

A close-up photograph of a man with short brown hair and a beard, wearing a light blue t-shirt. He is holding a young, pink piglet against his chest. The piglet has a small pink ear tag. The man is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

KNOW YOUR PIG

Control
YOUR FARM



**“KNOW YOUR PIG.
CONTROL YOUR FARM.”**





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KNOW YOUR PIG. CONTROL YOUR FARM.

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“KNOW
YOUR PIG.
CONTROL
YOUR FARM.”

Bertino Verstege

MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEDAP LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

SUCCESS STARTS WITH THE INDIVIDUAL PIG

Today's pig farmer is facing an enormous challenge.

Demand for pork is growing, while the costs of raw materials, energy and labour continue to increase.

Luckily, the pig farmer doesn't have to cope with this alone. For 35 years we have been developing technological solutions; designed with the aim of managing large numbers of animals, yet always with the individual animal in mind.

We help pig farmers – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – to give individual pigs the care they need in order to achieve the best results.

More calmness in the group, less feed, less labour and more profit. That's why we at Nedap say: Know your pig.

Control your farm.

From this vision, Nedap Livestock Management has grown to become a globally respected player in automation for livestock management. In 1983, Nedap created its first sow feeding station. In 2014 we are proud to introduce our smart solution for farrowing feeding.

EASY TO EXPAND FROM 500 TO 5,000 PIGS

Nedap applications are based on the individual identification of each animal. No matter how big the group,

no pig becomes anonymous. You can control the condition and performance of your pigs. The user-friendly Nedap Technical Platform is a simple way to gain complete control over every pig and to monitor, manage and look after it individually.

"WELCOME
TO OUR
SMART
SOLUTIONS

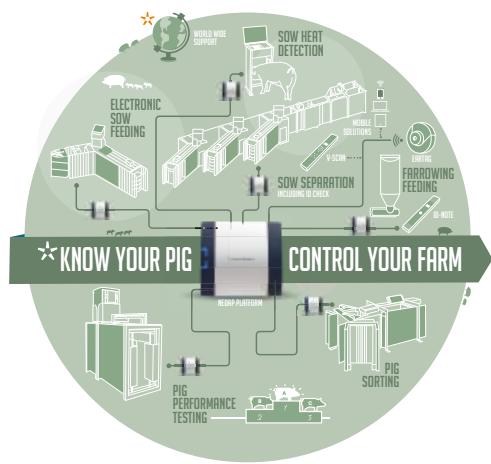
FOR PIG
FARMERS."

Every animal gets exactly what it needs, at the right time, so it can stay happy and healthy. You can collect detailed management information for each pig, obtain an overview, and make your own decisions. You'll also save a considerable amount on feed. In short, it's a vital tool for healthier pigs, that is: healthy profits.



MORE INFO

Read more about
Nedap Pig Farming at our website.
www.nedap.com/pigfarming



COMPLETE SOLUTIONS FOR THE COMPLETE PRODUCTION CYCLE. AND FOR EVERY PIG.

Pig farmers now have access to an all-inclusive application for the efficient large-scale and animal-friendly management of the whole chain.

A new direction was taken in 2006 with the introduction of the new Nedap Technical Platform and updated Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding for individual feeding in groups. Sows stay in top condition, they have more piglets and there is peace in the pen.

Then came Nedap Sow Heat Detection and Separation, which allows you to immediately identify, mark and separate every sow in heat.

A further breakthrough was Nedap Pig Performance Testing, which makes genetic selection of pigs based on feed conversion much easier.

With Pig Sorting, Nedap also has the right application for the selection and growing of finisher pigs.

NEW. FARROWING FEEDING.

The recent innovation of Farrowing Feeding makes the Nedap total concept complete. With this new application, you can feed sows entirely according to individual needs. The feeding frequency and feed rate can be adjusted for each sow. The feed curve can also be controlled automatically.

NEDAP. FOR PIG FARMERS BY PIG FARMERS.

