

How should sows be fed to increase survival?

Peter Kappel Teil works at Foulum where he, along with several other researchers, investigates feed composition, interval, and amount to ensure that as many pigs as possible will survive.

Peter Kappel Teil addressed four main points:

- How to achieve fast farrowing
- fibres
- how to increase colostrum production
- optimal feed concentration leading up to farrowing

conclusions/tips

- preferably use fibre (17-20% dry matter)
- food should be given 3 times a day before farrowing, if possible
- feed concentration should be between 3.4-4.1 FE sow/day before farrowing to improve farrowing and colostrum production
- add yeast to improve colostrum production
- Feed close to the norms (7.7 g Lysin and 118 g raw protein pr FE_{sow})
- Other options:
 - add a cup of sugar (~300g) in front of the pig
 - milk cups to piglets
 - oral administration of colostrum from a colostrum bank
 - split nursing