

# Bovine colostrum as a natural growth factor for newly-weaned piglets

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## Plan

- Introduction
  - Pig weaning
  - Bovine colostrum
- Bovine colostrum in the weaning diet
  - Growth performance and feed intake
  - Digestive and immune system
- Conclusions

## Introduction

## Introduction

- Weaning = Critical period

### Stress

Psychological  
- Separation  
- Manipulation  
- Transport

Nutritional  
- Solid food  
- Composition

Environmental  
- Mixing  
- New environment

## Introduction

- Effects of weaning
  - Underfeeding
  - BW ↘
  - Intestinal modifications
    - » Morphological
    - » Immunological
    - » Digestion and absorption
    - » Intestinal flora
  - Metabolic modifications
  - Endocrinal modifications

**Economical Impact**

## Introduction

- Use of feed additives
  - Ban on antibiotics
  - Colostrum as alternative

## Introduction

### • Bovine Colostrum

- 1<sup>st</sup> milk after calving
- Composition
  - Essential nutrients
  - Bioactive compounds
    - » Growth factors (IGF-I and -II, GH, EGF, TGF)
    - » Immune factors (Ig, cytokines)
    - » Antimicrobial factors (lactoferrin, lactoperoxidase, lysozymes)

## Bovine colostrum and milk composition

Composition (l)	Colostrum	Milk
Dry Matter	153-245 g	122 g
Crude Proteins	41-140 g	34 g
Crude Fat	39-44 g	37 g
Lactose	27-46 g	46 g
Ash	5-20 g	7 g
IgA	3.0-6.5 g	0.2 g
IgG1	50-90 g	0.3-0.4 g
IgG2	1.5-2 g	0.05 g
IgM	3.8-6 g	0.05 g
IGF-I	100-2000 µg	< 25 µg
IGF-II	200-600 µg	< 10 µg
EGF	4-8 mg	2 mg
TGF-β	1.5-5 g	0.1-0.3 g
Lactoferrin	100-300 µg	1-2 µg
Lactoperoxidase	30 mg	20 mg
Lysozyme	0.14-0.7 mg	0.07-0.6 mg

Elfstrand *et al.*, 2002 ; Gopal *et al.*, 2000 ; Korhonen, 1977

## Introduction

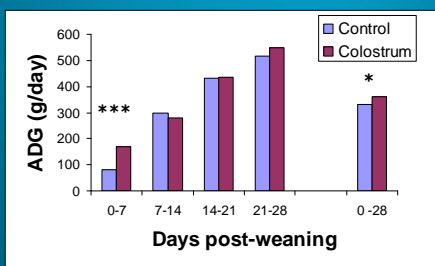
### • Bovine Colostrum

- Availability
  - Colostrum Bank
  - 80 000 litres collected/year

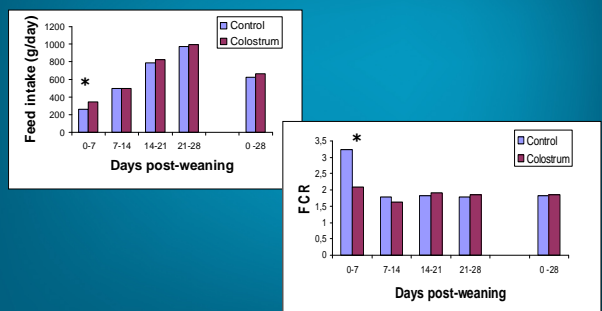
## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

- Growth performance and feed intake
  - 20 g of BC serum/kg of diet (Boudry *et al.*, 2008)



## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet



## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

- Growth performance and feed intake
  - ↗ ADG and ADFI Week 1 PW
  - ↘ FCR Week 1 PW
  - First studies in 1999: 5 to 10 % of BC
  - Last studies: 1 % of BC
  - Pathogen pressure

## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

- Gastro-intestinal tract
  - Morphology (King et al., 2007 and 2008)
    - ↗ villi length
    - ↘ crypt depth
  - ↗ duodenal protein synthesis (Le Huërou-Luron et al., 2003)
- Maintain the intestinal barrier integrity

## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

- Gastro-intestinal tract
  - Microflora (Huguet et al., 2006)
    - ↗ Lactobacilli/Coliform
    - ↘ Stomach pH (Gram -)
- ↘ diarrhoea risk

## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

- Immune system
  - Systemic response (Boudry et al., 2007 and 2008)
    - ↗ total IgA
  - Local response (Boudry et al., 2007)
    - ↗ anti-colostral IgA
    - Cytokine expression : Th1 and Th2 immune response
    - Mainly in the iPP (Primary immune organ) : Th2 immune response
    - ↗ of Tc and Th in the lamina propria (King et al., 2008)

## Bovine colostrum in weaning diet

- Hormonal response
  - Boudry et al. (in preparation)
    - ↗ in IGF-I on day 7 : Feed intake ???
    - No effect on T3 and T4 on day 7 : decrease after weaning but returned faster to initial level

## Conclusion

## Conclusion

- Bovine colostrum supplementation
  - Increase growth performance and feed intake
  - Maintain intestinal barrier integrity PW
  - Induce an humoral immune response
- In pig production
  - Bovine colostrum = 60 €/kg
  - 1% during 7 days = 500 g/piglet  
= 0.70 €/piglet

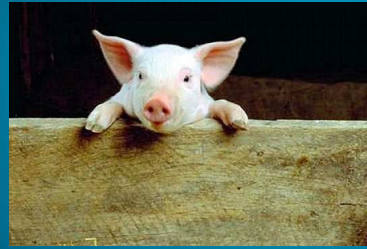


Table 2

Effects of BC vs. control treatment
↗ADG Week 1 and 2 PW = ADFI and FCR ↘ Days to slaughter
≈ ADG and FCR ↗ADFI Week 1 PW
≈ ADG, ADFI and FCR
↗ADG Week 1 and 2 PW ↗ADFI Week 1 PW ↘ FCR Week 1 PW
↗ADG d5-d7 PW = ADFI and FCR
↗ BW on d 7 PW ↗ADG and ADFI Week 1 PW ↘ FCR Week 1 PW

↗ADG and ADFI Week 1 PW ↘ FCR Week 1 PW
↗ADG and ADFI Week 1 PW ↘ FCR Week 1 PW
≈ ADG, ADFI and FCR
↗ BW on d 7 PW ↗ADG and ADFI Week 1 PW ↘ FCR Week 1 PW No effect of the dose of BC
↗ADG on d4-d7 PW with the defatted BC ↗ADFI on d4-d7 and on d11-14 PW with the defatted BC ≈ FCR

Table 3

Effects of BC vs. control treatment
↗duodenal VH ↗duodenal protein synthesis = SI mucosa weight and protein content = SI lactase and aminopeptidase N activities
↘ gastric pH on d7 and d14 ↗ duodenal <i>lactobacilli:coliform</i> = duodenal mucosal structure, crypt cell proliferation, migration index, digestive enzyme activities
≈ duodenal mucosa/muscularis ratio ↗duodenal villi perimeter ≈ duodenal crypt size and crypt cell proliferation
↗ proximal and mid jejunal VH ↘ proximal and mid jejunal and distal ileal CD ↗VH:CD in distal ileum ↗ epithelial cell height in mid jejunum
↗ jejunal and ileal VH ↘ jejunal and ileal CD ↗ VH:CD in jejunum and ileum = epithelial cell height

Table 4

Effects of BC vs. control treatment
↗ MC in the ileal PP on d21 ↘ B cells in the ileal PP on d 21 ↗ SI of ileal PP MC ↗ serum total IgA on d 21 ↗ local anti-colostrum IgM, IgG and IgA ↗ cytokine Th1 and Th2 in the GALT
↘ serum Tc cells on d 7 PW ↗ serum total IgA on d 7 PW
↗ mid jejunal Tc and Th cells