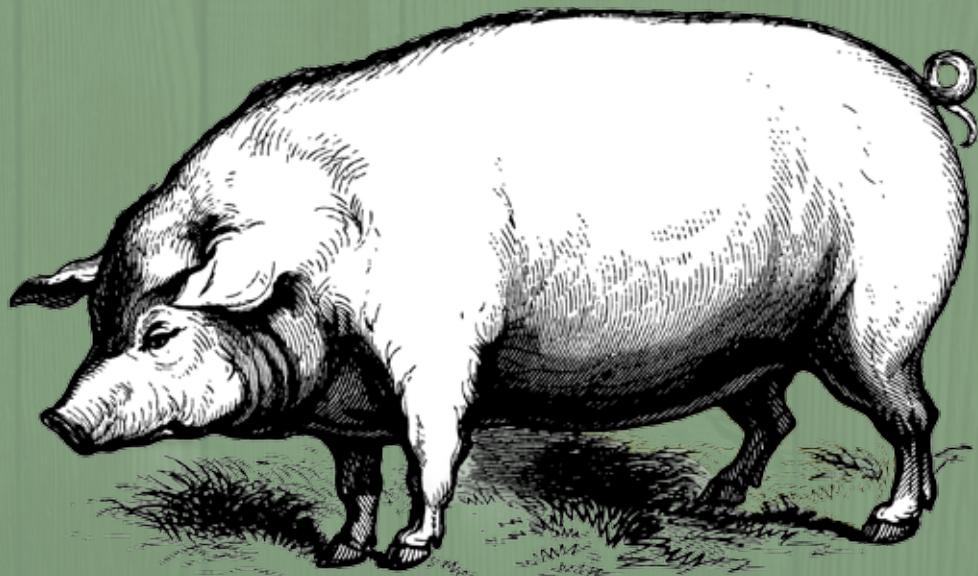
Know your pig. Control your farm. Naturally we're happy to share our views and experiences with you. But who better to do it than your colleagues themselves? On the following pages, successful pig farmers share their personal experiences. This will help you to get a good idea of the possibilities Nedap applications have to offer. And you'll get lots of practical tips and advice. Because we always develop our solutions in collaboration with pig farmers. Want to know even more? We're here to help each individual pig farmer.

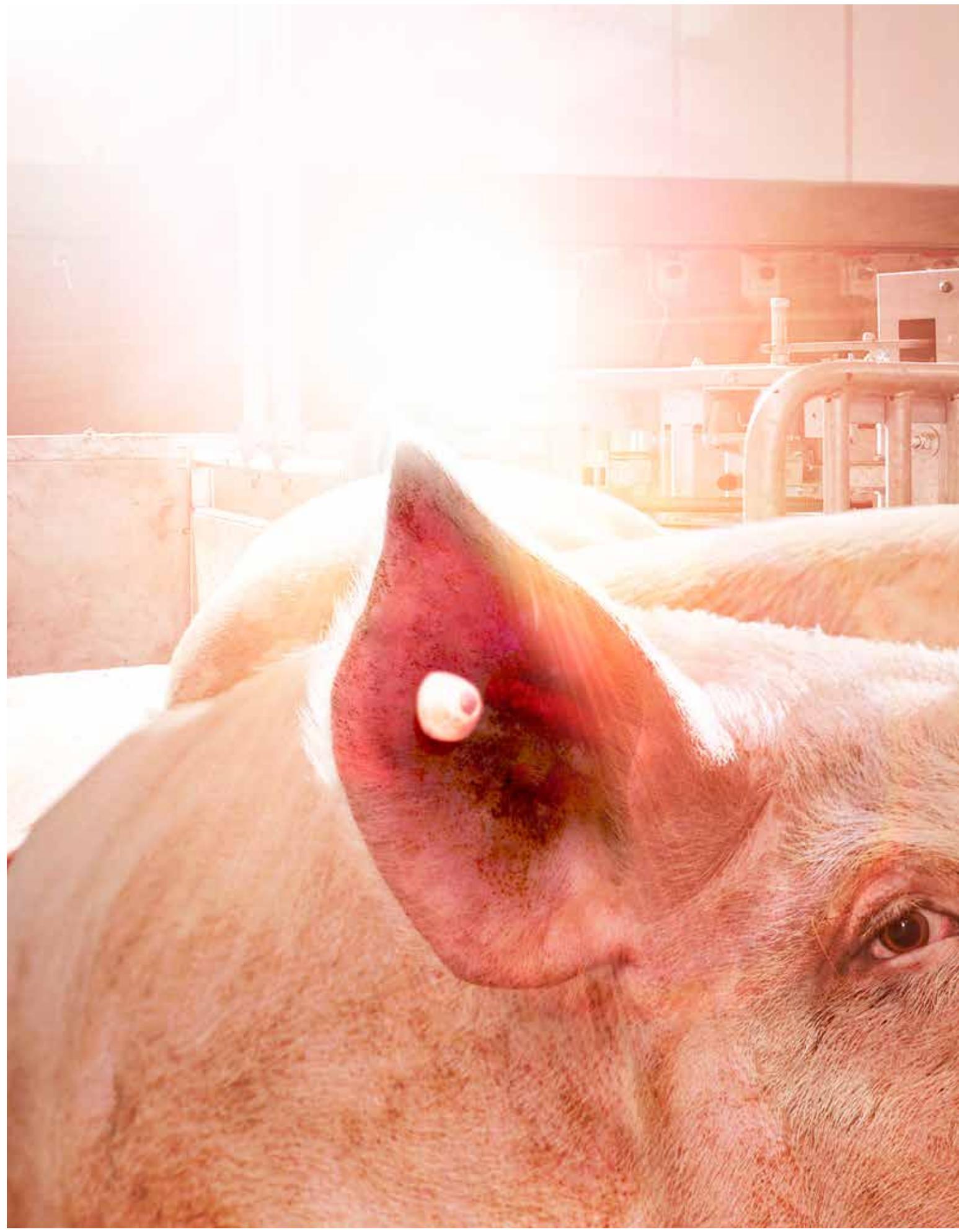
*"Control over every pig
is control over every
aspect of your business."*

