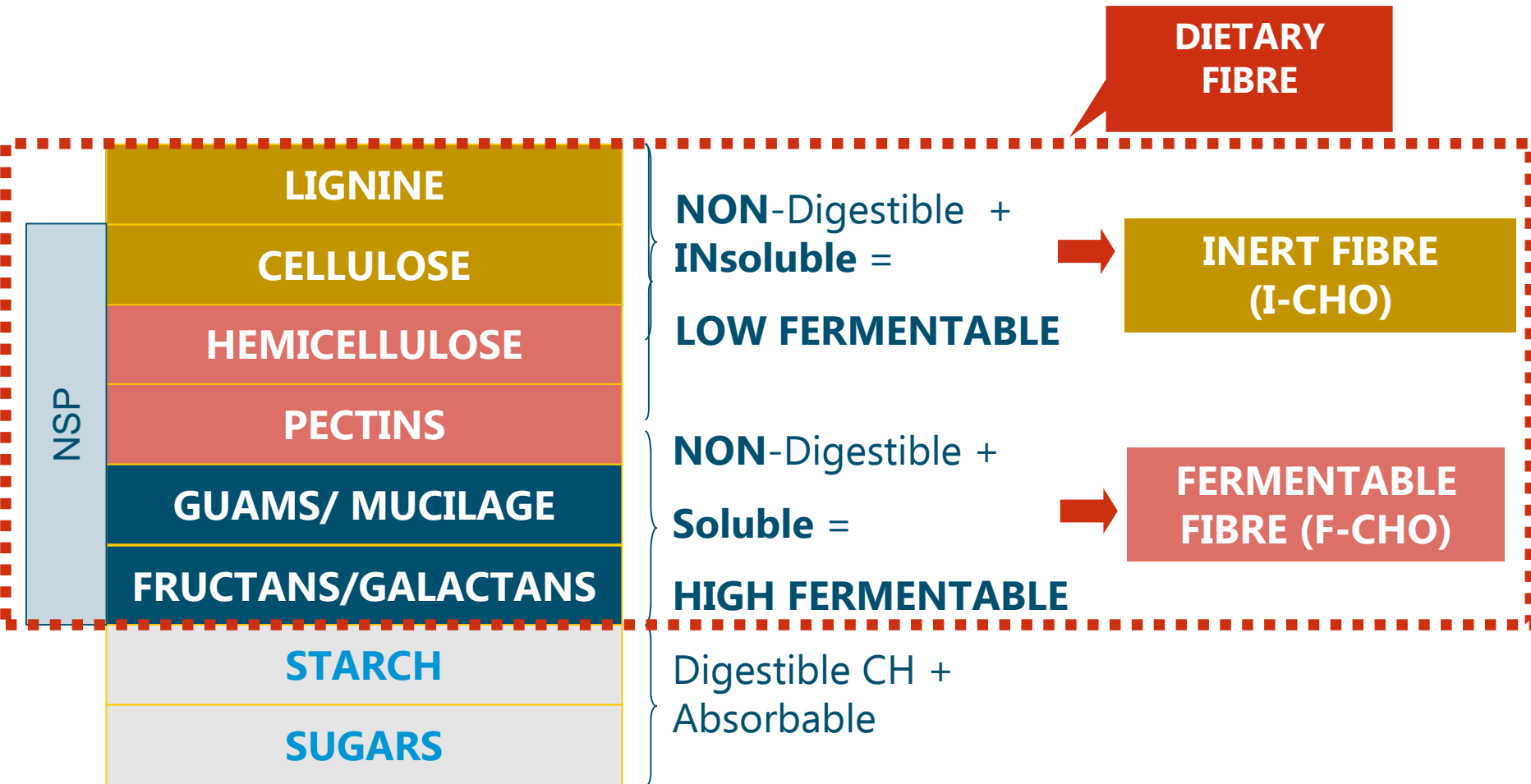
# What is the role of fibre in PW diets?



Gives functionality of fibre ingredients a better characterization?



# Fermentability & Solubility





# Fermentability & Solubility

OAT HULLS  
STRAW  
WHEAT BRAN (WB)  
RICE HULLS  
SUNFLOWER HULLS

**INERT FIBRE**

SOYBEAN HULLS

**RAPID FERMENTABLE**

CITRUS PULP  
OLIGOSACCHARIDES  
INULIN

**FERMENTABLE FIBRE**

SUGAR BEET PULP (SBP)  
RESISTANT STARCH

**SLOWER FERMENTABLE**

**STARCH**

Digestible CH + Absorbable

**SUGARS**

# Fermentability & Solubility

Is the inclusion of inert fibre better than fermentable fibre in PW diets?



