



Suckling piglets and haemoglobin

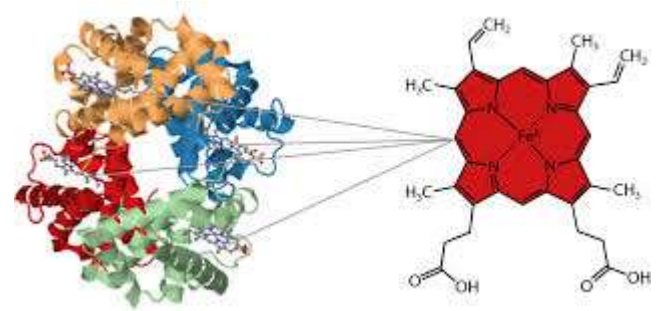
Can it be raised?

Årsmøde Vet-Team 12.11.19

What is haemoglobin?



- ▶ A protein in red blood cells – needs iron
- ▶ Transport of oxygen in the body



Low haemoglobin



- ▶ Anaemia = pale
- ▶ Reduced growth
- ▶ Susceptible for infections
- ▶ "Heavy breathing"
- ▶ Raised mortality

- ▶ One of the causes can be lack of iron



Haemoglobin at weaning and growth

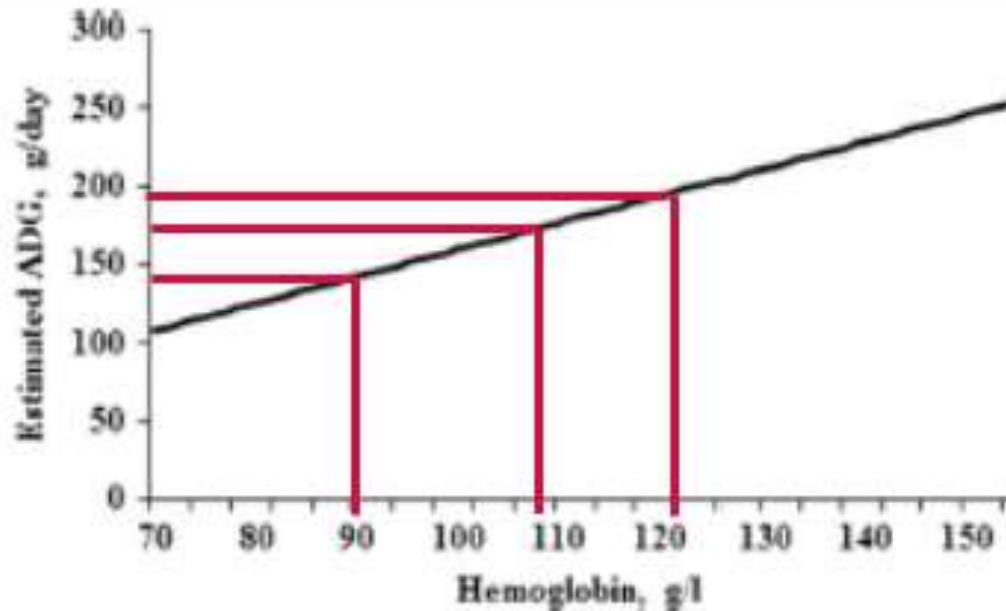
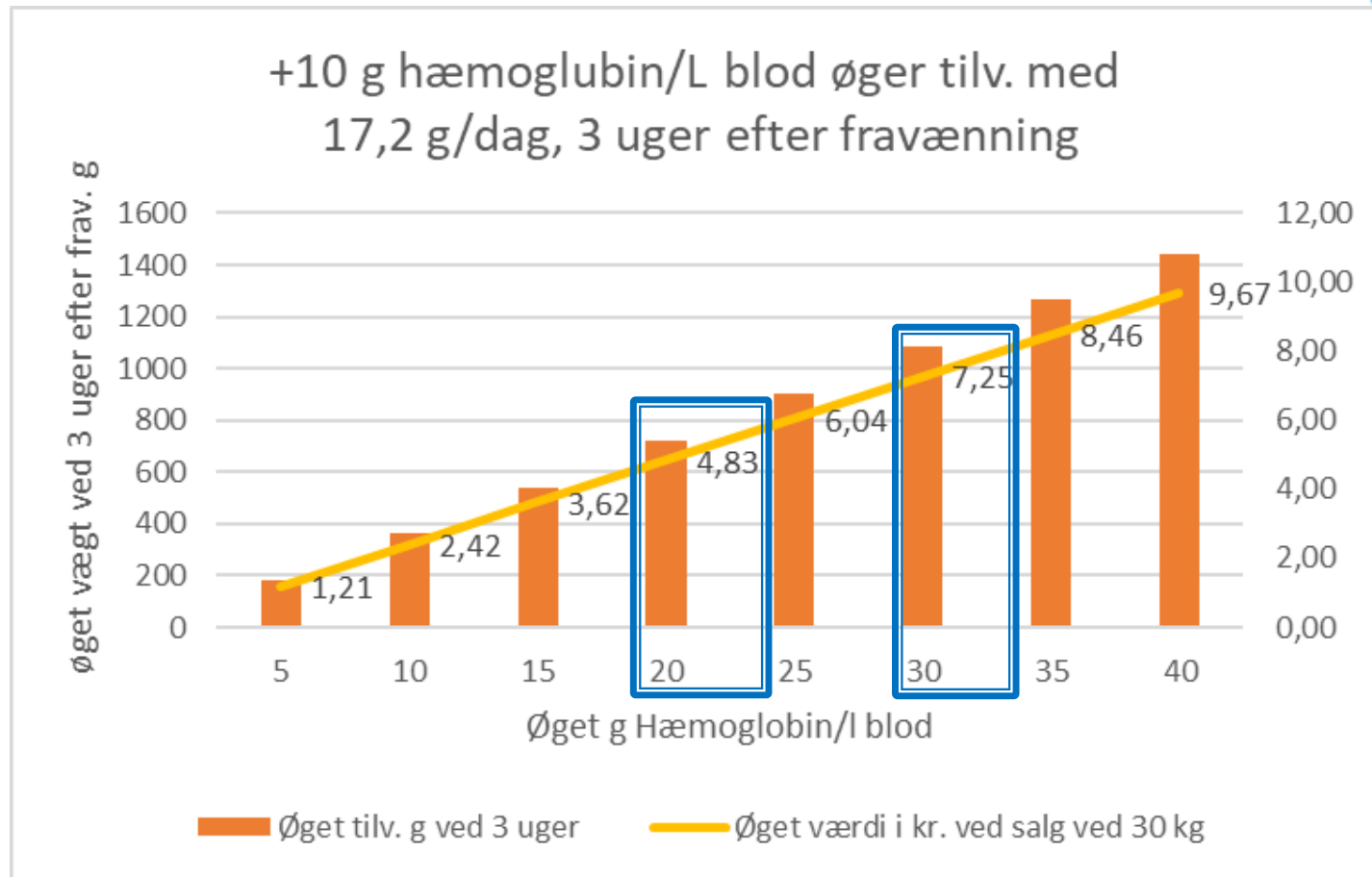