Nedap Pig Farming

**“KNOW
YOUR PIG.
CONTROL
YOUR FARM.”**

BERTINO
VERSTEGE





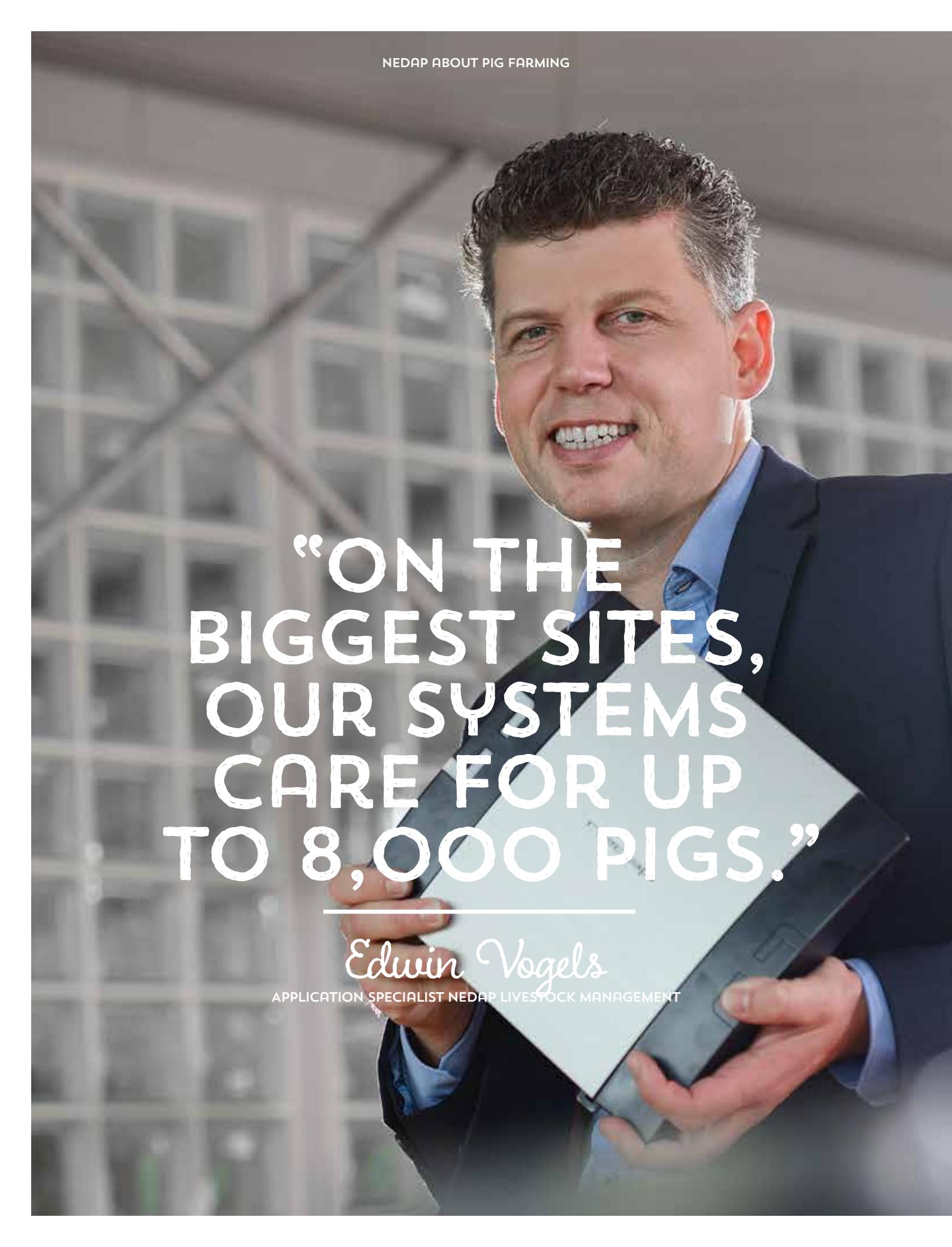


**“OPTIMAL SOW
CONDITION.”**



**ELECTRONIC
SOW FEEDING**





“ON THE
BIGGEST SITES,
OUR SYSTEMS
CARE FOR UP
TO 8,000 PIGS.”

Edwin Vogels

APPLICATION SPECIALIST NEDAP LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

NEDAP ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING A SOURCE OF CALMNESS IN THE PENS

Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding is more than just a place where sows can calmly claim their own feed ration. It is the linchpin of individual management of pigs in large groups. The separation station automatically selects sows which need to be away from the group temporarily. "As a result, you



"YOU FEED EXACTLY WHAT THE PIG NEEDS."

maintain calm in the group. That's very important for the technical results," says Edwin Vogels, Application Specialist pigs at Nedap Livestock Management.

FEEDING THE INDIVIDUAL PIG - FOR OPTIMAL BODY CONDITION

Since the 1970s Nedap has developed feeding stations for pigs in group housing, in which the individual approach to animals is of the utmost importance. Now Nedap systems are used on thousands of pig farms around the world. "A big advantage is that electronic animal identification allows you to feed pigs individually," Vogels says.