## INERT FIBRE

- Improve digestive function
- Modifies microbiota GIT
- Enhances microbial fermentation
- Reduces nutrient digestibility
- Penalizes animal performance

## FERMENTABLE FIBRE

- Slows gastric emptying
- Proximal fermentation in the hindgut
- Increases luminal viscosity



## Diet composition

**Fermentable (x3)**

**Inert (x1)**

**Table 1. Formulation and chemical composition of the experimental diets<sup>1</sup>**

Item	Experimental diet			
	Phase I		Phase II	
	Control I	Fiber I	Control II	Fiber II
<b>Ingredient, g/kg (as-fed basis)</b>				
Wheat	225	198	350	303
Corn	200	175	200	172
Barley	120	105	150	129
Soybean meal (48% CP)	240	230	250	230
Dried whey	150	150	-	-
Dehydrated sugar beet pulp	-	60	-	90
Soybean hulls	-	20	-	30
Vegetable oil	25	25	10	10
Dicalcium phosphate	10	9.8	11.2	11.5
Calcium carbonate	11.3	9	11.2	7.3
L-Lys-HCl	5.6	5.2	4.6	4.2
DL-Met	2.7	2.7	1.6	1.6
L-Thr	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.9
L-Trp	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.4
Salt	2	2	4	4
Premix <sup>1</sup>	5	5	5	5
3-phytase <sup>2</sup>	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Calculated composition, g/kg DM</b>				
NE, MJ/kg	10.4	10.0	9.8	9.3
Digestible Lys	13.0	12.5	11.6	10.9
Digestible P	3.8	3.7	3.2	3.1
<b>Chemical composition, g/kg DM</b>				
Ash	64.5	64.9	58.8	60.1
CP (N × 6.25)	219.1	212.3	220.2	213.0
Ether extract	47.2	46.0	31.6	32.2
Starch	381.5	341.5	488.8	425.9
GE, MJ/kg	18.77	18.65	18.55	18.41
Crude fiber	32.5	48.9	35.8	63.9
NDF	109.6	112.5	122.3	153.2
ADF	34.6	50.1	39.3	69.0
ADL	2.1	8.6	3.9	9.9
Total dietary fiber	120.9	169.1	145.8	216.8
Water insoluble fiber	102.6	140.7	122.7	186.1

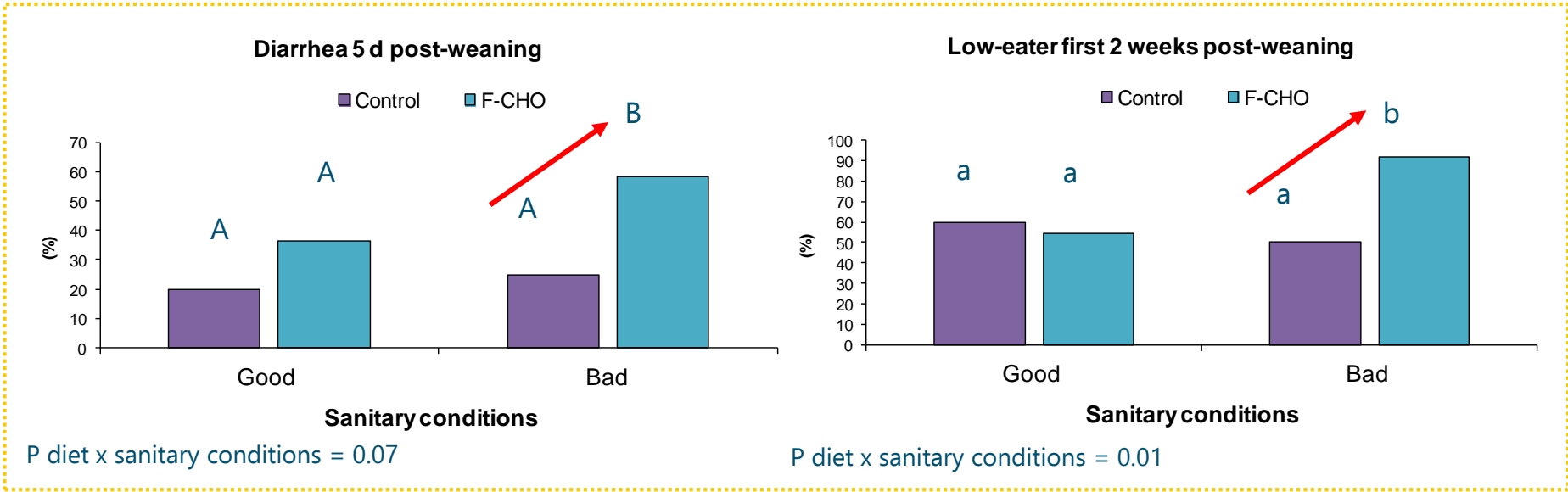
### 2x2 Experimental design:

