When ‘All-in/all-out’ is not ‘All-in/all-out’: implications for pig welfare and performance

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Teagasc Pig Research Dissemination Day | Horse & Jockey Hotel | Ballyhaise Agricultural College
24th & 25th April 2018

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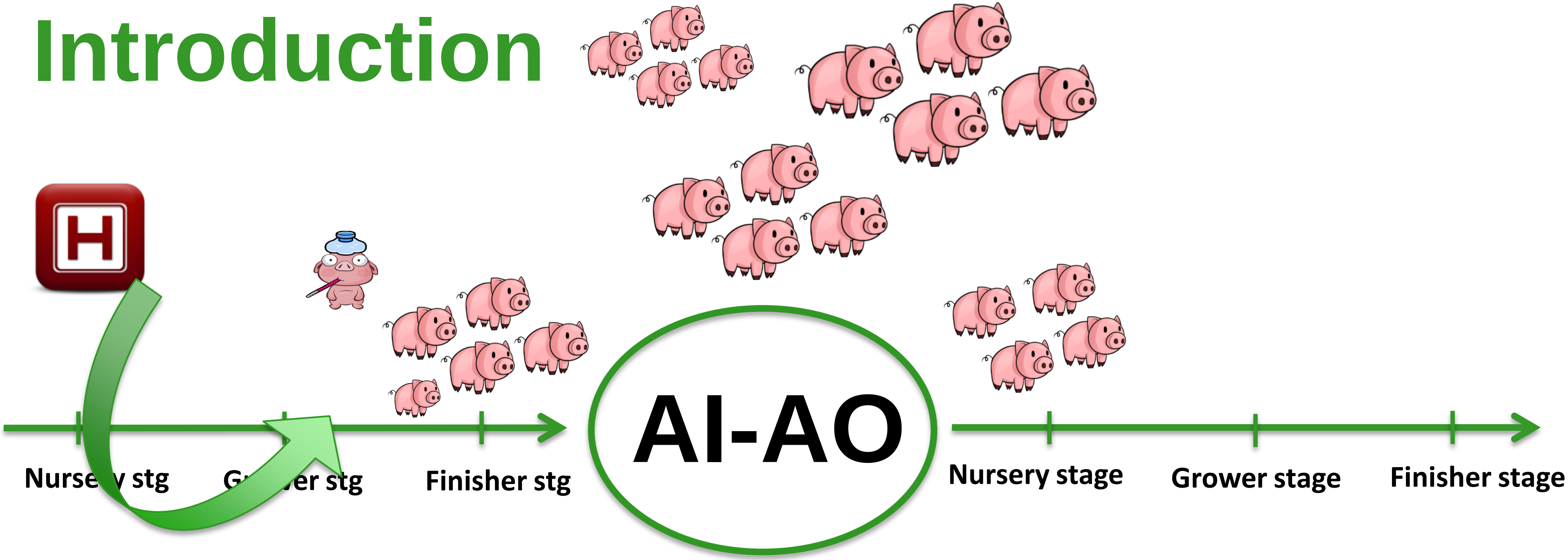
Introduction



- Min. disease transmission
- Uniformity in growth and feed efficiency

Aim: To investigate the effect of failing to adhere to AIAO on pig welfare and performance