"You feed exactly what the animal needs.

This is important, certainly in gestating sows. We want to have them in optimal condition in the farrowing pen: not too fat and not too skinny."

CALMNESS IN THE PENS

IMPROVES RESULTS

This is crucial for healthy litters of rosy piglets. But calmness in the group is just as important for the technical results, all the more so now that sows go back to the group from day 4 after insemination. The separation station makes an important contribution to that peace, says Vogels. "Think, for example, of sows that need to go to the farrowing pen, or animals that need to be scanned for pregnancy. After eating, these are quietly directed to the separation area; humans aren't involved anymore." In addition, the separation unit can mark animals in need of attention in three different colours, so you can see where they need to go based on the colour.



"You maintain calmness in the group. That's very important for the technical results."

SOWS IN HEAT AUTOMATICALLY MARKED AND SEPARATED

Sows returning to heat can also be selected in this way via automatic heat detection. This (optional) station registers how sows respond to the boar present. Sows in heat – typical troublemakers in a group – are then automatically marked and separated.

"That tremendous calmness in the pens, it's something we often hear in feedback from our users," says Vogels. "The whole layout of the pen is designed with it in mind too: pigs that have been through the feeding station have to go around the whole pen first before they can go through again. That means that each animal gets a turn to eat in peace."



MORE INFO

Read more about Electronic Sow Feeding at our website.

www.nedap.com/electronicsowfeeding

MANAGING PIGS INDIVIDUALLY

- EVEN ON THE BIGGEST SITES

For the sake of peace, and for safety, only one animal at a time can enter the feeding station. The maximum capacity is 60 sows per station. The number of stations can easily be increased step by step, to a maximum of 6 stations per separation unit." On the biggest sites, our systems take care up to 8,000 pigs."

Even while pig farms are getting increasingly larger, Nedap's smart technology means that pigs can be managed individually. "For example, our feeding station also keeps tabs on feeding behaviour. If a sow doesn't eat, or eats less, then that is an indication that there's something wrong. That means that the pig farmer has an additional tool for health monitoring at his or her disposal."

WORK, PROFIT AND WELFARE IN BALANCE

Naturally, as a pig farmer, you also need to keep checking your animals thoroughly, he says." You can't leave everything to the system yet. But certainly a lot." In this way Nedap Livestock Management contributes to healthy growth in pig management, with work, profit and welfare in balance.

Nedap Pig Farming

“A SOURCE OF
CALMNESS
IN THE PENS.”

EDWIN
VOGELS

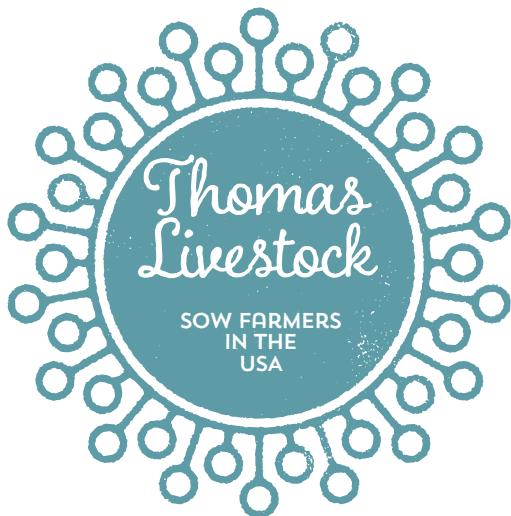




"ELECTRONIC FEEDING SYSTEM HELPS PRODUCE 2,000 MORE PIGS AT THOMAS LIVESTOCK."

THOMAS LIVESTOCK, BROKEN
BOW, NEBRASKA, USA





*Steve Horton, Thomas Livestock
Broken Bow, Nebraska, U.S.A.*

0.5 LIVE PIGS PER SOW PER YEAR EXTRA.

The facility managers at Thomas Livestock in Broken Bow, Nebraska, have evaluated ways to produce more pigs per sow per year. In just one year, they have added an additional 0.5 live pigs per sow per year in their 4,000 sow operation in the Georgetown facility - an improvement that they say is possible because of the Electronic Sow Feeding and management system from Nedap.

ELECTRONIC FEEDING SYSTEM HELPS PRODUCE 2,000 MORE PIGS AT THOMAS LIVESTOCK

In sow units, additional live pigs born equal a higher bottom line. With feed, management and housing costs remaining the same no matter the number of pigs, the more live pigs born: the greater the profit potential for the operation.

"0.5 LIVE BORN PIGS PER SOW PER YEAR EXTRA."

With this in mind, the facility managers at Thomas Livestock in Broken Bow, Neb., have evaluated ways to produce more pigs per sow per year.

In just one year, they have added an additional 0.5 live pigs per sow per year in their 4,000 sow operation in the Georgetown facility – an improvement that they say is possible because of the Electronic Sow Feeding and management system from Nedap.