- **Level of F-CHO:** high and low
- **Sanitary conditions:** good and bad

Montagne et al., 2012

# Fermentability & Solubility

## Interaction between F-CHO and health status of the animals

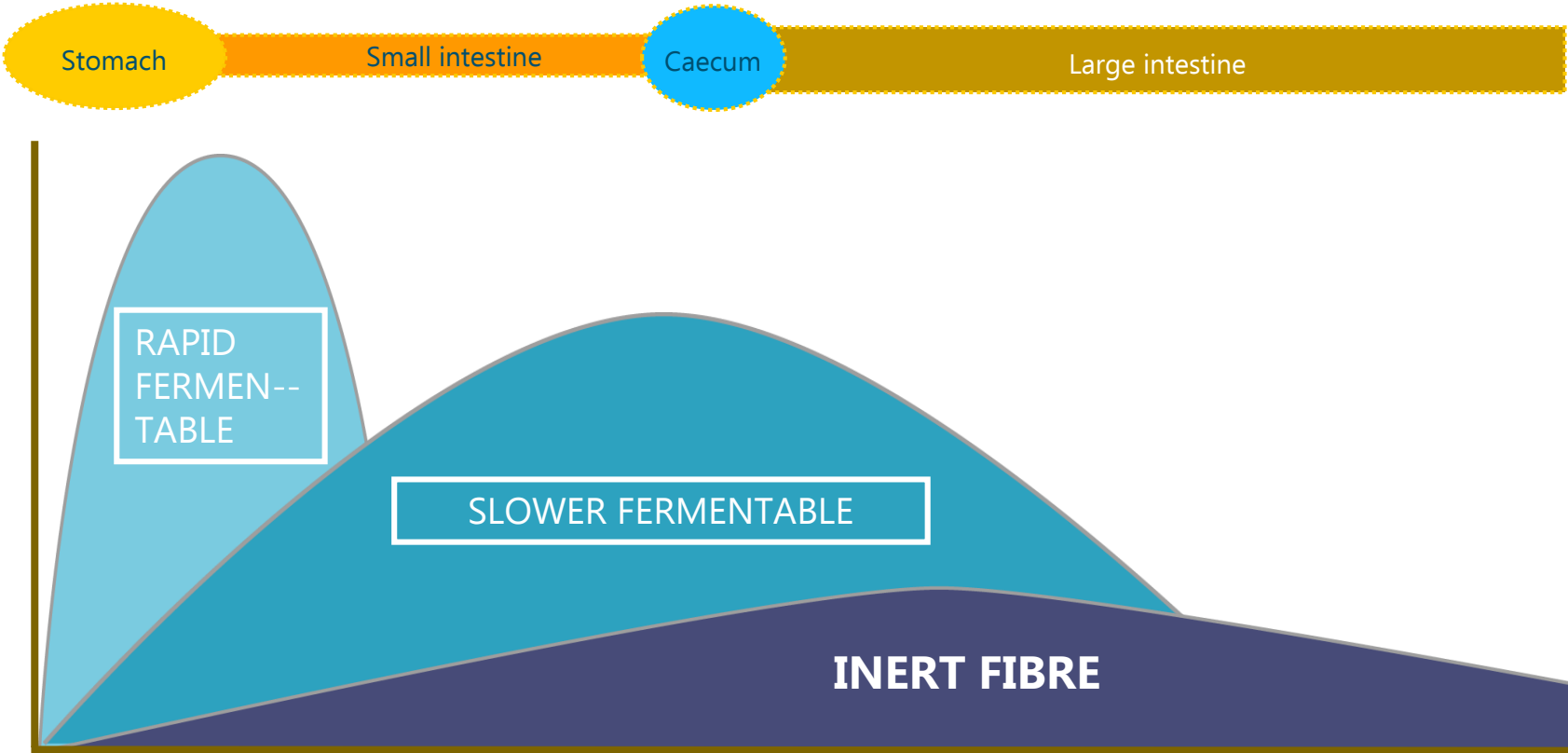


Montagne et al., 2012

**In situations with bad sanitary conditions, the utilization of F-CHO sources in the first week post-weaning is an additional risk factor**

