



EUROPEAN CHALLENGES IN SWINE PRODUCTION:

A vision from Spain

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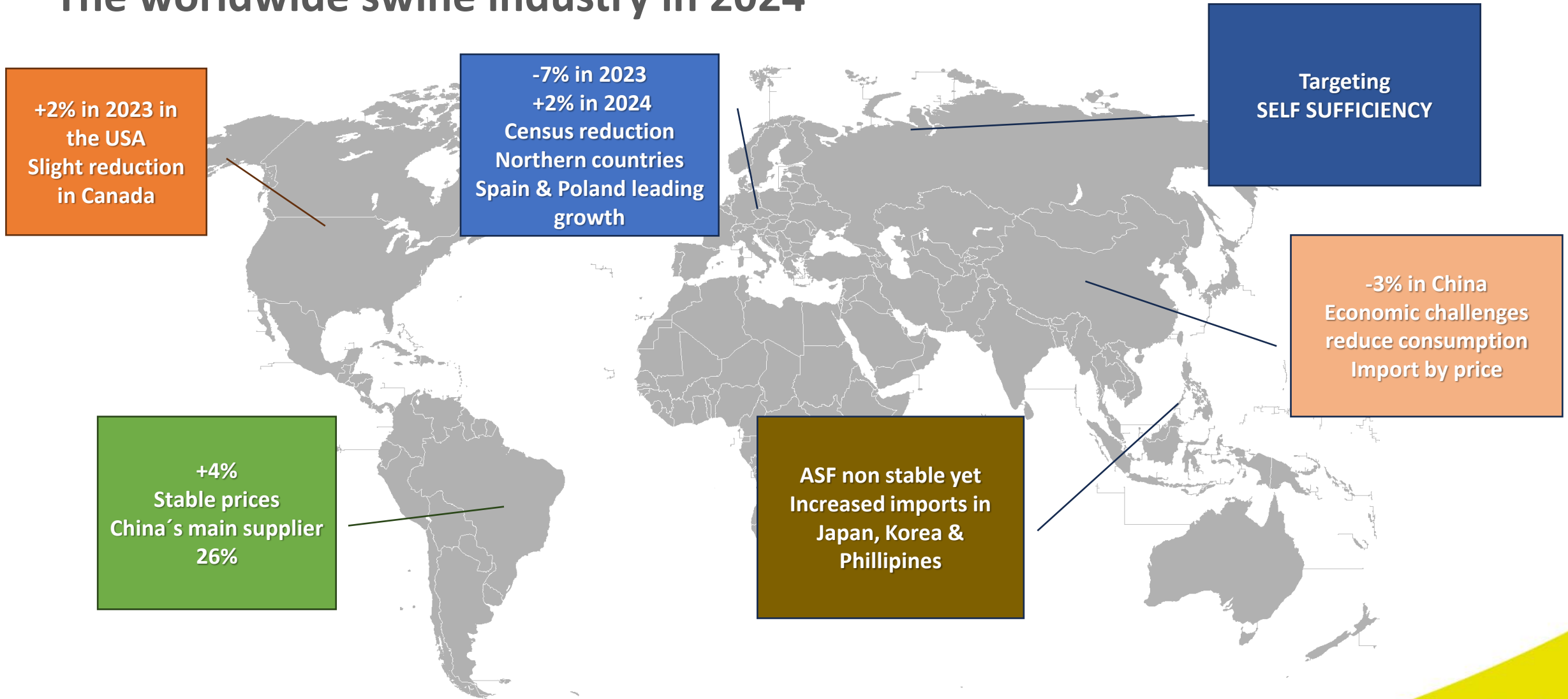
The AGENDA

1. THE CHALLENGES
2. SOME MACRO NUMBERS ABOUT THE PORK PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION
3. THE EU NEW REGULATION
4. THE PRRS SITUATION IN SPAIN
5. CONCLUSIONS

Challenges

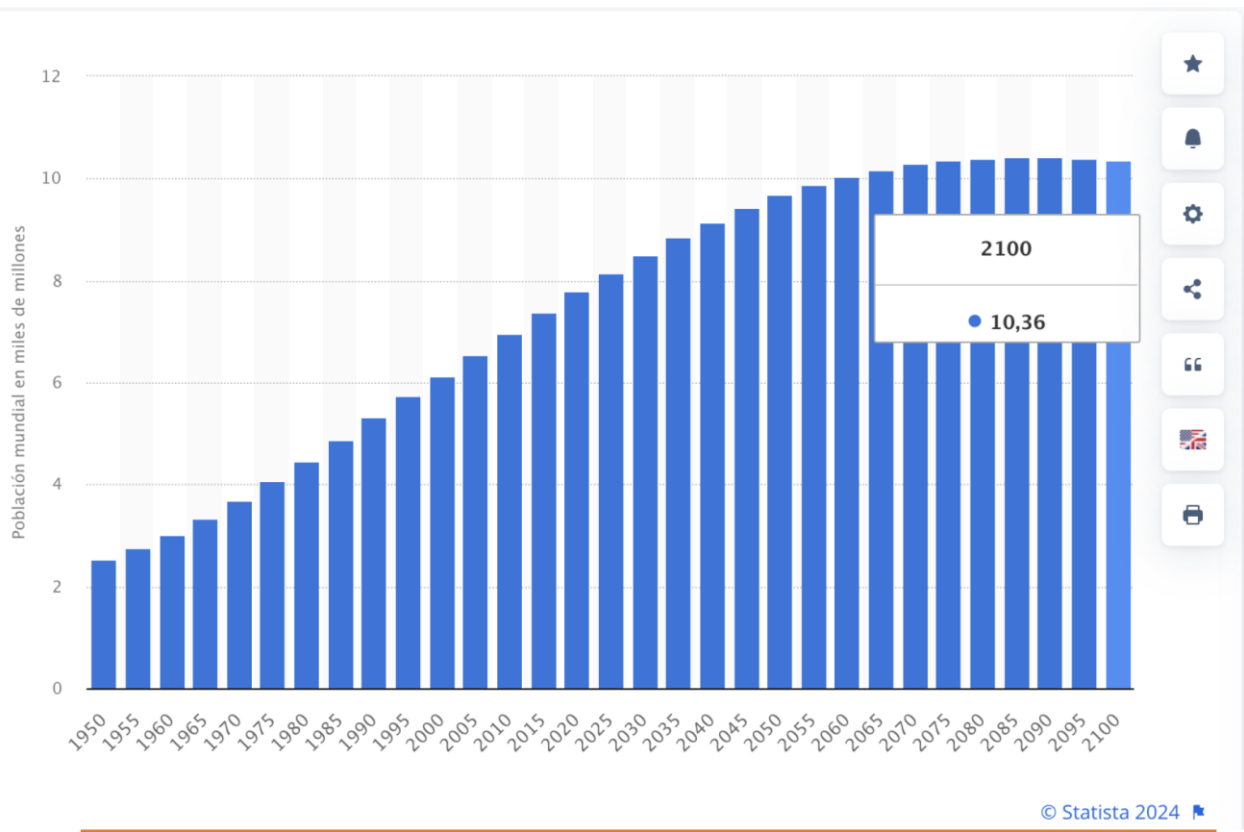


The worldwide swine industry in 2024



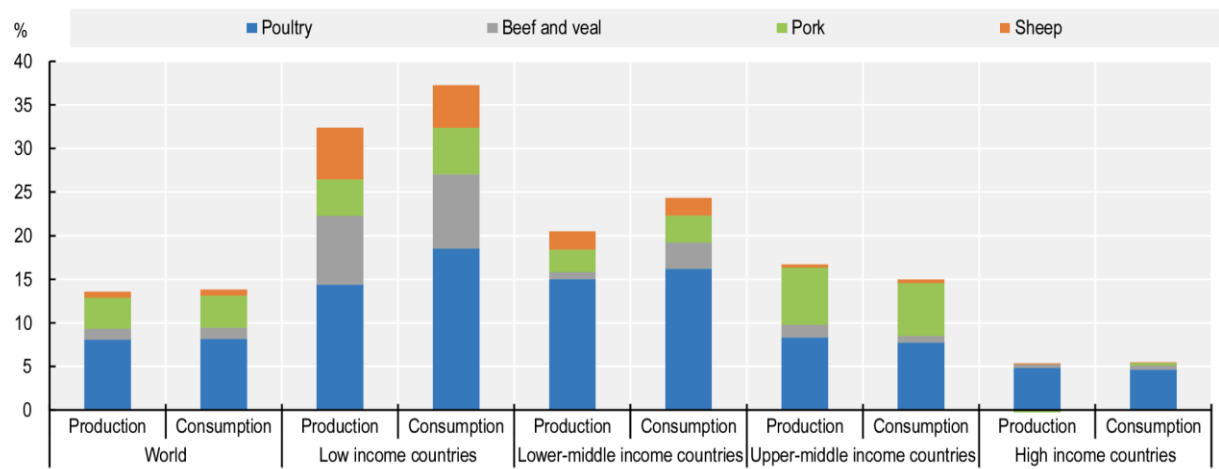
The worldwide swine industry in 2024

WORLDWIDE POPULATION PROJECTION



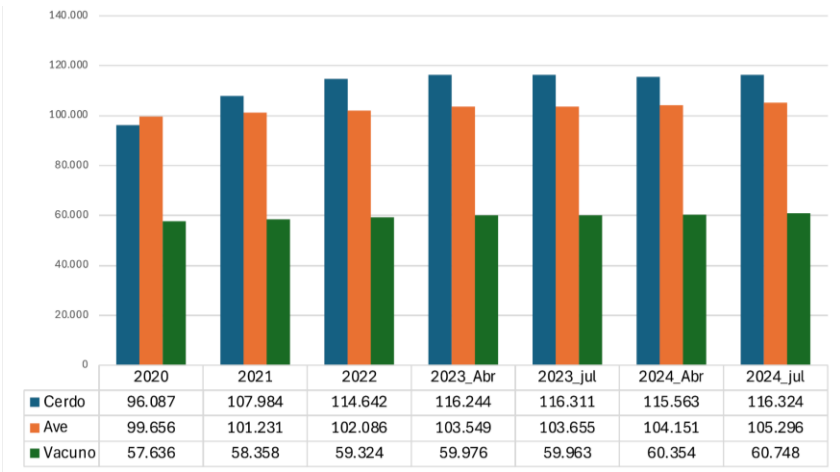
GROWTH IN MEAT PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION

Figure 6.1. Growth in meat production and consumption on a protein basis, 2021 to 2030