Steve Horton is the production manager who oversees the Georgetown Sow Facility along with 17 employees. With 35 years of experience in the swine industry and 5 years at Thomas Livestock, he has managed many types of sow facilities from gestation-crate housed sows to dynamic group settings. He has found the facility's current group system with individual care to provide the optimal combination of labor, individual sow care and performance.

"In any system, sow performance is big," he says. "At Thomas Livestock, all of our weaner pigs go to another one of our facilities to be finished. The more pigs we can finish, the better we can care for the sows. The Electronic Sow Feeding system has helped us keep improving this number. And the sows are calm, the employees have adapted to the system and we can better provide individual care to the sows."

"We were interested in this type of sow management to compare management strategies and because the market is beginning to demand it," Horton says, explaining that the team evaluated options for more than two years before breaking ground on the Georgetown facility. "We

did our research and everything made sense with this system." Now that the gilts, sows and employees at the facility have adapted to the system, Horton says he has seen significant enhancements in animal behavior and performance levels.

"The difference in sow temperament is one of the most obvious changes," he says. "The sows have a whole different personality; they're much more relaxed. We've learned that if we put the sows through the system before putting them in the groups, we have very little aggression issues and, with our large pens, there is no pecking order."

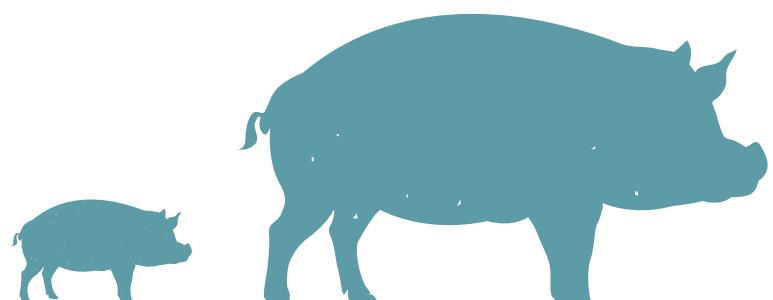
Due to the success of the first installation, Thomas Livestock is considering installing a Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding and management system in a new sow facility.

"The Nedap system is a good management tool: we can produce more pigs, have a more relaxed atmosphere and monitor the gilts and sows better," Horton says. "Once the employees are trained to use the system, it's very efficient and pretty self-sustaining. We are pleased with the system and I would recommend it to other sow managers."



Facts and Figures

- ★ Electronic Sow Feeding system helped produce 2,000 more pigs - 0.5 more live pigs per sow per year on average than their other facilities
- ★ Increased profit potential
- ★ Decreased feed waste
- ★ Increased number of gilts detected for heat on first estrus and found open sows quicker
- ★ Feeding strategies are easily changed in the software program
- ★ Automated gate system sorts gilts and sows when they exhibit signs of estrus
- ★ Nedap RFID and software monitor the activity of each animal on a daily basis
- ★ Detailed management reports help manage each of the gilts and sows individually
- ★ Significant enhancements in animal behavior and performance levels
- ★ Sows are more relaxed, calm and the noise level is decreased





“IMPROVING
TECHNICAL
RESULTS WITH
ELECTRONIC
SOW FEEDING
AND GOOD
MANAGEMENT.”

CLAUS AND JANNY PEDERSEN
FROM GRÅSTEN, DENMARK





Claus and Janny Pedersen
Gråsten, Denmark

THEY SWITCHED TO NEDAP ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING

When Claus and Janny Pedersen from Gråsten, Denmark, expanded their sow farm in 2007, they switched to Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding. The automated feeding stations on Mariesminde, as the farm is called, have since become indispensable.

The switch from sow boxes to group housing with Electronic Sow Feeding was backed by intensive support from Nedap, mainly because the system had not yet been widely tested. As a result, the people at Nedap were on hand to help them 24/7 – a huge benefit to the Pedersens. Several years down the line and the stations are working really well, they say.

Another major advantage of the automated feeding stations is that Nedap can monitor everything online with TeamViewer. "It's all really straightforward."

READ MORE

Read the whole reference case of Claus and Janny Pedersen and learn more about the advantages of Electronic Sow Feeding at our website

[nedap.com/
electronicssowfeeding/
references](http://nedap.com/electronicsowfeeding/references)



TRAINING SHED

There are three feeding stations on both sides of the aisle in the group housing, and there is also a separate part of the barn with an Electronic Sow Feeding system, which is the 'training barn' where the sows can get used to the equipment.

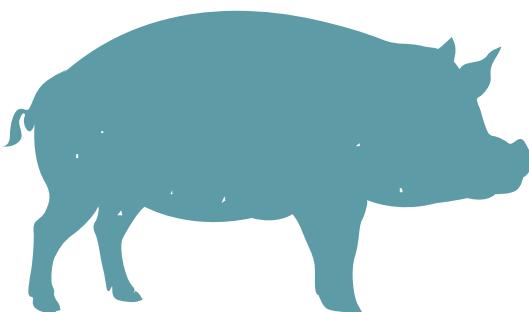
CHEAPEST

"This is the best solution for us and we also think it's the cheapest way of keeping pregnant sows in groups. We lose very few

sows and they rarely abort," says Janny, adding that they go over the group barn with the manure scraper every day. The sows are also checked thoroughly once a day for foot and other problems. "If it isn't calm in the barn, that's really hard to do."