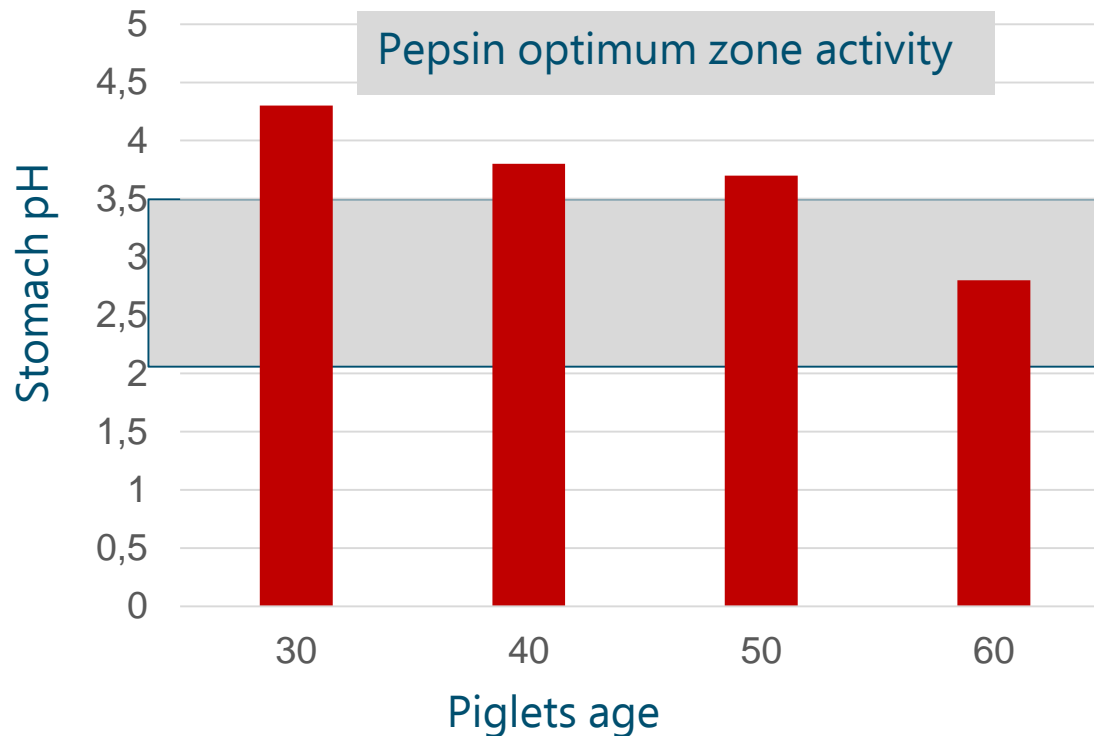
# FERMENTATION KINETICS

## Piglets need a fully developed GIT to ferment fibre ingredients



# Protein digestion and stomach pH in piglets

pH variation in de stomach of a piglet



- Piglets younger than 60 days have difficulties to acidify stomach pH

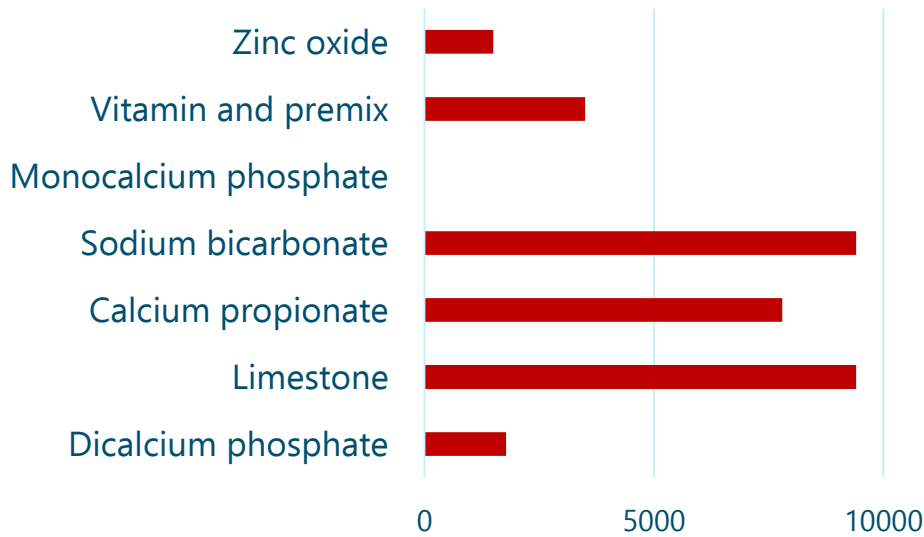
# Acid binding capacity (ABC)

The Acid Binding Capacity – ABC) is the amount of acid or base (in mEq) required to change the pH to a certain value. This is usually pH 4, which results in the **ABC-4 value**

Higher ABC-4 = higher buffer capacity

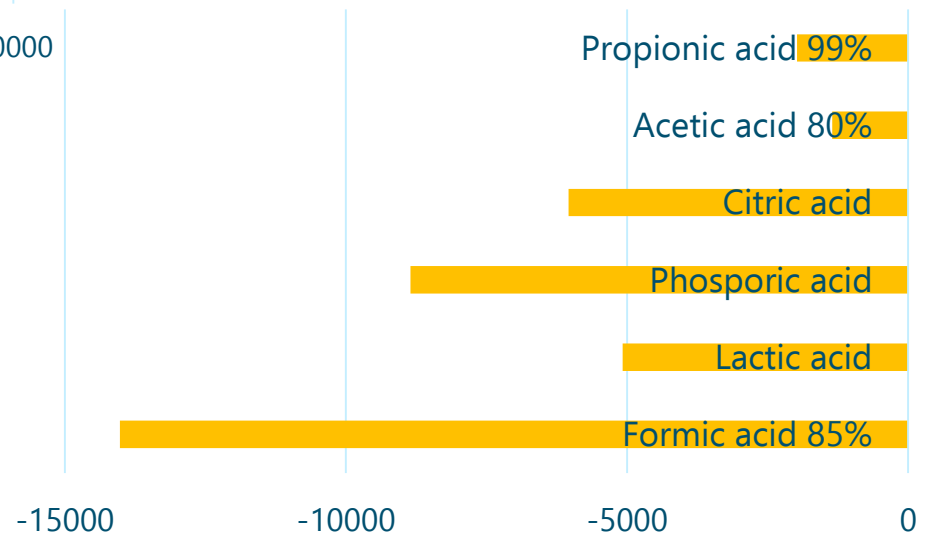
- Energy (starch and fat): little influence on ABC-4
- Crude protein sources: strong impact on ABC-4: high buffering capacity > control CP level in piglets!
- Minerals: strong impact on ABC-4: high buffering capacity
- Organic acids: strong impact on ABC-4: reduce pH