Fig. 2 Association between hemoglobin concentration at weaning and average daily gain (ADG) three weeks post-weaning in piglets based on the final model. ADG was calculated with 6 kg of weaning wt.

Bhattarai, S., & Nielsen, J. P. (2015). Association between hematological status at weaning and weight gain post-weaning in piglets. *Livestock Science*, 182, 64-68. DOI: 10.1016/j.livsci.2015.10.017

Haemoglobin at weaning and growth



6,69 kr./kg 30 – 50 kg SPF uge 45

Årsmøde Vet-Team 12.11.19

Where does the iron come from?



- ▶ Almost nothing in the body at birth
- ▶ Not very much in sow milk
- ▶ Iron administration:
 - Injection right after birth
 - In the mouth with powder or paste
 - Feeding of the pig

Hvor meget jern?

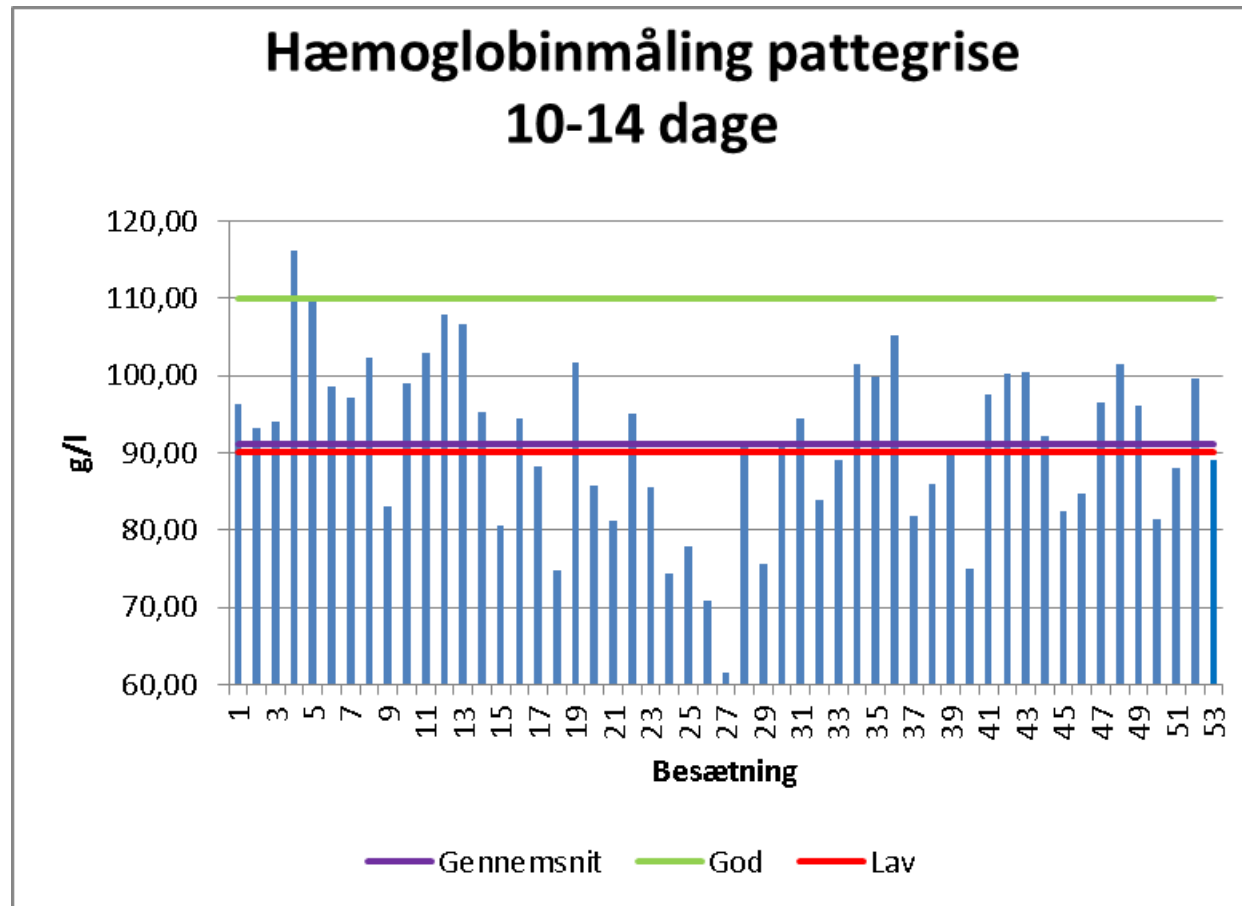


- ▶ Alle grise 1 ml?
 - Store, hurtigt voksende grise for lidt?
 - Små grise ved fødsel for meget?
- ▶ Tilskud igennem munden
- ▶ Ekstra jerninjektion inden fravænning