LIQUID FEED

Claus endorses the positive view of the feeding station. "I actually liked it as soon as I saw it for the first time at Agromek. All you need in the barn are a few fences. It's much cheaper than other systems." Interestingly, the sows are fed liquid feed. According to Claus and Janny, it's a myth that you can only use dry feed with the transponders. "You can set the amount of liquid feed accurately too."





**"YOU CAN
SET THE
AMOUNT OF
LIQUID FEED
ACCURATELY
TOO."**

About 80% of the grain component of the liquid feed (wheat, barley and oats) comes from the Pedersens' own farm. They use 160 hectares for this, 110 hectares of which are their own property and the rest is leased. Soya meal and a vitamin mix round off the home-mixed feed.

PRODUCTIVITY

Productivity is developing very well. "We produce a status report in Agrossoft every three months, and we are seeing a slight improvement every time." The latest report puts production at 29.5 weaned piglets

per sow per annum. That is more than the average of 28.1 that was achieved by the Danish sow farming sector as a whole last year. The average per litter at Marieminde is 14.9 live born and 1.8 stillborn piglets. The result per sow per litter is 12.9 weaned pigs. Claus: "The better technical results are partly due to the Nedap system, combined with the gradual improvements in breeding. Management in the barn also plays a role." As Janny says, a good farm manager removes bad sows straight away. "And we are lucky to have a really good farm manager at the moment."



“SOW GROUP
HOUSING ON
STRAW WITH
ELECTRONIC
FEEDING
STATIONS; IT
FEELS LIKE THE
ONLY CORRECT
CHOICE.”



MERYL WARD AND SAM GILLIOT,
LINCOLNSHIRE, UNITED
KINGDOM



*Meryl Ward and Sam Gilliot
Lincolnshire, United Kingdom*

WE HAVE HAD NEDAP ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS.

Last year we switched to the new Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding on the Nedap Technical Platform.

The old sow-operated feeding stations were good, but the new Electronic Sow Feeding system with mechanical entrance doors is even better, better than I anticipated. The security in the stations and the separation area are particularly good. If there are too many sows in the central passage to the separation unit or in the separation area, the feed stations are locked and the system sounds an alarm. We simply reactivate the system when all sows are out. You have confidence that it works and is secure. This also gives us peace of mind", says Meryl Ward.

READ MORE

Read the whole reference case of Meryl Ward and learn more about the advantages of Electronic Sow Feeding at our website

[www.nedap.com/
electronicssowfeeding/
references](http://www.nedap.com/electronicsowfeeding/references)

GROUP HOUSING ON STRAW WITH NEDAP ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING

Meryl Ward is the owner of Ermine Farms, and the pig farming enterprise is split over three locations in Lincolnshire, England. Each company has approximately 720 sows and produces pigs of up to 35 kg. In 1996 Meryl installed the first Nedap feeding stations for group housing in straw yards located in separate buildings.

Sam, farm manager at the largest sow unit, ensures, together with a team of 6 staff members, that Meryl's objectives are

achieved. This unit near Lincoln consists of two dynamic groups with Electronic Sow Feeding, central Sow Separation and Sow Heat Detection.

CALM INTRODUCTION OF NEW SOWS INTO THE GROUP

"Introducing sows into the group is always approached calmly" says Sam: "We try to introduce 20 to 30 sows into the group at a time. There are no problems between them as there is adequate room for all animals. The rest of the time there is hardly any aggression between the animals in the group; naturally there are always a few dominant sows, but thanks to the big space the atmosphere always remains quite relaxed."

A GOOD SYSTEM, RELIABLE AND EASY TO USE

A year ago Meryl Ward's company made the decision to upgrade to the latest Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding system. The integration of the system with the new Nedap mechanical feed stations and software proceeded very smoothly. The biggest challenge was retagging the sows.

Meryl: "We have been using the new Nedap system for a year now and it has left a great impression on us. It is a good and reliable system that is, easy to use. It's user friendly and the staff have found it easy to operate. You can easily observe the whole group and print out reviews, or just check individual animals. This means that any issues within the group can quickly be identified and dealt with."

HISTORY AND FUTURE PLANS

The original sow unit was founded in 1970 in Lincoln by Meryl Ward's father. In the early years the farm at Waddingham housed 220 sows. The progeny were initially finished as fattening pigs. A few years later another unit was built with space for 300 sows. In 1990 the choice was made to switch from individual sow stalls to group housing on straw with Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding. A new barn was added as the new dry sow housing. The original sow housing was converted and is currently used as a farrowing house.



"YOU HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT IT WORKS AND IS SECURE. THAT ALSO GIVES US PEACE OF MIND."



Today there are approximately 750 sows and their progeny weighing up to 35 kilo at the Lincoln unit. Meryl also runs "Uncle Henry's" farm shop, that sells their own pork.