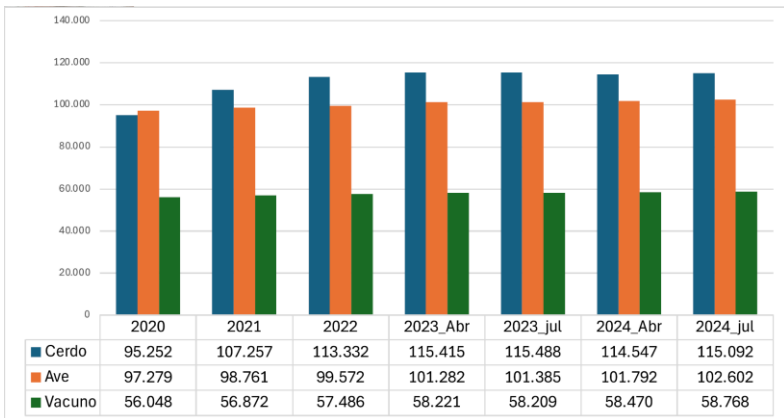


The worldwide swine industry in 2024

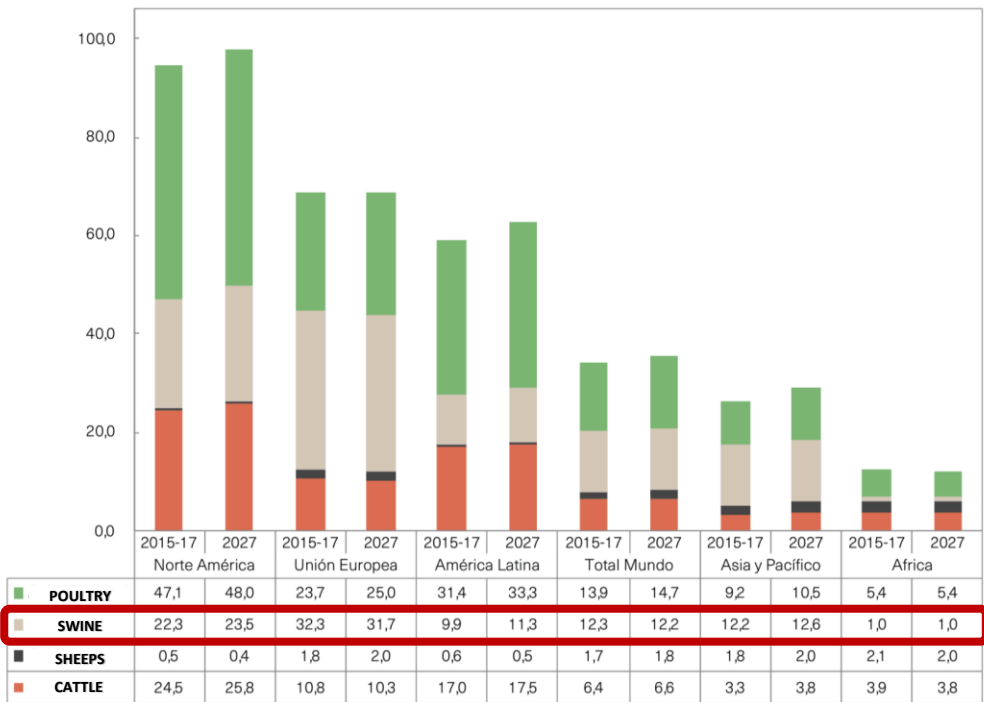
WORLDWIDE MEAT PRODUCTION



WORLDWIDE MEAT CONSUMPTION



WORLDWIDE MEAT CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA

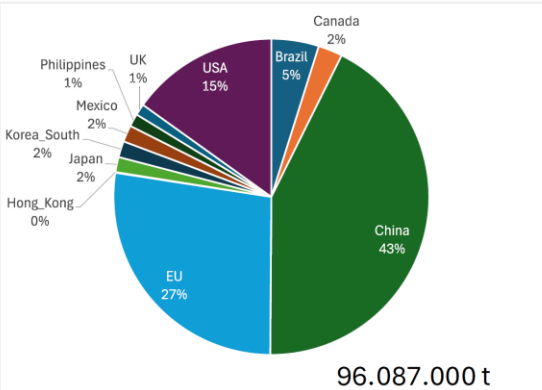


Fuente: OCDE-FAO (2023).

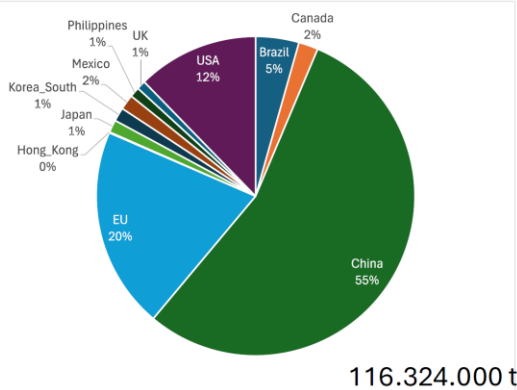
The worldwide swine industry in 2024

SWINE POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

2020



2024 J



EU SWINE CENSUS

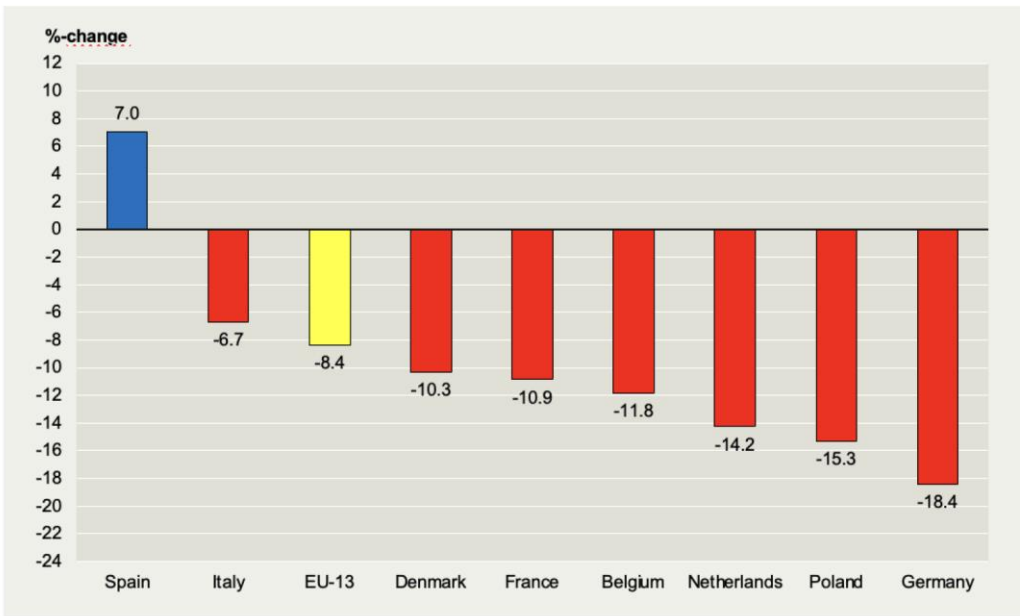
EU Pig Herd, May/June 2024

1,000 heads	Total	2024:23 %-change	Sows	2024:23 %-change
Spain	32,608	-3.7	2,771	1.7
Germany	21,174	1.1	1,414	1.4
France	11,802	-2.8	848	-3.5
Denmark	11,259	2.3	1,142	1.7
Netherlands	10,474	-3.7	853	-3.4
Poland	9,132	-3.2	683	15.6
Italy	8,062	-3.6	612	-0.8
Belgium	5,373	-0.8	350	-1.1
Romania	3,020	0.5	227	1.3
Hungary	2,745	7.2	242	4.3
Austria	2,521	-2.0	208	-1.9
Ireland	1,680	1.1	152	4.8
Sweden	1,334	5.4	116	9.4
EU (13)	121,184	-1.6	9,618	1.4

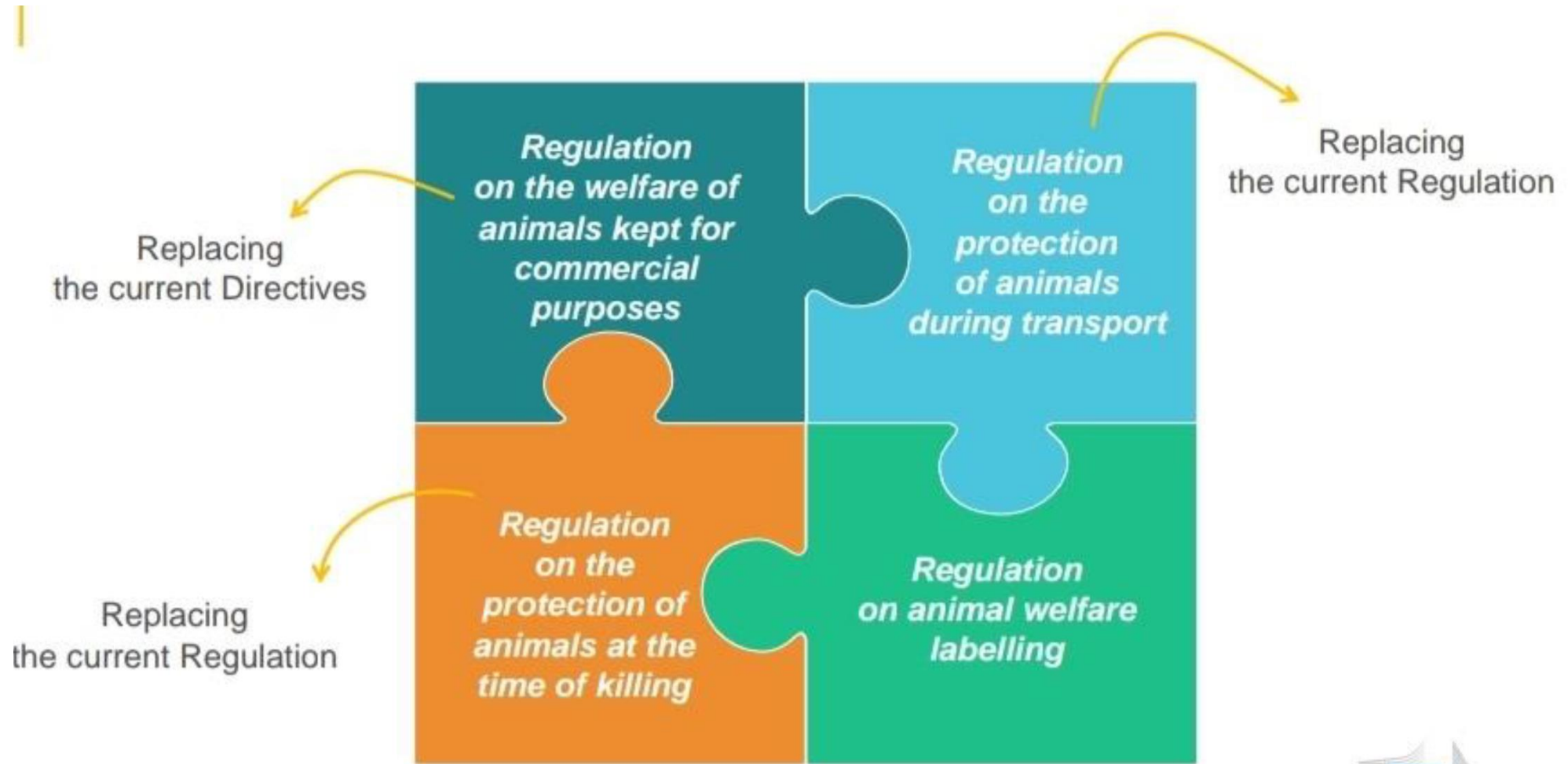
Source: Eurostat

EU SWINE CENSUS EVOLUTION

Development in Pig Population 2024:2019 (%-change compared to the same census 5 years earlier)

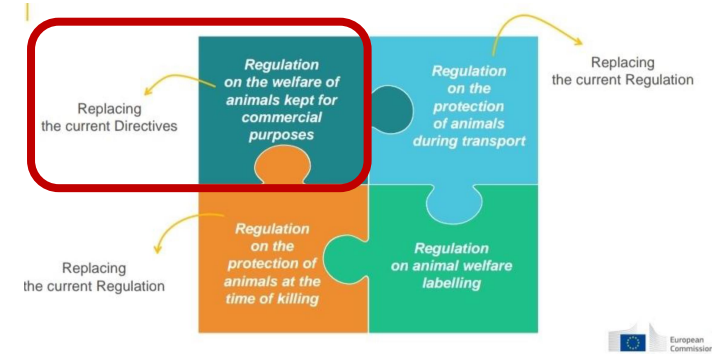


The EU challenges...