# Acid binding capacity (mEq/kg)



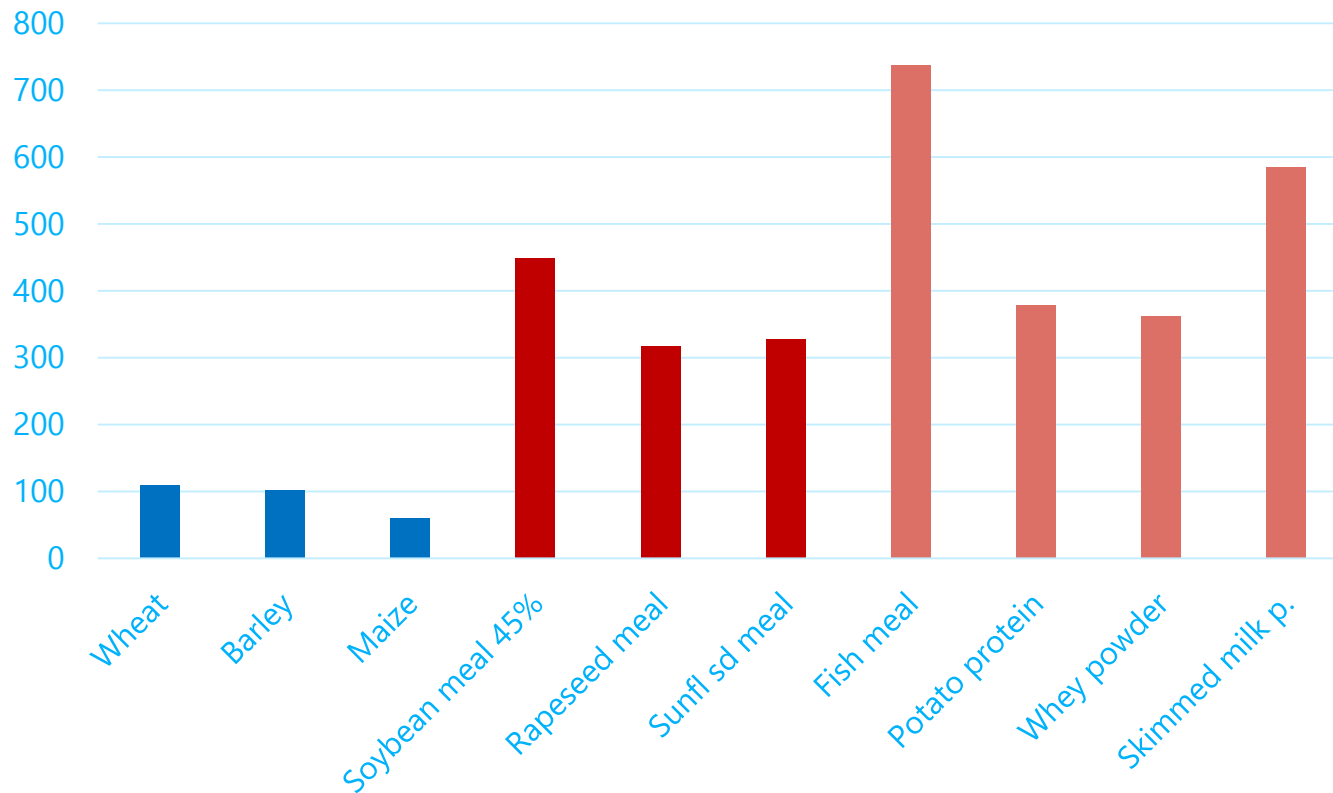
Minerals have a large impact on the ABC. Therefore, reduce minerals that will have a negative impact on the pH in the stomach (high ABC-4 value)

Organic acids will help to reduce the pH in the stomach (acidifying effect)





# Acid binding capacity (ABC, mEq/kg)



Protein sources have a higher impact on the ABC than grains

# Protein source and age of piglet

- Protein digestibility of different feedstuffs in piglets (weaned at 12 days of age)
- Factors influencing **digestibility**:
  - Enzyme production
  - Fermentation capacity