“INCREASING
RESULTS OF
PIGLETS PER
SOW, THANKS
TO NEDAP
ELECTRONIC
SOW
FEEDING.”

BENJAMIN KASTNER, SOW
FARMER IN WESTENDORF,
GERMANY





Benjamin Kastner
Westendorf, Germany

THE FARM'S EXPERIENCE WITH NEDAP ELECTRONIC SOW FEEDING STATIONS IS EXTREMELY POSITIVE

Almost a year on, the farm's experience with Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding stations is extremely positive. The sows are producing much more consistently. And sow farmer Benjamin Kastner has every confidence that the individual feeding he uses will lead to better technical results on his farm.

But first all the animals have to get used to the new system." That takes a while. You have to reckon with a nine-month transition period," he says.

READ MORE

Read the whole reference case of Benjamin Kastner and learn more about the advantages of Electronic Sow Feeding at our website

[www.nedap.com/
electronicsowfeeding/
references](http://www.nedap.com/electronicsowfeeding/references)

THE BEST FEED

He runs the farm with its 350 sows in Westendorf bei Donauwörth near Augsburg with his father, Josef. The best feed for the pigs is a top priority for the Kastners. They have more than 120 hectares of land on their farm on which they grow maize, barley, wheat and sugar beet. Apart from the sugar beet, the whole harvest is used to make feed for the pigs. And that all happens on the farm too: the grain is milled and then mixed with bought-in raw materials such as soya meal to make a tasty and nutritious meal for the sows.

MAIN REASON

"Individual feeding was our main reason for choosing Nedap Electronic Sow Feeding stations," says Kastner. He shows us on his computer screen which sows have not yet eaten up their 'meal' today. Extra attention is given to any sows that do not finish their food. On average, he achieves a result of 28 piglets per sow. Since building the new shed with Electronic Sow Feeding stations almost a year ago, that number has increased. Kastner expects his results to further improve in the future, not least because all the animals are now used to the system.

PECKING ORDER

Tranquility is the prevailing word in the group – except when new animals arrive. Then the pecking order just has to be re-established and peace returns. Kastner has noticed that the pecking order depends