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Material & methods

➢ 1016 pigs followed from birth to slaughter

Weaning | Nursery stage | Grower stage | Finisher stage | Slaughter

28 d — 1st stage (4 weeks) — 2nd stage (4 weeks) — 4 weeks — 8 weeks — c.110kg

Welfare indicators

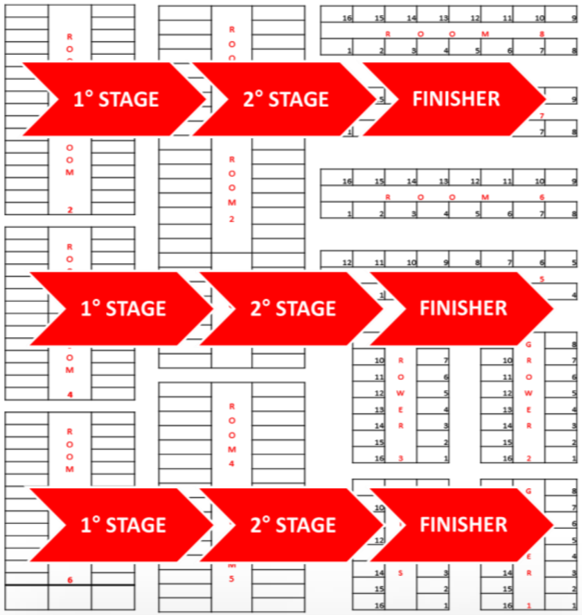
Body lesions

Tail lesions

Ear lesions

Performance data

Material & methods



AIAO

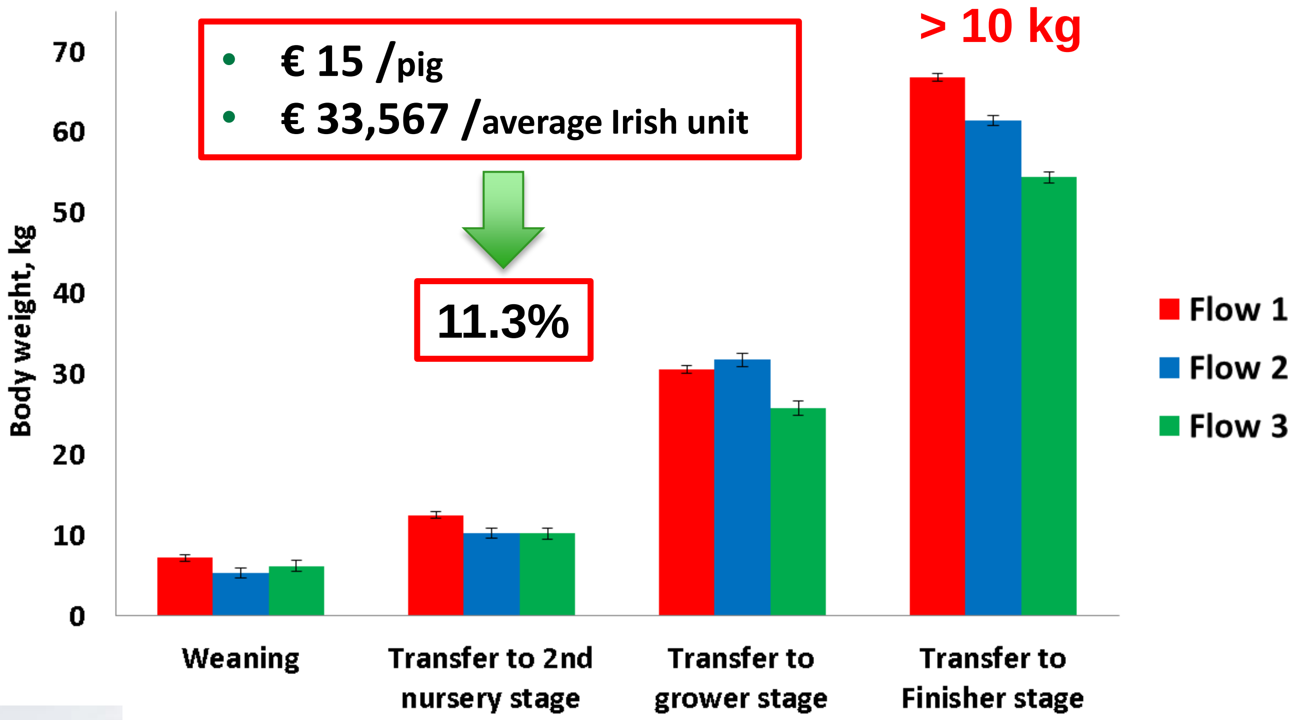
+ 1 week

> 1 week

- Pigs retrospectively classified according to the time they spent in each production stage