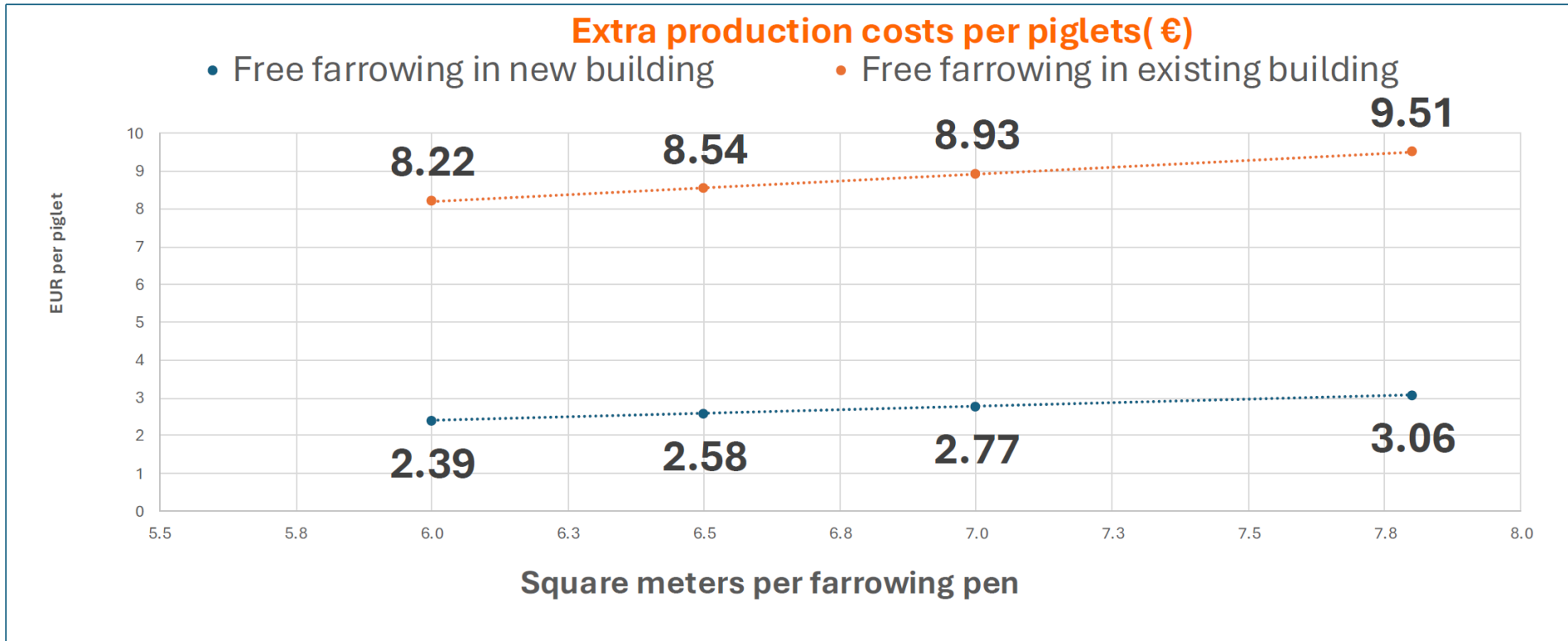
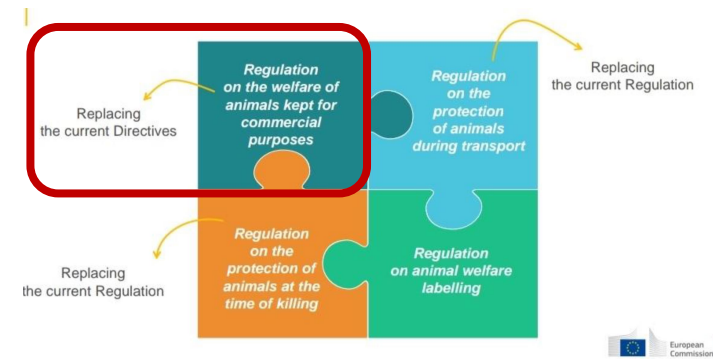
The EU challenges...

1. No stalls in weaned sows (6m²)
2. Gestation/control in sows (groups at 2,25m²)
3. Farrowing (7,8m²->4,3m² to 6,3m² for the sow)
4. Weaning age 28 days
5. 20 gr straw/pig/day
6. Teeth brush
7. Immunocastration-> Surgical castration
8. Tail cutting -> Fattening pigs (110Kg)-> 1,17m²
9. Complete removal of slats in fatteners



The EU challenges...

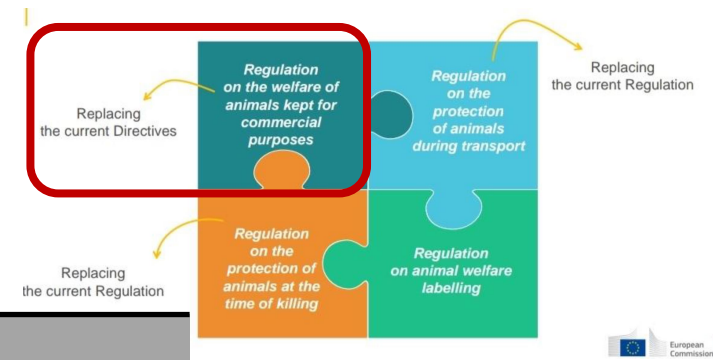
1. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF FREE FARROWING



Economic impact of policy options in impact assessment from E&Y

The EU challenges...

2. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF EXTRA SPACE IN EU SWINE PROD



ADDITIONAL SPACE PER FATTENING PIG(m ²)	+0,1	+0,2	+0,3	+0,4
Total cost (€Million)	339	677	1016	1355
Extra investment to keep the same production level (€Million)	4.076	8.152	12.228	16.303
EU production reduction(2021)	-13%	-22%	-30%	-36%
New production level(Million pigs/year)	218	194	175	159
Level of self-sufficiency in EU (126 2021)	110	98	88	80
Extra cost per Slaughtered pig (€)	1,36	2,71	4.07	5,43

Economic impact of policy options in impact assessment from E&Y

The EU challenges...

1. TRAVELLING TIME

1. To slaughterhouse ->9 h
2. For live animals 21h +24 h stop

2. TEMPERATURE

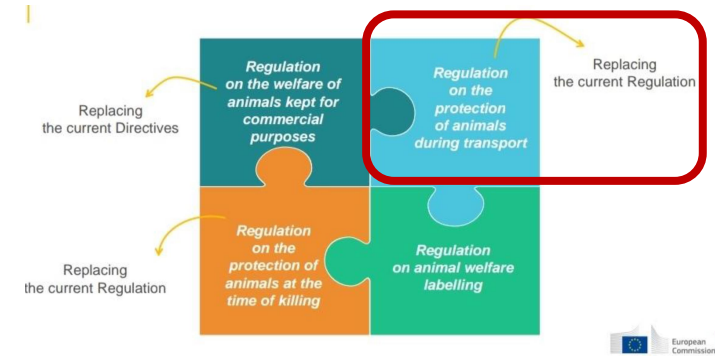
1. Forbidden below -5° C
2. 25°C - 30°C max 9h between 10:00-21:00
3. >30°C only night trips between 21:00-10:00

3. DENSITY

1. 0.58m² /100 Kg pig (Nowadays 0,43m²)

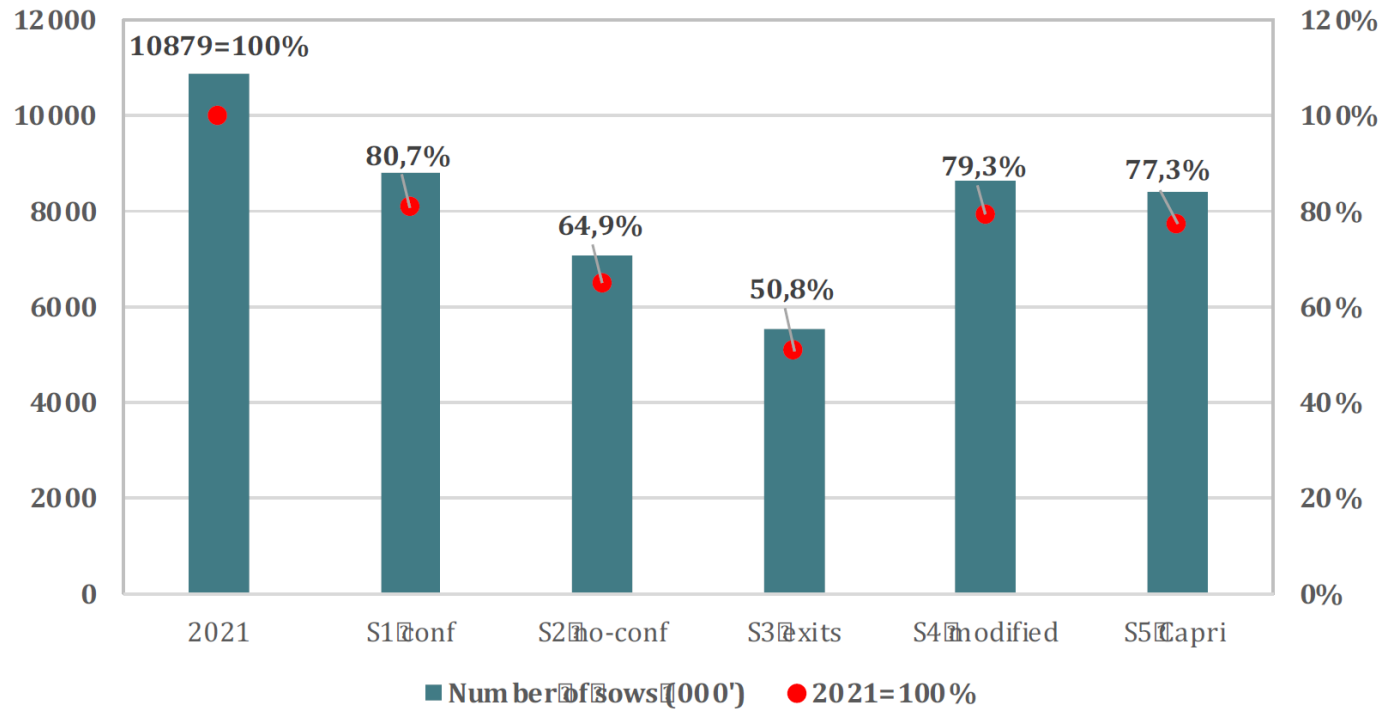
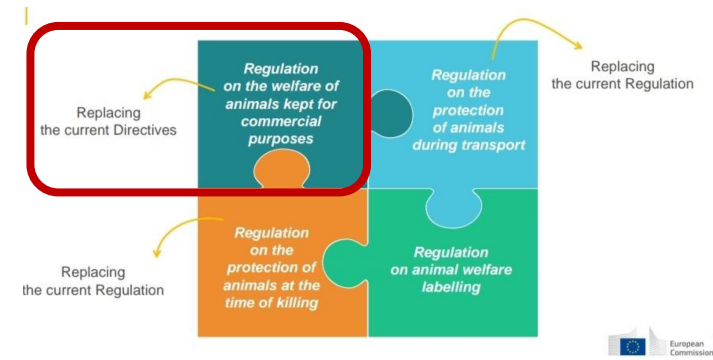
4. LIMITATION FOR NON-WEANED ANIMALS