	Age of the piglets (wks)		
	3.5	4.5	5.5
Milkpowder	93	94	95
Soycomil	85	87	88
SBM	78	84	86
Fishmeal	86	89	91
Potato protein	87	-	91

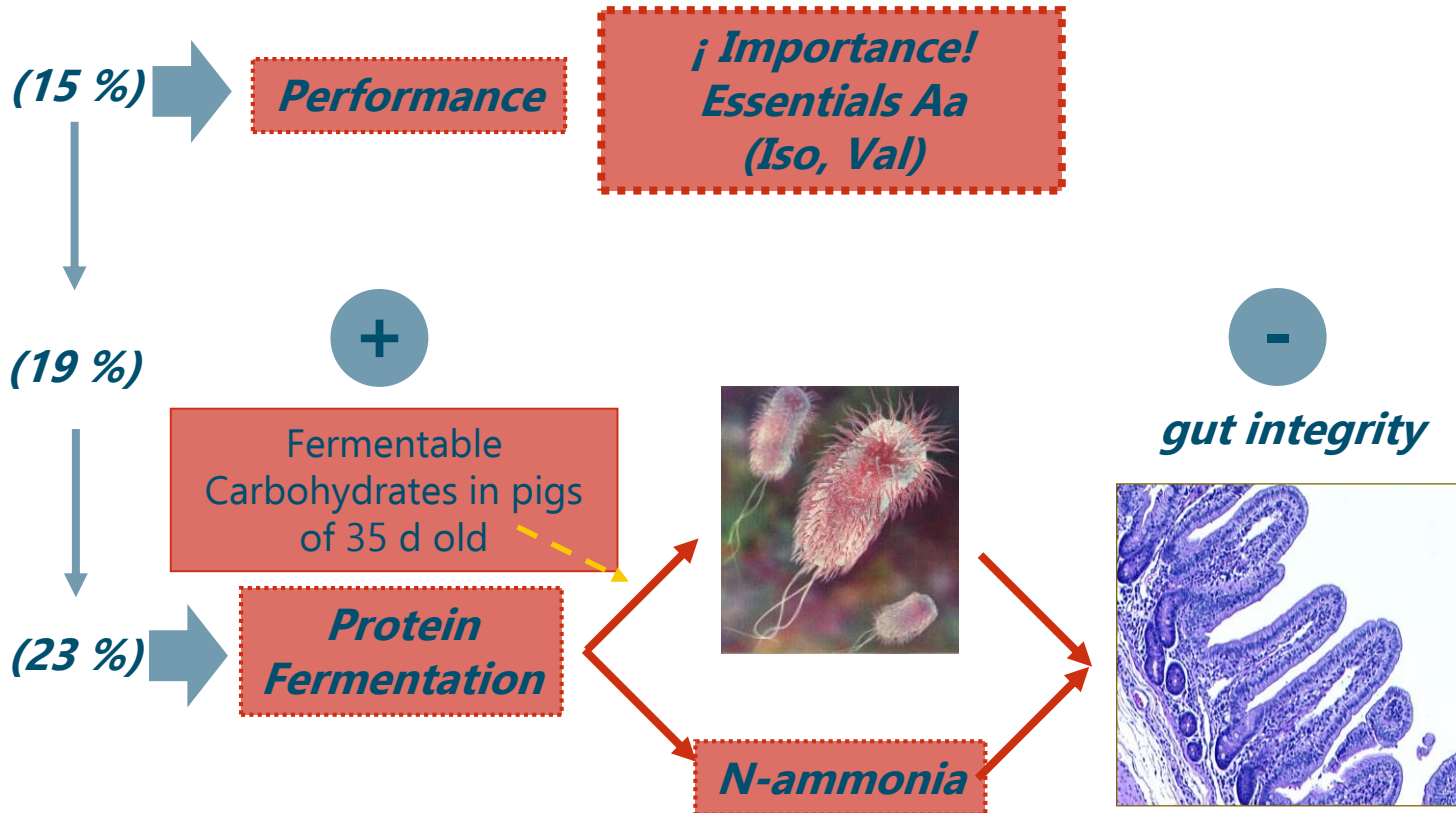
Borggreve, et al., 1982

The older the animal > the higher the protein digestibility  
Digestibility vegetable protein sources is lower, especially in case of ANF