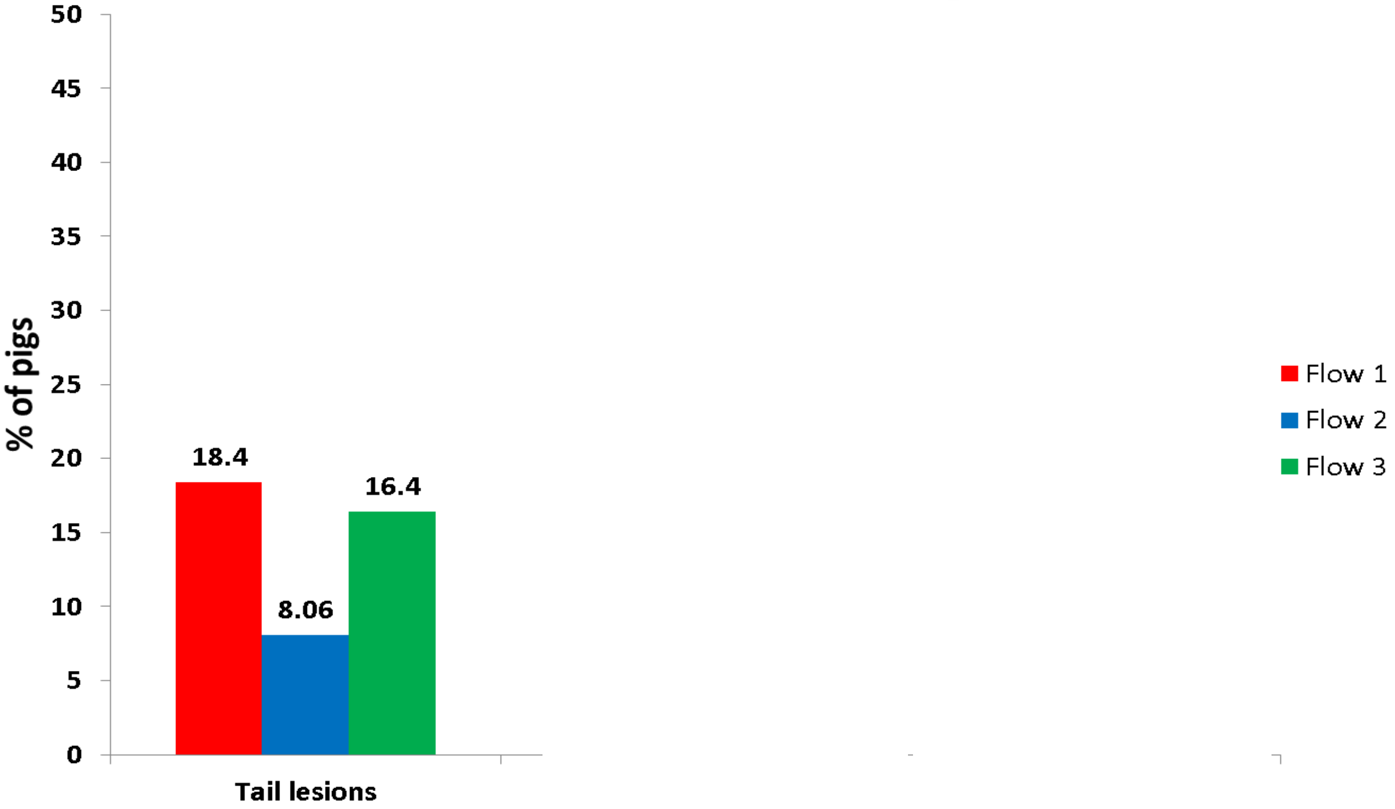
Results

Effect of flow on body weight



The same pattern was found for ADG

Effect of flow on pig welfare



Main findings and discussion

- Flow 3 (severely delayed pigs)
  - ↓ performance than flow 1 and 2 pigs
  - ↑ risk of welfare problems than flow 2 pigs
  - poorer health and lower carcass weight

Combined stressors (re-mixing, poor health and immune system) make them less able to cope with their environment

- Flow 1 (AIAO pigs)
  - ↑ performance
  - ↓ likelihood of disease **but** ↑ welfare problems

High growth rate challenges pigs coping abilities?