1. No under 21d



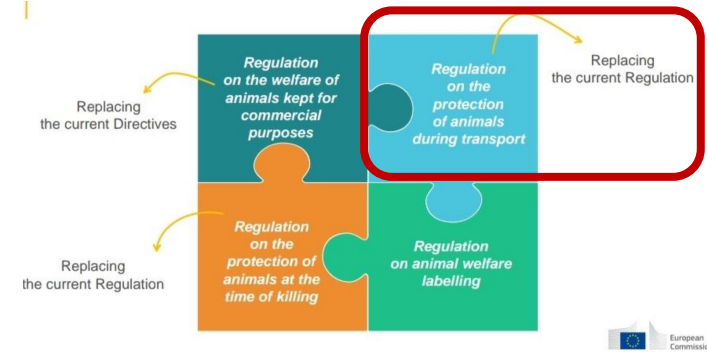
The EU challenges...

3. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF EXTRA SPACE IN FARROWING CRATES 5,5m²->7m²

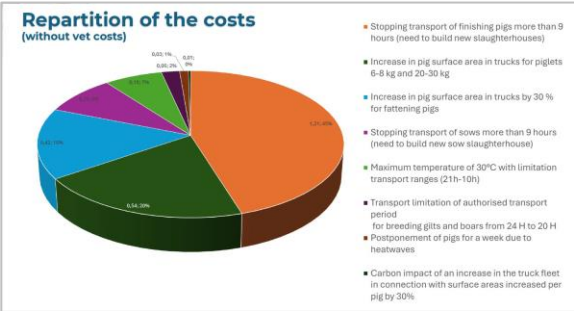
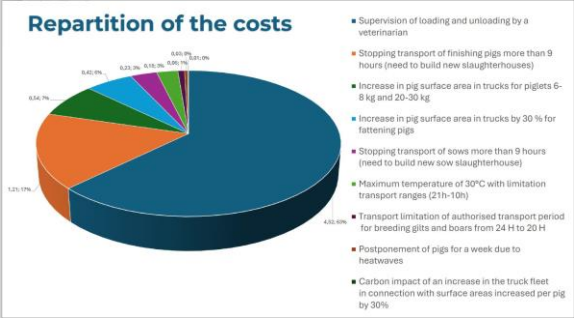
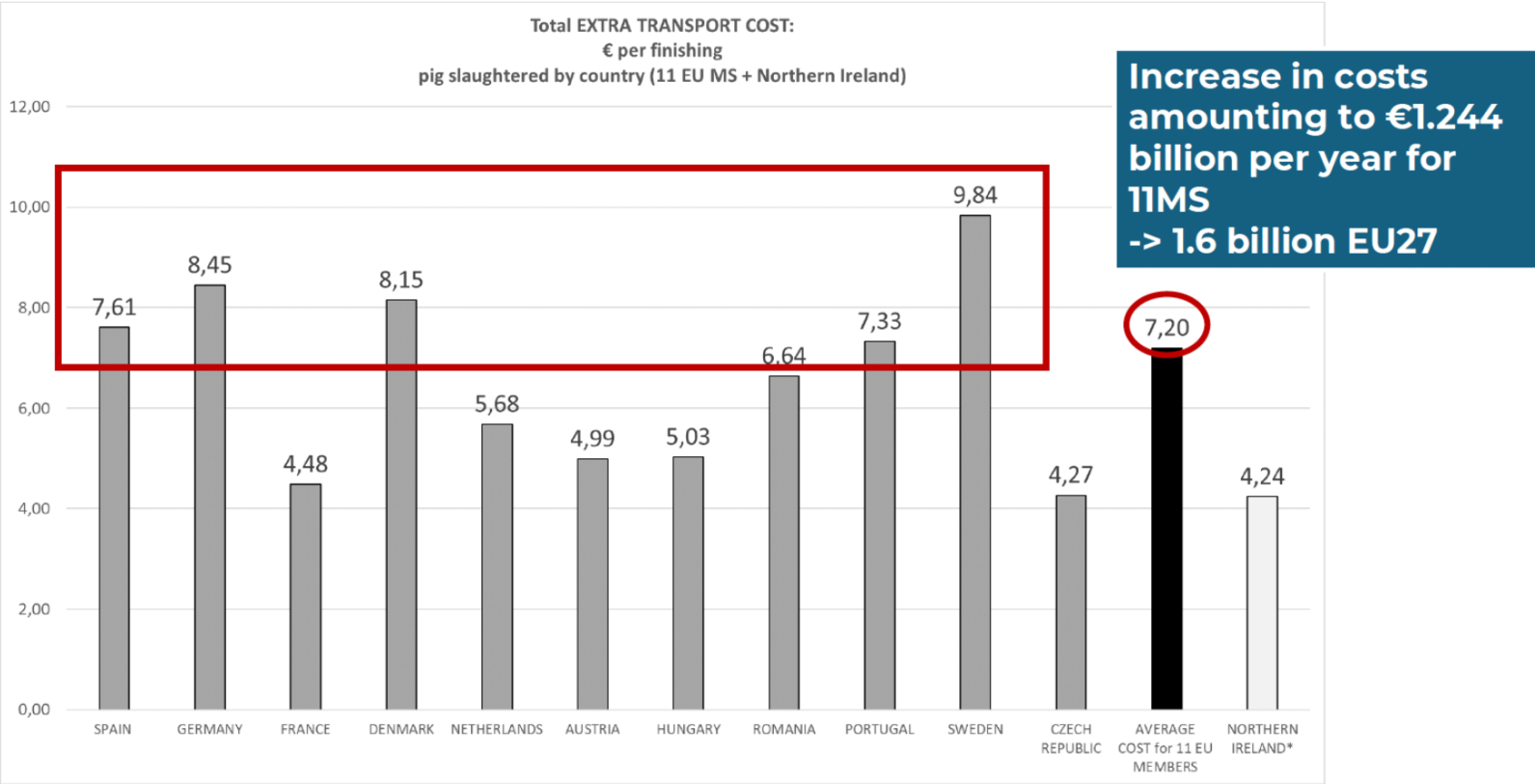


In the EU → 6.200 million €
In Spain → 1.700 million €

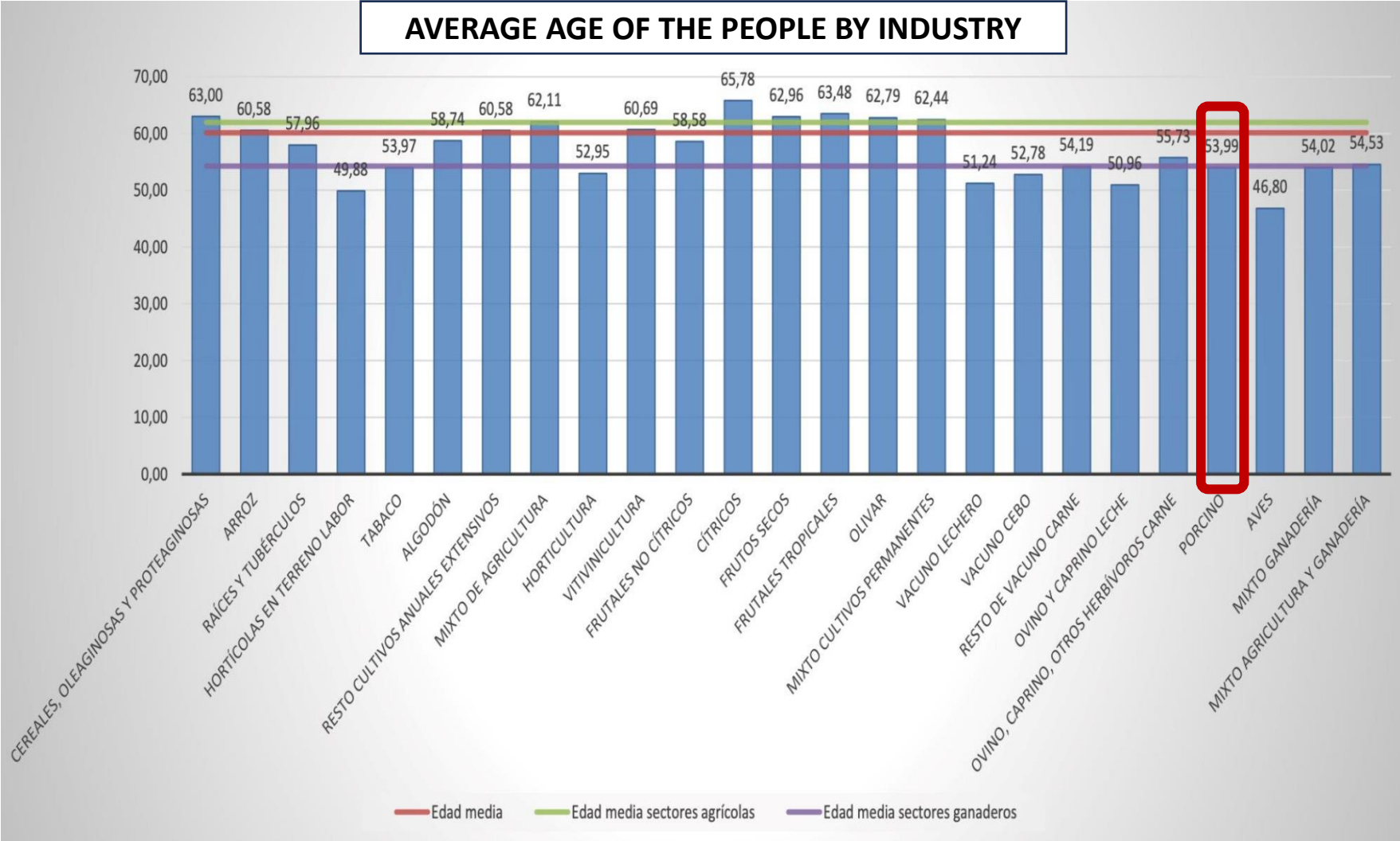
The EU challenges...