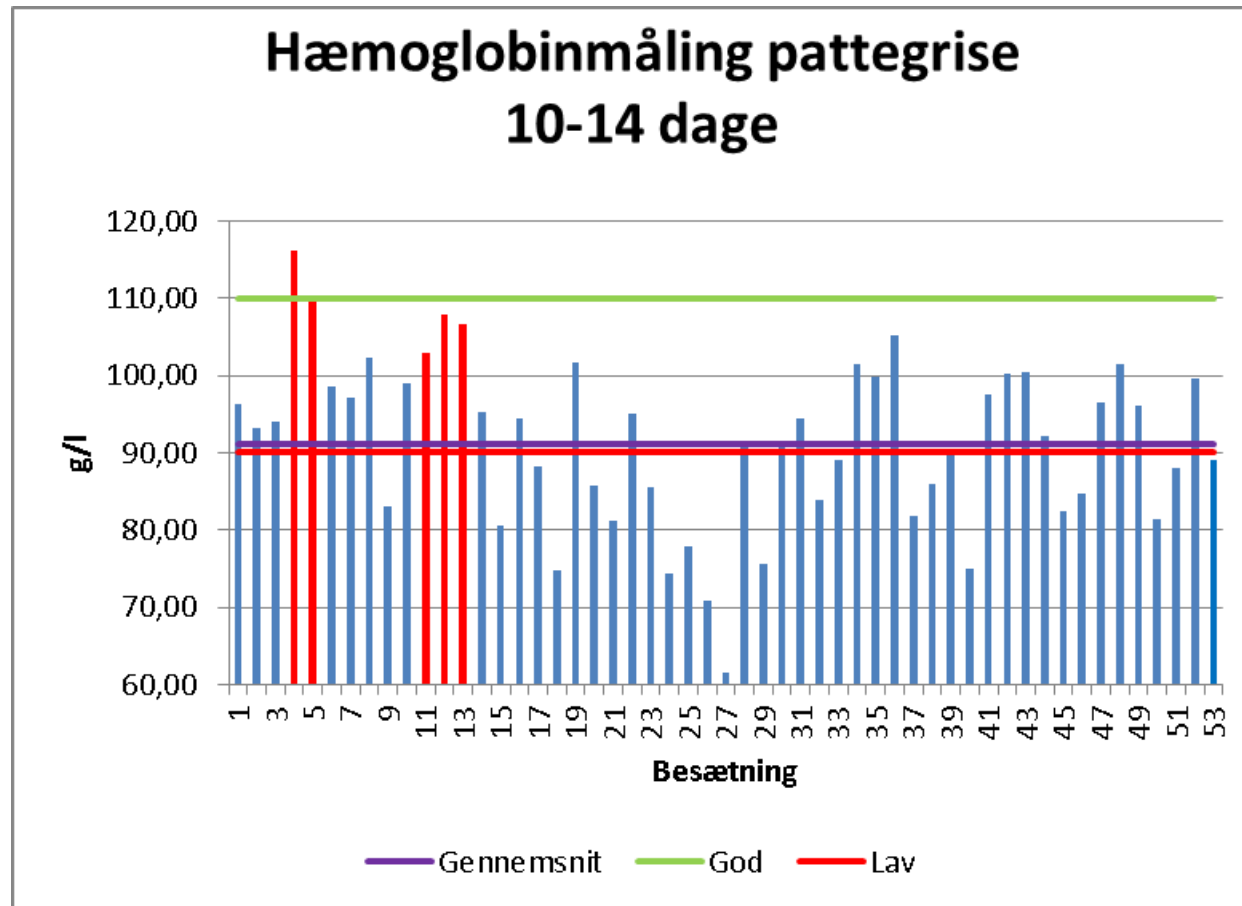
How can haemoglobin be measured?