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Conclusions

- Few negative repercussions of delaying pigs from the normal production flow by one week (flow 2)
- Pigs delayed >1wk (flow 3) from the normal production flow had poor welfare and performance
- Thriving pigs (flow 1) also susceptible to welfare problems
  - Highlights the multifactorial nature of pig welfare

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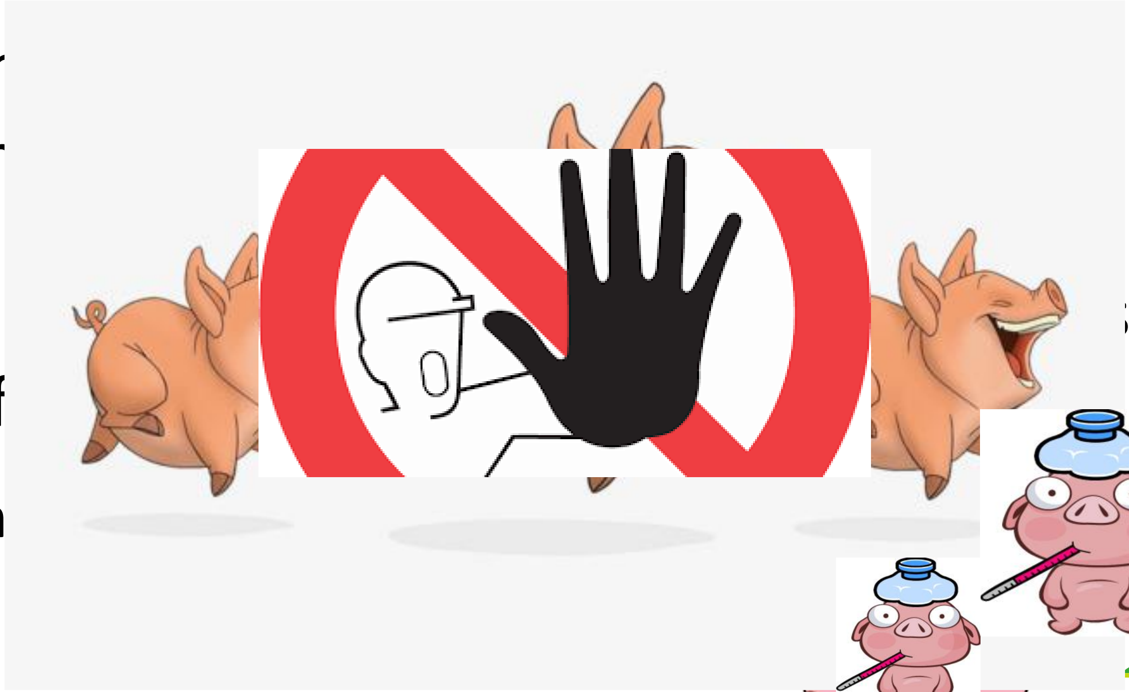
Take home message: application at farm

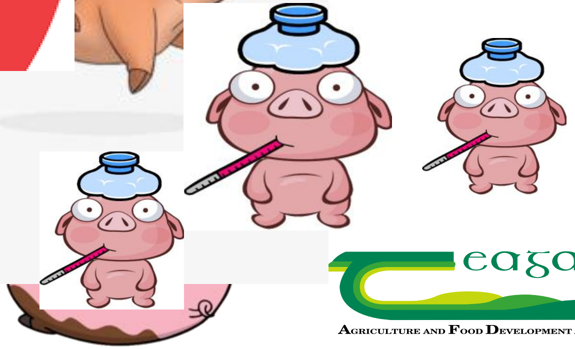
- ‘All-forward’ policy

- Consider r … returning from the h

- Pay more … t growing pigs (e.g. f

  - Requirem





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Acknowledgements

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Walsh Fellowships Programme

- Pig farmer and staff
- Undergraduate placement students
- Postgraduate colleagues

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Thanks for your attention!

Any questions?