Estimate of average cost by country



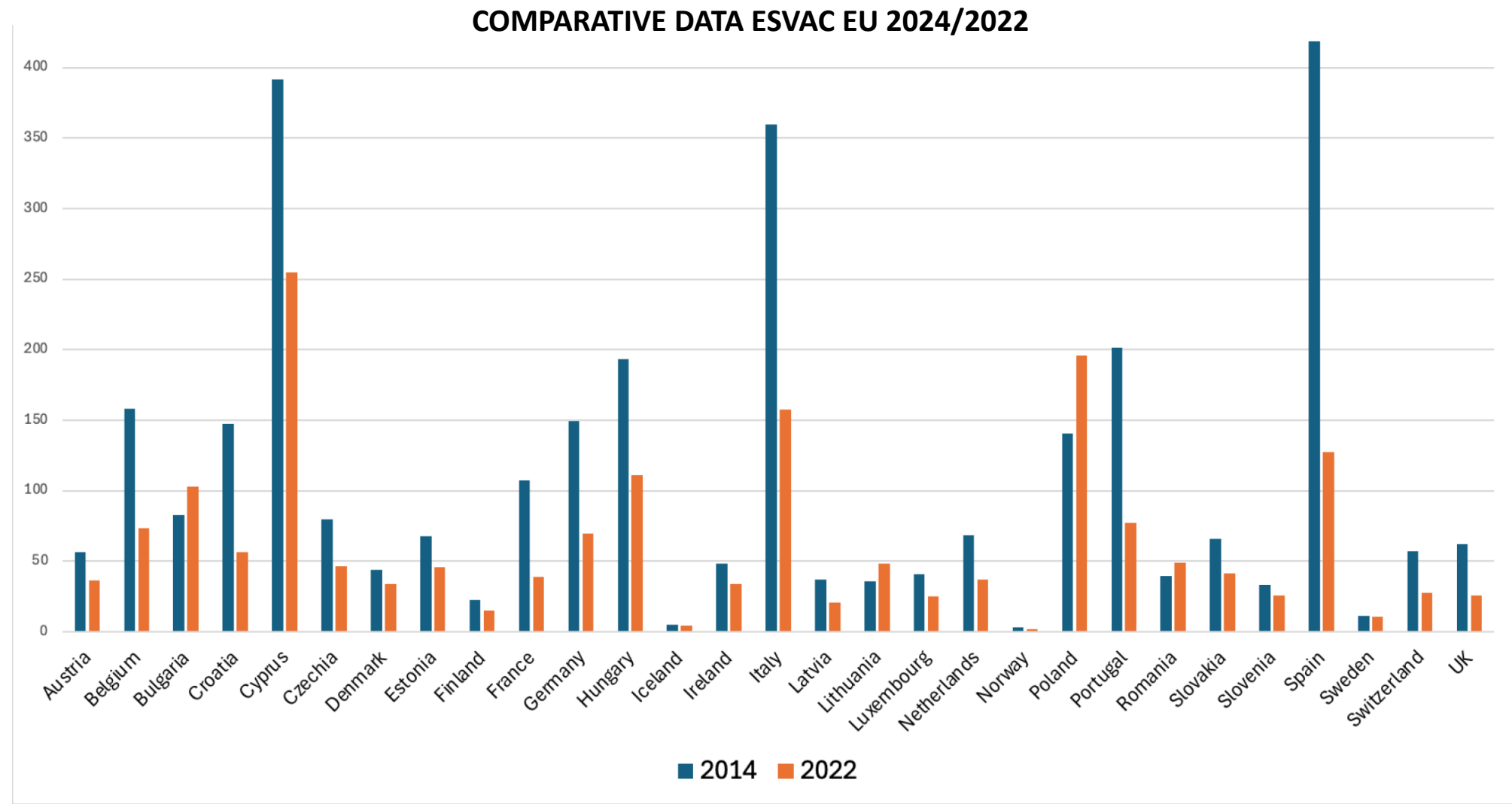
People



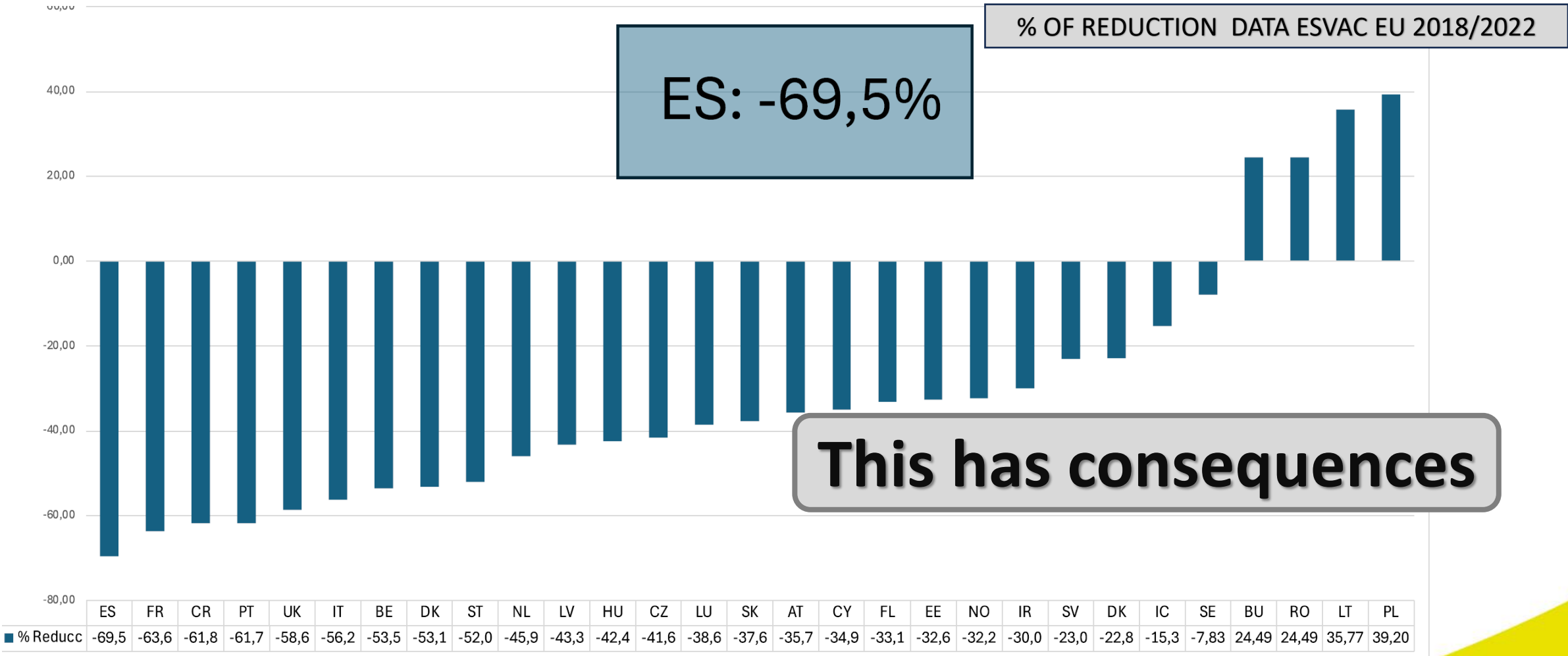
**NO REPLACEMENT
NOT TRAINED
NO INTEREST**