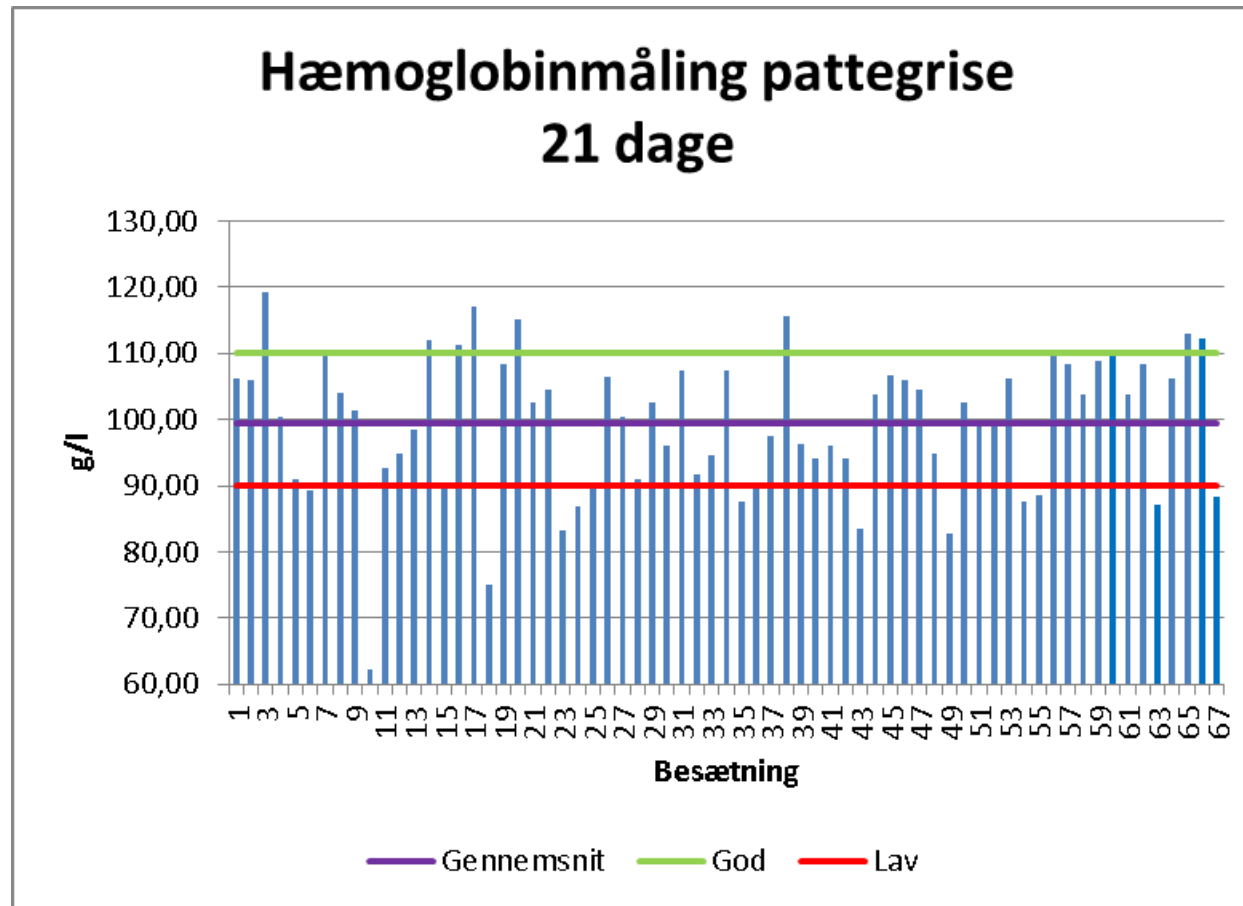
Measurements in farms by Vet-Team



Measurements in farms by Vet-Team



Measurements in farms by Vet-Team



Trial - can we give more iron?