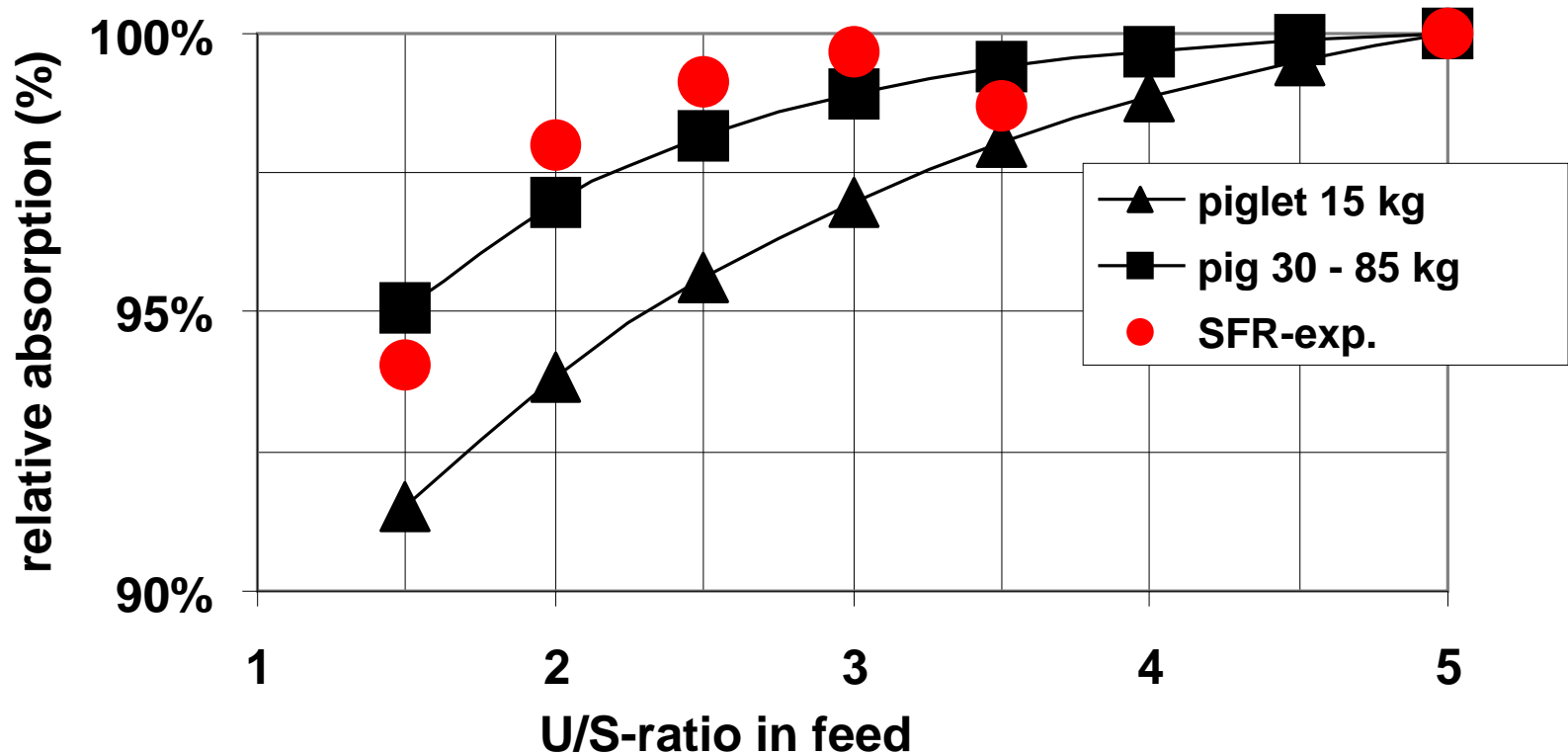
# Fiber & CP fermentation



Level  
of protein



# Effect of U:S-ratio on fat digestibility (according to Wiseman et. al. and Schothorst experiment)



# MCFA's- Intestinal health

Treatment	Stomach				Duodenum			
	Total	<i>Lactobacilli</i>	<i>Streptococci</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	Total	<i>Lactobacilli</i>	<i>Streptococci</i>	<i>E. coli</i>
A	7.0 <sup>a</sup>	7.2 <sup>ac</sup>	4.2 <sup>a</sup>	4.6 <sup>a</sup>	6.4 <sup>a</sup>	6.9	1.6 <sup>a</sup>	4.9 <sup>a</sup>
B	7.0 <sup>ac</sup>	7.6 <sup>a</sup>	0.6 <sup>b</sup>	0.8 <sup>bc</sup>	6.1 <sup>a</sup>	6.8	0.0 <sup>a</sup>	4.8 <sup>a</sup>
C	5.9 <sup>b</sup>	6.6 <sup>bc</sup>	5.3 <sup>a</sup>	2.0 <sup>b</sup>	5.6 <sup>b</sup>	5.9	4.7 <sup>b</sup>	1.8 <sup>b</sup>
D	6.9 <sup>ac</sup>	7.3 <sup>a</sup>	5.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	5.9 <sup>a</sup>	6.4	4.7 <sup>b</sup>	1.8 <sup>b</sup>
S.E.M.	0.13	0.13	0.48	0.48	0.13	0.19	0.54	0.51

a,b,c: different superscripts in the same column denote significant differences at least  $P < 0.05$ .