BIG ISSUE

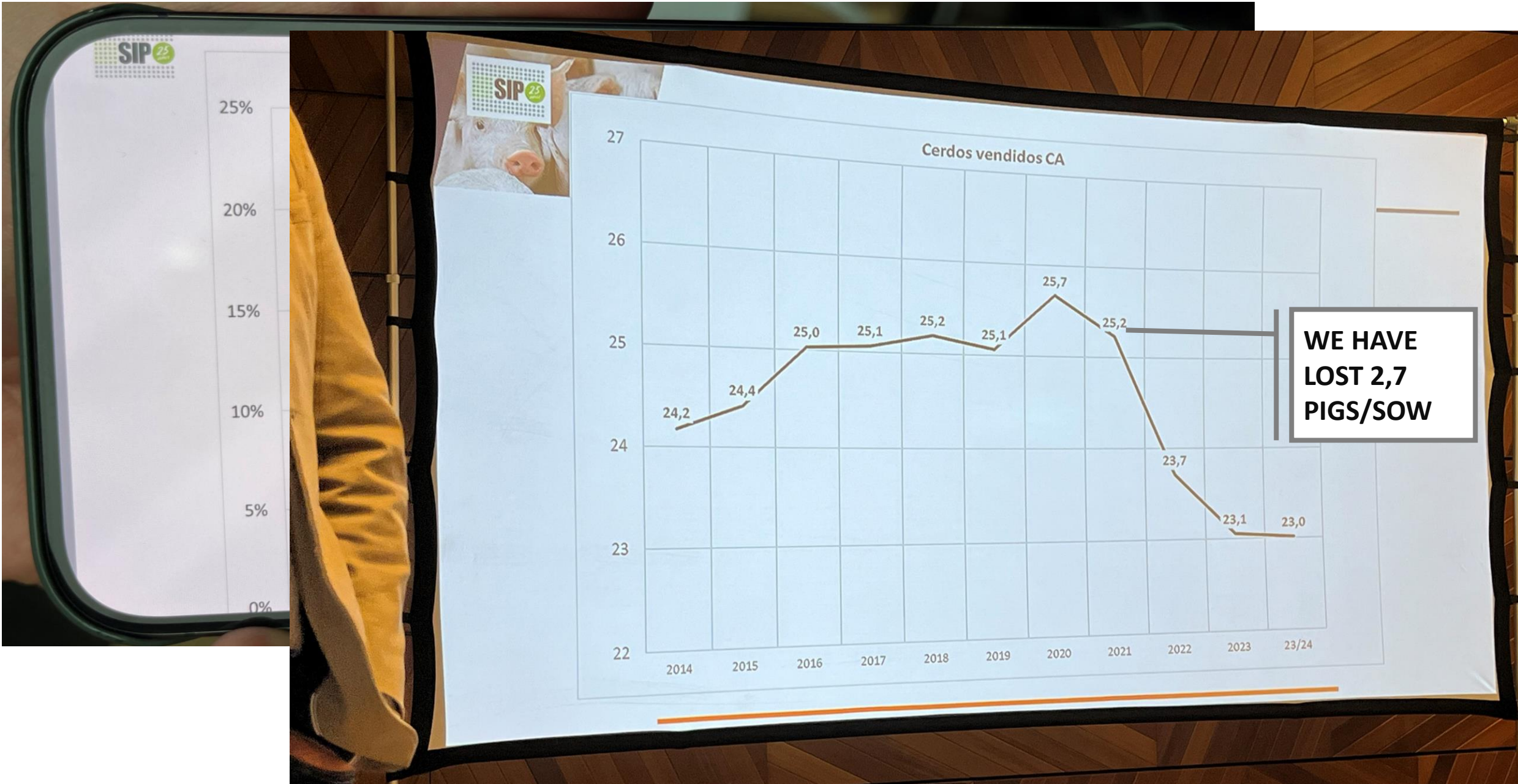
Antibiotic reduction



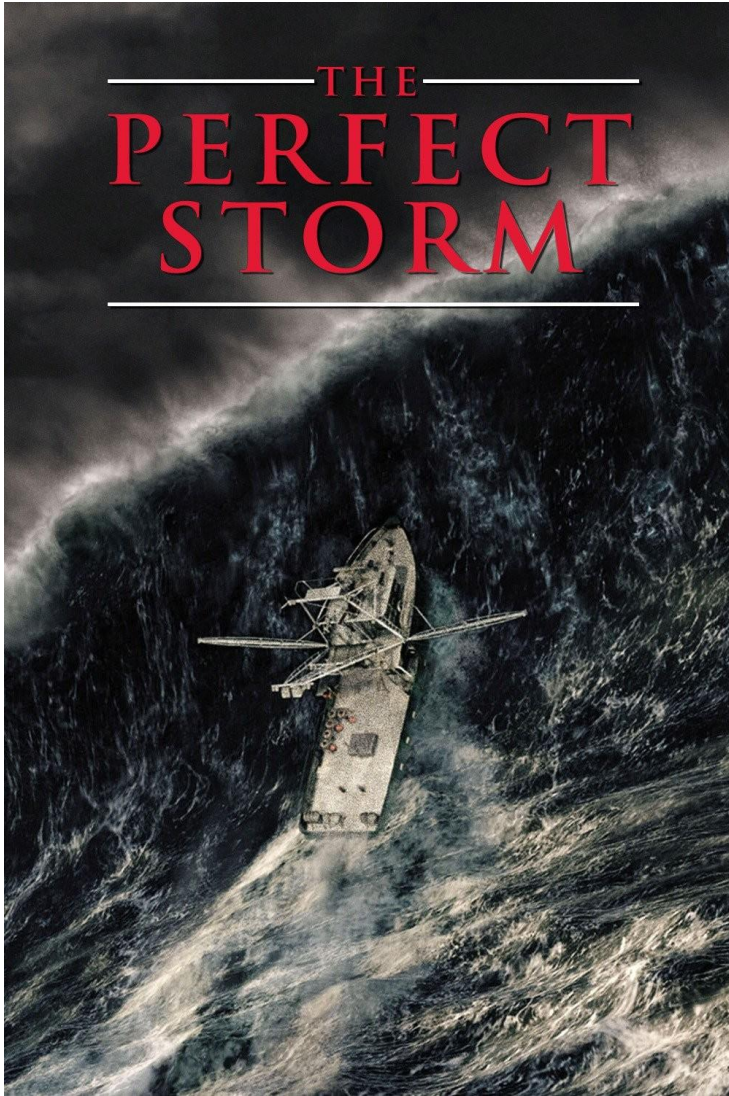
Antibiotic reduction



Health challenges we are currently facing



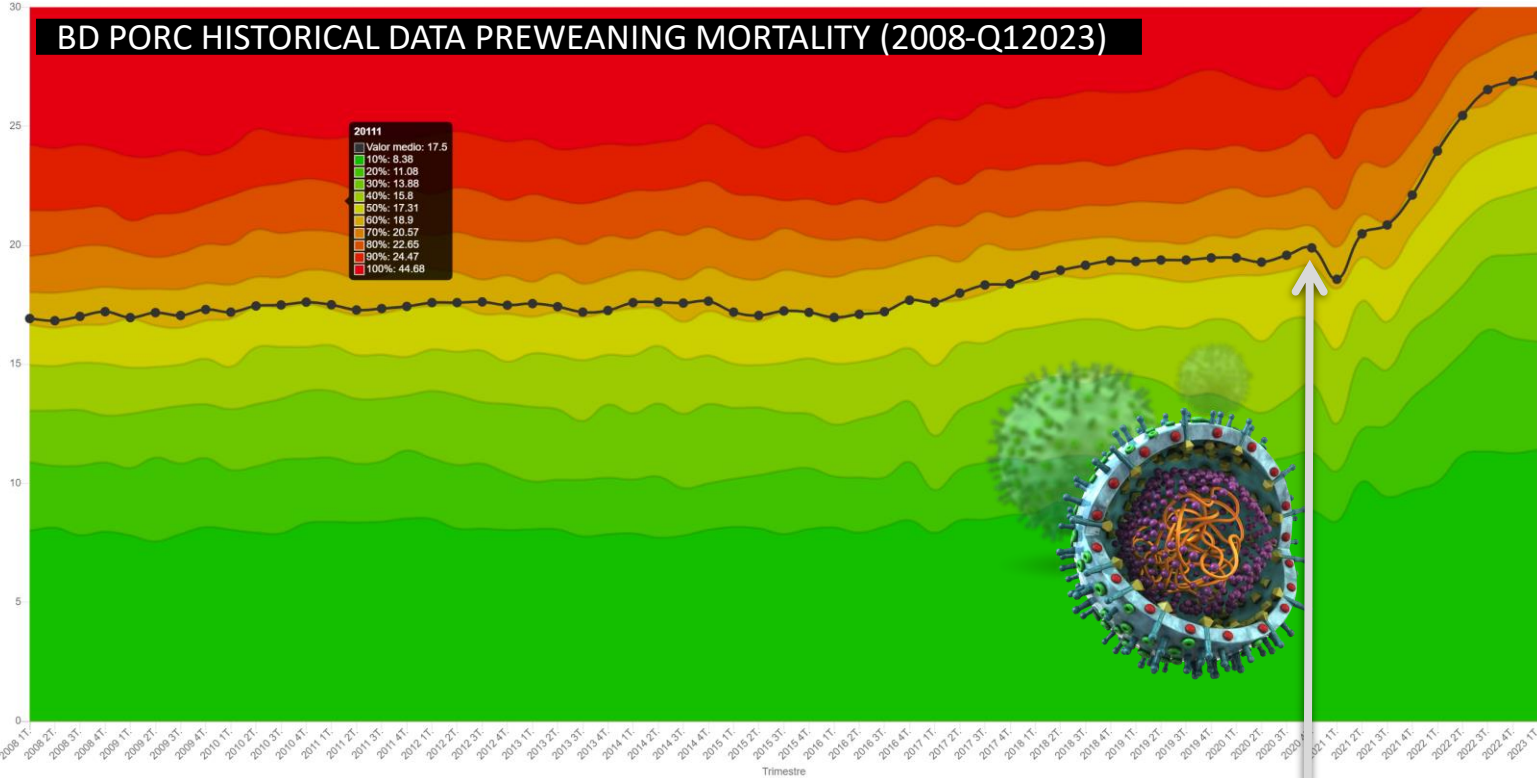
Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS



WEANING AGE
ANTIBIOTIC RESTRICTIONS
PED
Zn Oxide BAN
HIGH % REPLACEMENT
INTEGRATION SYSTEM
HYPERPROLIFICACY
INCREASING FARM SIZE

PRRS
ROSALIA

Health challenges we are currently facing



IMPORTED PIGLETS TO SPAIN
3,7M (2024 ESTIMATION)

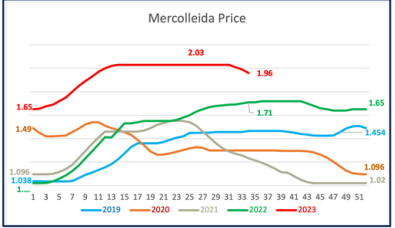
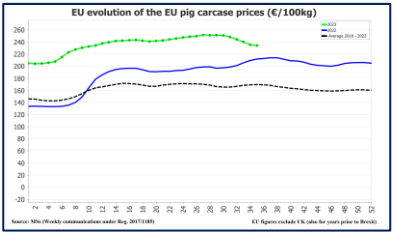
From

🇧🇪 🇩🇪 🇩🇰 🇪🇺

IV. EVOLUCIÓN DE LAS IMPORTACIONES ESPAÑOLAS DE PORCINO, POR TIPOLOGÍA DE PRODUCTOS

IV.2. ANIMALES VIVOS DE PORCINO (TARIC: 0103)
(En volumen -Nº animales-)

País de origen	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (est.)
Belgium	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Denmark	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Germany	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Spain	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000



↑ **34%** 🇪🇸
IMPORTS

↑ **PORK PRICES**
↑ **PIGLETS' PRICE**

2021 HYPERVIRULENT PRRS OUTBREAK

↑ % ABORTIONS (up to 25%)
↑ PIGLETS MORTALITY (up to 50%)
↑ PROLONGED IN TIME (up to 2 Y)

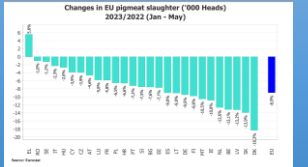
➡

↓ 🇪🇸 **10% PRODUCTION**

+

↓ 🇪🇺 **PRODUCTION/CENSUS**

21



Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

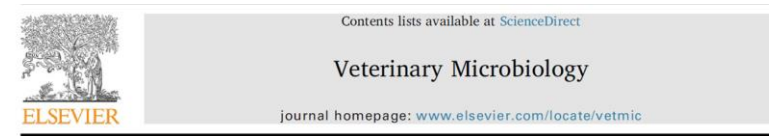
WHO IS ROSALIA??



HIGH VIRULENT PRRSV-1 strain.

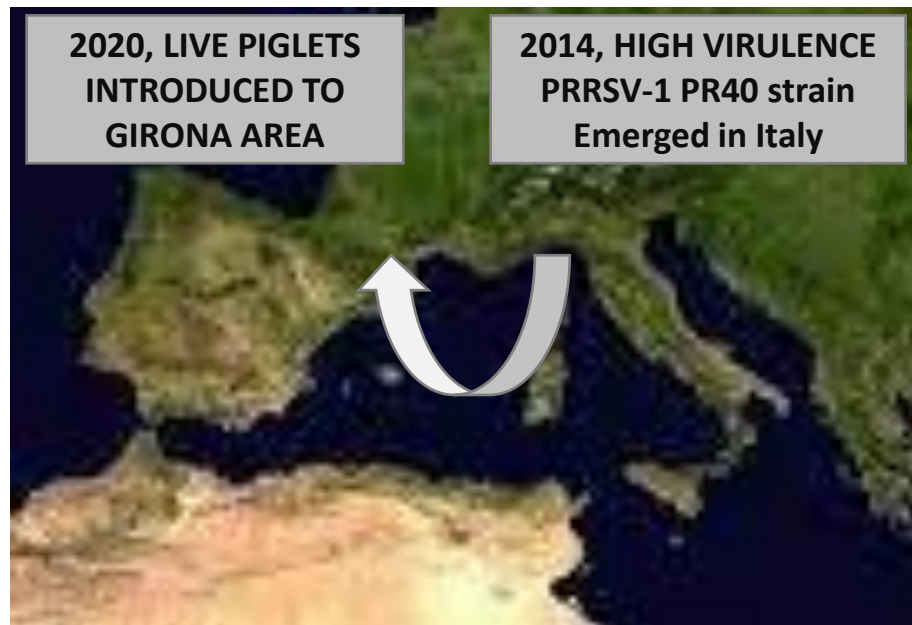
In some cases, it is considered even worse than highly pathogenic PRRSV-2 strains

Reassortant (Italy + Korea + Spain + Unknown genes).