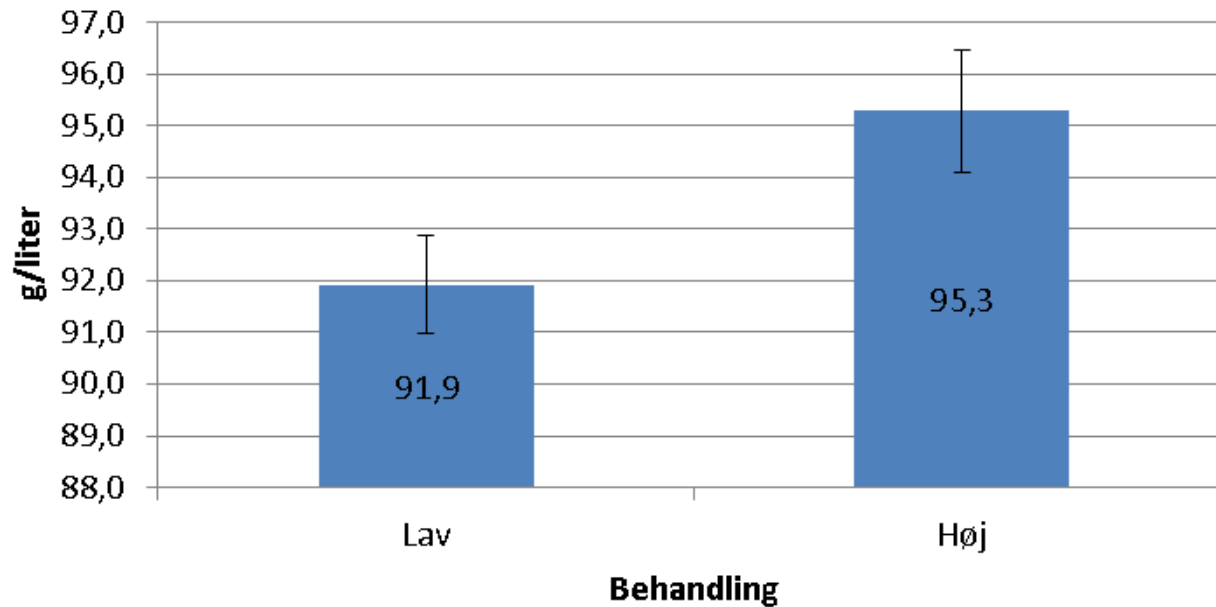


Årsmøde Vet-Team 12.11.19

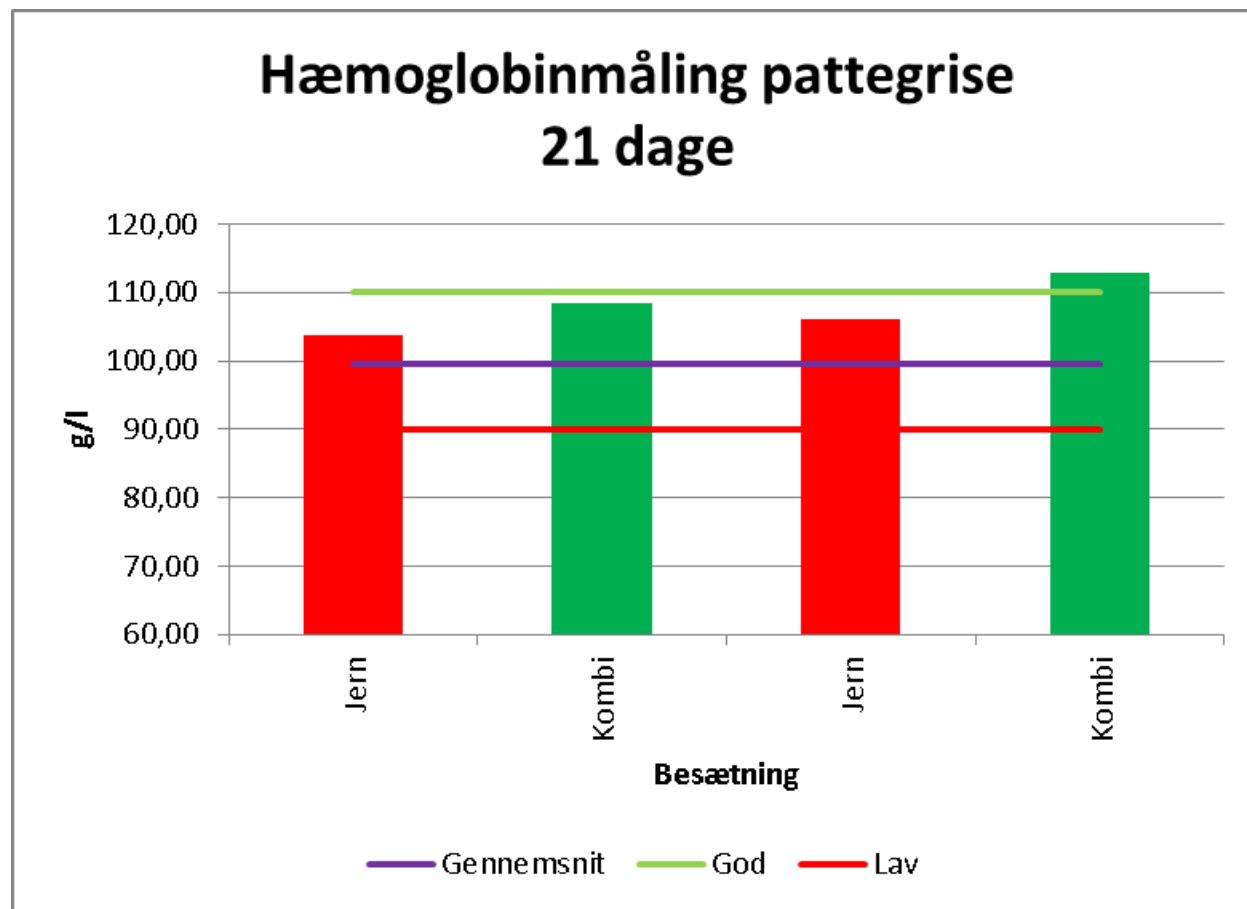
Trial - can we give more iron?



Hæmoglobinkoncentration



Measurements in farms by Vet-Team



Årsmøde Vet-Team 12.11.19

Conclusion



- ▶ Many pigs have low haemoglobin concentration
- ▶ Can be changes a bit by higher dosage
- ▶ Maybe more focus on uptake later on
 - Early feeding
 - Administration in another way
- ▶ New products:
 - Combination of prevention of coccidiosis and administration of iron