Dierick et al., 2002

- A: control feed (incl. 2.5% soya oil)
- B: control feed + 2.5% MCFA - C8 and C10 (instead of soya oil)
- C: feed B + lipase
- D: Control feed met 1.5% organic acids

# Take home message pre-weaning

Focus on developing microbiota and innate immune system

Focus on having a robust GIT and preparing the piglets for the weaning period



Colostrum  
The first 24 hours



Milk replacer

Creep feed

Sow milk

Weaning

Post weaning

Week 1

Week 2

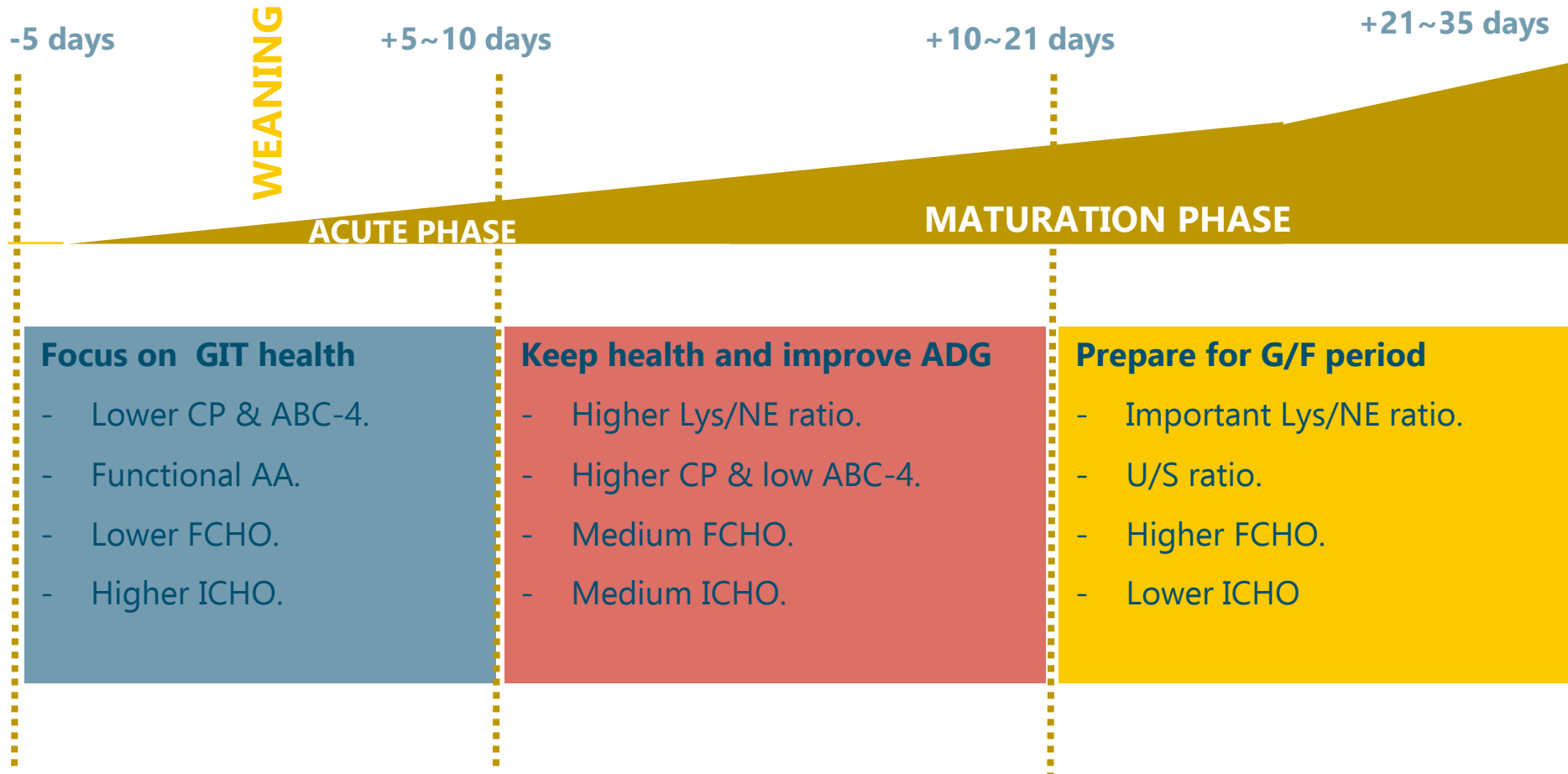
Week 3

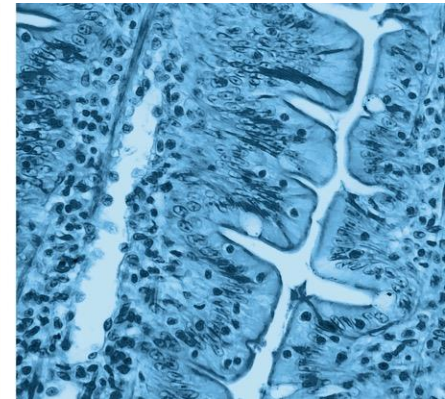
Week 4

Week 5....

Diet around weaning

# Take home message post-weaning





**Thank you for your attention**

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