Phenotypic characterization of a highly pathogenic Italian porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV) type 1 subtype 1 isolate in experimentally infected pigs

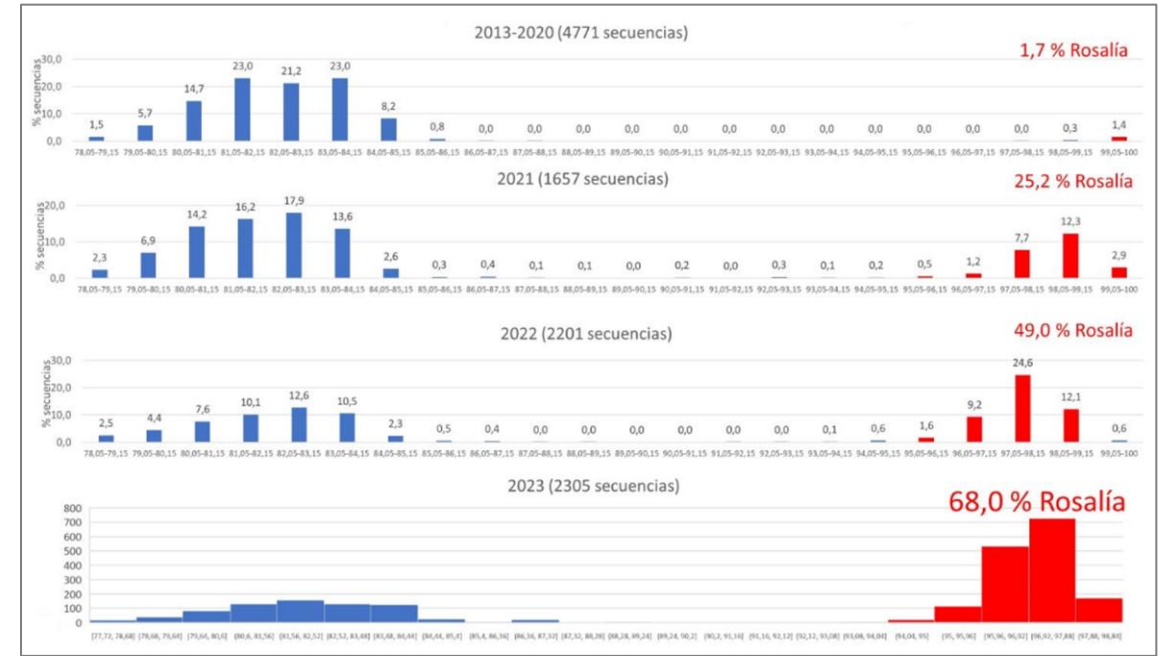
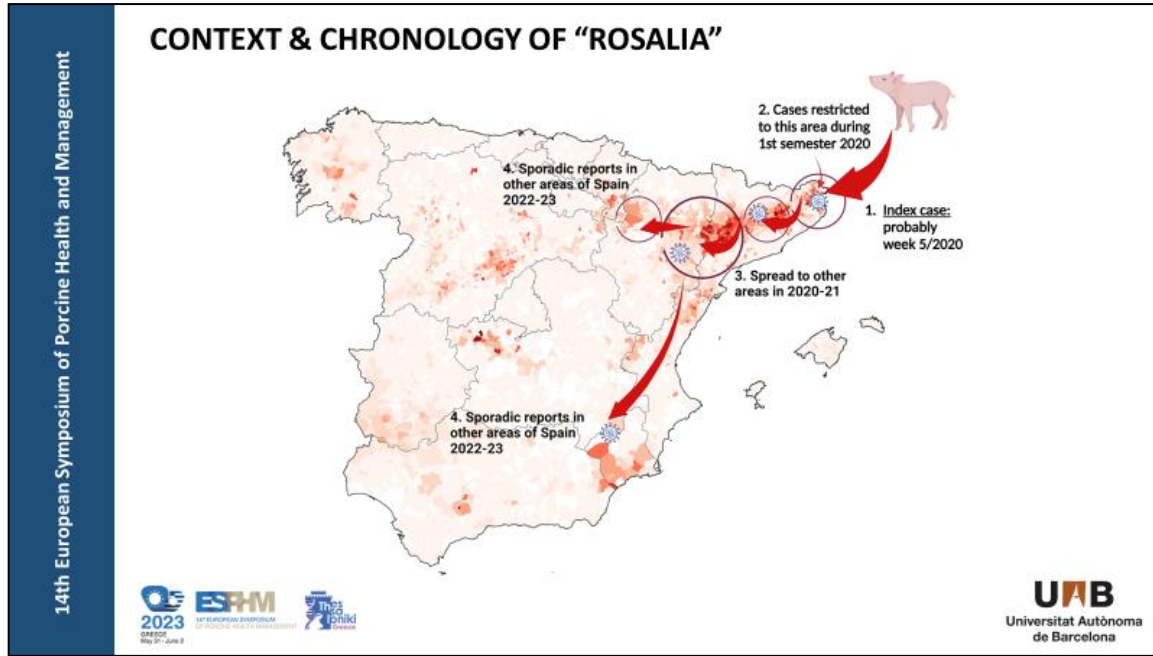
Elena Canelli^{a,*}, Alessia Catella^a, Paolo Borghetti^a, Luca Ferrari^a, Giulia Ogno^a, Elena De Angelis^a, Attilio Corradi^a, Benedetta Passeri^a, Valeria Bertani^a, Giampietro Sandri^b, Paolo Bonilauri^c, Frederick C. Leung^{d,e}, Stefano Guazzetti^f, Paolo Martelli^a



Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

SPREADING VERY FAST

GSP Lab SEQUENCING RESULTS



- Higher replication in larger range of tissues = Larger viremia (X6) / higher viral loads (X1000) / Lower infective dose
- New strain = no previous immunity = epidemic outbreaks = Higher transmission rate between animals and farms = Higher incidence
- Higher variation due to mutation (genetic drift) annual nucleotide substitution rate **x10**:
- High reassortment: High number of animals affected during longer time
- HIGH VARIABILITY IN RELATION TO TIME

Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

- **Airborne transmission:** Manure in fields + airborne??
 - i.e.: Large Company, 25Ksow farms.
 - From 25k, only 2 remain free from Rosalia, both with filtered air...
 - “BUNKER” EFFECT???
- Semen, Fomites, Pigs + other animal vectors...
- Equipment shared between farms (maily growers / sometimes nurseries...)
Attention to vaccination teams: Same vaccination equipment & syringes between farms...
- **Corpse containers**
- **Commercial trucks** moving piglets



LONG TRIPS
sometimes
+ FREQUENCY (i.e.
2/week in large
farms)
+ HIGH NUMBER OF
ANIMALS (i.e. 1800
weaners in a 3 flat
truck)

Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS



Not too many companies have proper facilities to clean trucks (5000 l water + 1 hour time to clean in adequate facilities)

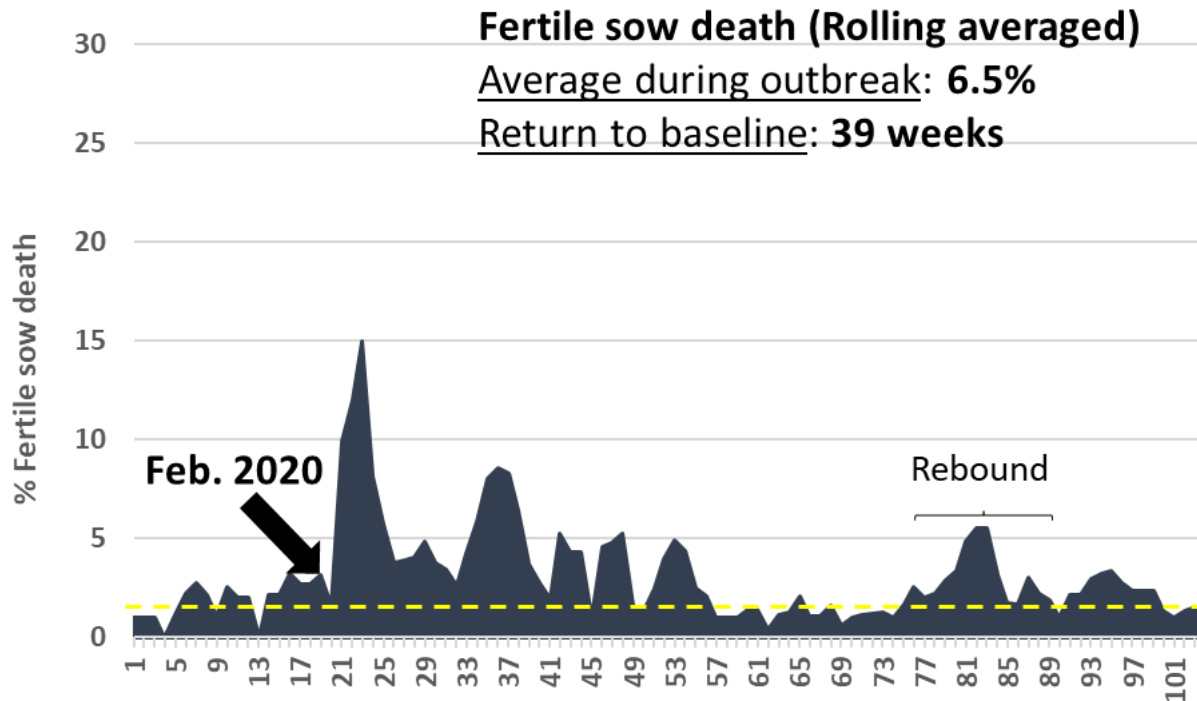
Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT



SOWS:

- Fever, inappetence, laying down, respiratory signs, death.
- Blue ears and mammary glands in some cases.



Early outbreak (Winter-spring 2020). PRRSV-1 stable farm (1,330 vaccinated sows)

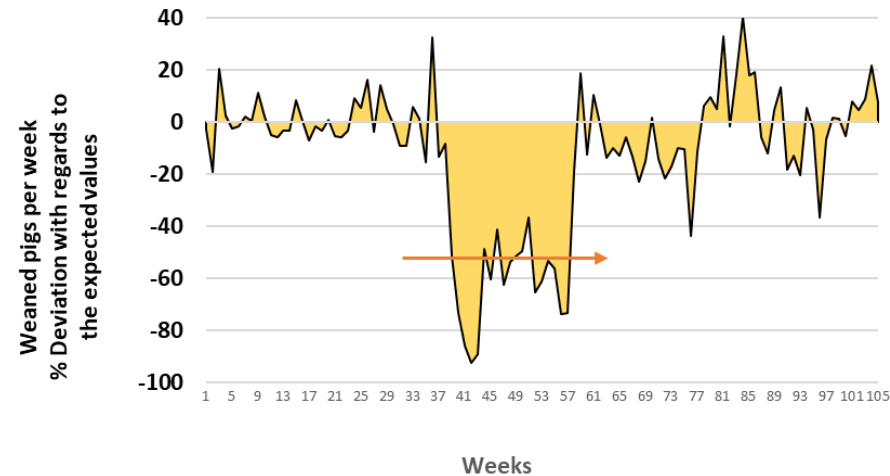
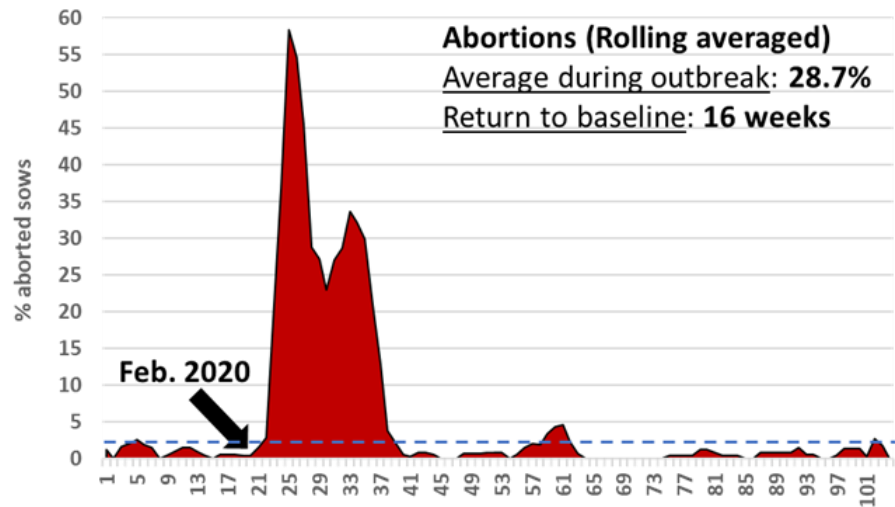
Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT



SOWS:

- Fever, inappetence, laying down, respiratory signs, death.
- Blue ears and mammary glands in some cases.



On average, -
18% of the
annual
production of
weaned pigs
lost during the
outbreak

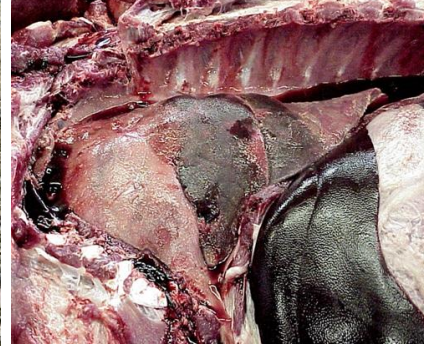
Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT

SOWS										€/piglet	
Situation 1 (S1)			Situation 2 (S2)					S1	S2	Diff.	
Per cicle:	%	Days	NPD	%	Days	NPD	Litters/sow/year	2,23	2,30		
Wean to 1rst service interval			7,5			7,5	Piglets weaned / farrow	10,50	12,62		
Repetitions	9,0%	35	3,2	9,0%	35	3,2	Production	23,4	29,1	7,8	
Abortions	7,5%	80	6,0	2,0%	90	1,8	Gestation Feed (kg/day)	2,4	2,4		
Gest. sows slaughtered	3,0%	72	2,2	3,0%	72	2,2	Lactation Feed (kg/day)	6,7	6,7		
Gestation sows died	6,0%	45	2,7	2,0%	90	1,8	Feed Sow/year	1.154	1.163		
Total			21,5			16,4	Feed Price (€/T)	327	327		
Days of Gestation			116			116	Gilt cost at first service	253	253		
Days of Lactation Piglet			23			23	Slaughtered sows price	163	163		
Days of Lactation Sow			26			26	% Reposition	54%	54%		
NPD / year			48				38	Sow Cost per year	940	902	
			0,134					Feed	378	380	-0,1
SIP average			SIP				Accomod. and Manag.	366	366		
Clean:							Reposition	72	58	0,5	
Sows			F_1				Treatment				
Nursery			F_2				Medicines	100,0	74,0	0,9	
Finishing			F_3				Service	24,0	24,0		
							Weaned piglet cost6,3kg	40,1	31,0	9,1	
							Non productive days Cost	2,6	2,5		

Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT



NURSERY:

- High fever, lying down, severe coughing, and respiratory signs.
- Interstitial pneumonia: Severe and persistent lung lesions
 - (5-6 weeks after infection still lesions detected).
- Conjunctivitis, swollen eyes in some cases.
- Secondary infections: Polyserositis.
- Multifocal petechia + haemorrhages

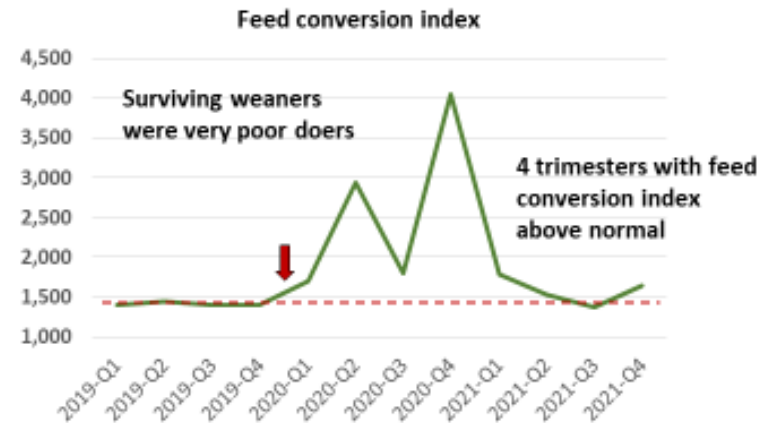
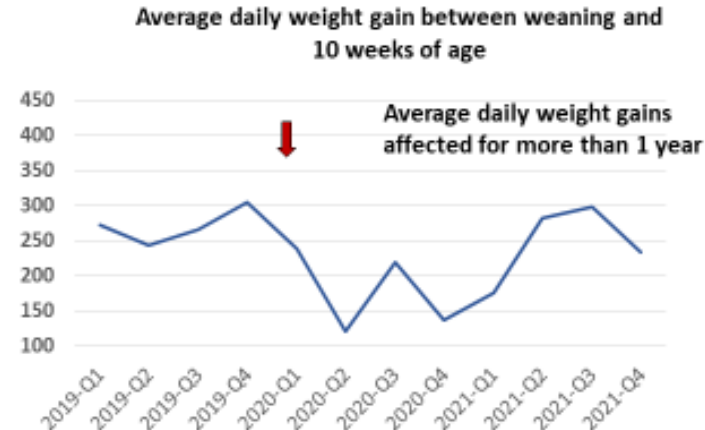
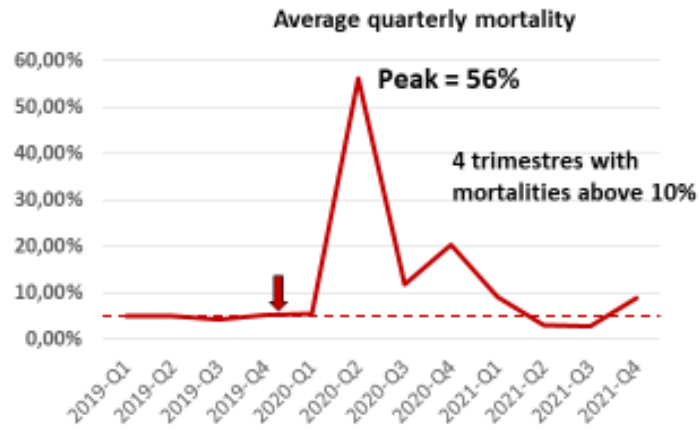
IMMUNE SYSTEM COMPROMISED:

- Severe lymphopenia
- Exacerbation of other diseases
- Influenza (UAB study much higher prevalence, flu new outbreaks match mortality peaks).
- Vaccination failure
- PCV2, mhyo, app...

Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT

14th European Symposium of Porcine Health and Management



IMPACT

Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT

NURSERY		€/piglet	
	S1	S2	Diff.
Piglet IN Cost 6,3kg	50,1	32,6	
Weight IN	6,3	6,3	
Weight OUT	18,0	18,0	
Economic Growth (g/day)	160	270	
Technical Growth (g/day)	220	291	1,3
Economic accommodation days	63,7	42,4	
Economic Feed conversion	2,20	1,58	
Technical Feed conversion	1,70	1,50	1,3
Feed per piglet (kg)	22,4	18,1	
Mortality	25,0%	5,0%	11,0
Weight of the dead animals (kg)	12	12	
Medicines	2,5	1,5	0,6
Treatment (€/piglet)			
Piglet Cost 18kg	71,1	48,1	23,0
Feed	12,3	9,9	
Hosting and Management	6,1	4,1	
Medicines	2,5	1,5	
Treatment			
Economic return			
Total Eco. Return			
Mortality - Nursery			
% Regular mortality	25,0%	5,0%	
Weight (kg)	12	12	

FINISHING		€/pig	
	S1	S2	Diff.
Piglet IN Cost 18kg	87,4	50,0	
Weight IN	18,0	18,0	
Weight OUT	114,0	114,0	
Economic Growth (g/day)	703	676	
Technical Growth (g/day)	972	709	-4,0
Economic accommodation days	130,7	140,9	
Economic Feed conversion	2,85	2,40	
Technical Feed conversion	2,55	2,35	5,9
Feed per pig (kg)	261,8	228,7	
Mortality	23,0%	4,0%	21,3
Weight of the dead animals (kg)	55	55	
Medicines	2,7	1,7	0,6
Tratamiento (€/cerdo)			
Pig Cost 114kg	188,2	140,3	47,9
Feed	83,8	73,2	
Hosting and Management	14,3	15,4	
Medicines	2,7	1,7	
Treatment			
Cost (€/kg)	1,65	1,23	
Economic return			
Total Eco. Return			
Mortality - Finishing			
% Regular mortality	23,0%	4,0%	
Weight (kg)	55	55	

**FOR
EVERY
1000
SOWS,
WE LOSE
1.5€M**

Health challenges we are currently facing -> PRRS

CLINICAL SIGNS AND PRODUCTIVE IMPACT



Quarantine

Adaptation

Control gestation
(crates)

Confirmed Gestation
(pens)

GROWING UNIT
Edad 1 Edad 2 Edad 3 Edad 4



Rosalia: Faster replication
/ transmission / higher
virulence

NURSERY UNIT
Edad 5 Edad 6 Edad 7 Edad 8 Edad 9 Edad 10 Edad 11

FINISHERS
Edad 12 Edad 13 Edad 14 Edad 15 Edad 16 Edad 17 Edad 18 Edad 19 Edad 20 Edad 21 Edad 22 Edad 23 Edad 24 Edad 25 Edad 26 Edad 27 Edad 28 Edad 29 Edad 30 Edad 31










REALITIVELY “EASY” TO ACHIEVE “ALMOST” NEGATIVE PIGLETS AT WEANING
THE BIG PROBLEM IS ROSALIA CIRCULATION IN NURSERIES:
7-10 days Incubation period, Clinical signs start 2-3 weeks after weaning

Conclusion 1

Rosalia totally changed the rules of production in Spain

- **Change in production mentally** (volume vs. health and piglet quality).
- **Continuous production flows no longer viable**
 - Key point is AI-AO in nursery
- **Batch management transformation**
 - >1 Week is a very helpful tool, no matter of the farm size
 - 3-5 weeks batch management is a trend
- **Increase biosecurity, plan eradication programs**
- **Dramatic increase of the bacterial problems**
 - S suis especially 2,9
 - APP with a big increase of new serotypes 9
 - Coinfections with other viral diseases like swine influenza
- **Still big problems with E. coli**
 - **Ban of zinc oxide** transformed the nutrition in the nurseries
 - Feed additives are proliferating
 - Organic acids, essential oils & other and combinations are the future

Conclusions 2

	THE SWINE INDUSTRY (PROFITABILITY)	WORK DAILY TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION COST
	ANIMAL WELFARE & TRANSPORT	WILL COME-> NO CHANCE
	PEOPLE	INVEST IN PEOPLE & RETENTION
	ANTIBIOTIC REDUCTION	ALTERNATIVE MOLECULES & COMBOS
	HEALTH CHALLENGES	ASF/PRRS/FLU/S SUIS/APP/E COLI
	SUSTAINABILITY/GROWTH	IS IT POSSIBLE?
	TECHNOLOGY & DIGITALIZATION	ADOPT IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

THANK YOU!