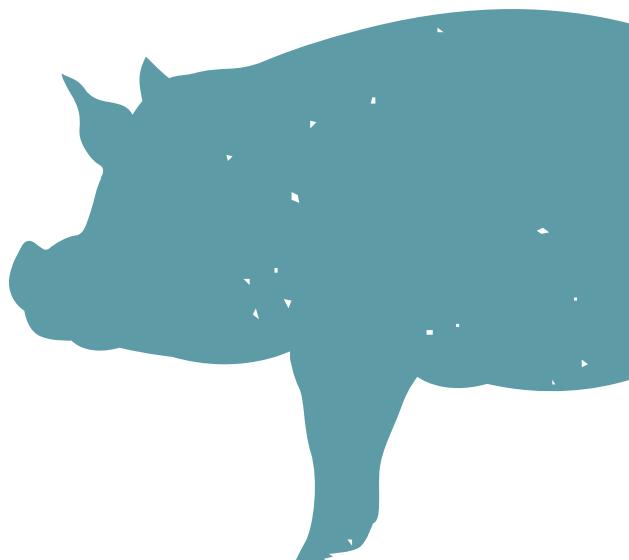


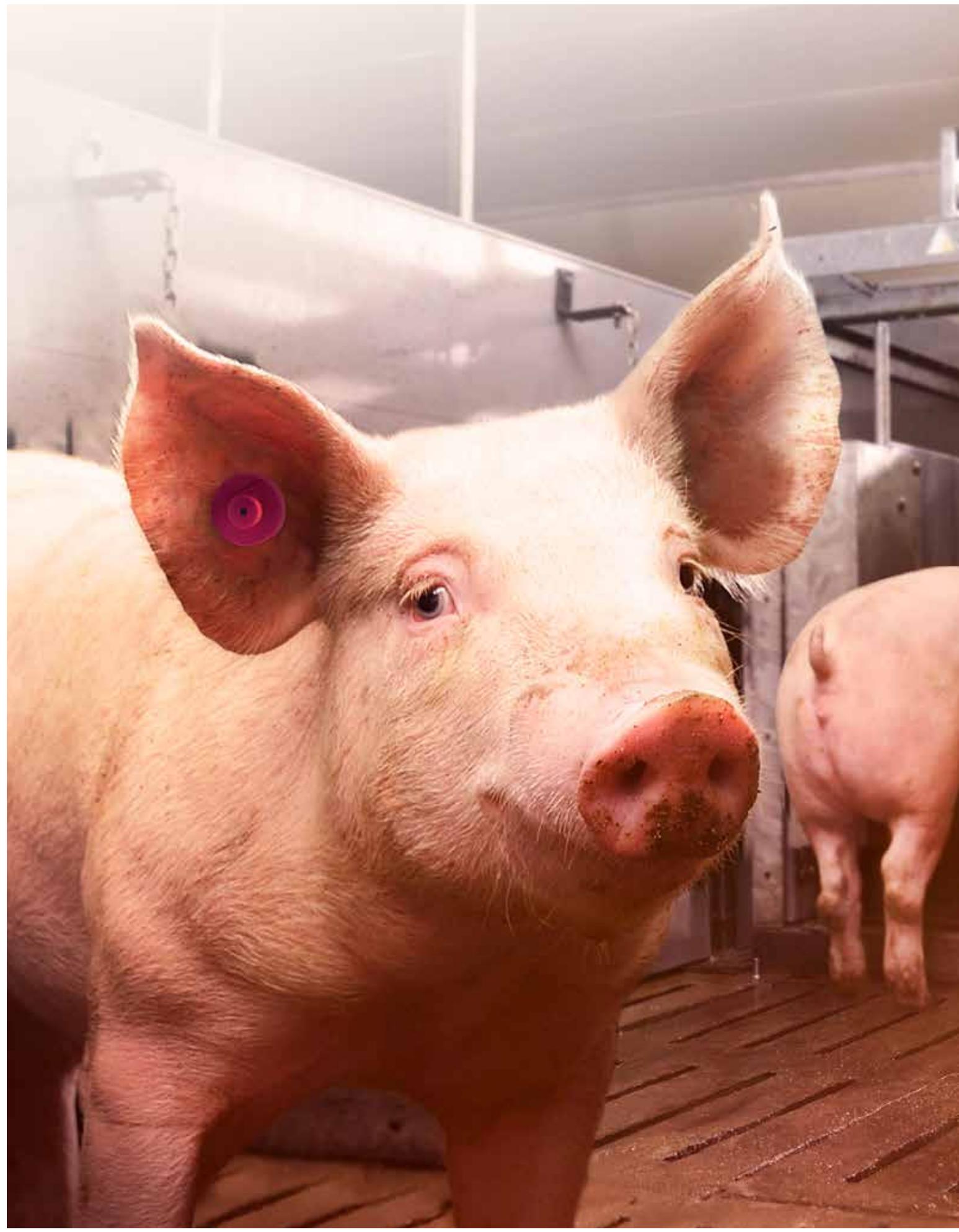
"INDIVIDUAL FEEDING ENSURES MORE CONSISTENT LITTERS."



very much on which pig has been in the group the longest. "It has nothing to do with the strength or character of the pig; it's simply the sow that has been in the stall longest who's the boss."

Colleagues of Kastner's who have visited his farm are enthusiastic about the system. Outsiders too – who often associate the sector with caged pigs. "Group housing is being imposed on us by the EU, but it certainly has a positive effect on the sector's image," says Kastner.







**“SELECTING
THE BEST PIG.”**

 **PIG PERFORMANCE
TESTING**



A photograph of a man with light-colored hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, standing in what appears to be a modern agricultural or industrial setting with large windows in the background. He is holding a dark clipboard and a pen, looking towards the camera with a slight smile.

"MAKE
SELECTIONS
BASED ON FEED
CONVERSION
RATES."

Arno van Brandenburg

AREA SALES MANAGER NEDAP LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

NEDAP PIG PERFORMANCE TESTING MAKES IT POSSIBLE

Selecting pigs for breeding based on feed conversion rates? Until recently, this was the exclusive preserve of large pig breeding companies.

But Nedap Livestock Management has brought it within reach of any pig farmer with Nedap Pig Performance Testing. This feeding station registers exactly how many grams of feed individual pigs eat, and how fast they grow. "This makes it simple to choose – and avoid – the animals with the worst feed conversion rates," says Area Sales

Manager Arno van Brandenburg.

FEED EFFICIENCY STRONGLY REDUCES FEED COSTS

Feed costs constitute 70 percent of all pig farming costs. "That means that a small improvement in feed efficiency has an immense impact on the company's bottom line," says Van Brandenburg.

Feed efficiency is a reasonably heritable 0.3. So it pays to select for this characteristic and to avoid using the least efficient animals for pig production, he says. "Let's say you have a closed pig farm with a thousand sows, and you're able to improve the feed conversion in the sows by 0.1 thanks to careful selection. If they pass that increase on to the

piglets, you would soon be saving 66,000 euros a year in feed costs," he says. "This is something that the average pig farmer wasn't able to do until now."

SHORT PAYBACK TIME

A Pig Performance Testing station costs approximately 8,000 euros. If pig farmers use the system when breeding gilts, they can –

"A SMALL IMPROVEMENT IN FEED EFFICIENCY



HAS AN IMMENSE IMPACT."

for example – identify the best-growing gilts in the 25- to 60-kilo phase. One station can handle up to 15 animals at a time. A business with 1,000 sows needs around 400 gilts for replacement each year. Four test stations are sufficient for this amount,

Van Brandenburg says. "If you are then able to improve the feed conversion in the pigs by 0.05 in a year, you have already recouped the investment." The costs of excluding the lower end from the selection have not been included in the calculation.





TESTING DIFFERENT TYPES OF FEED

The Nedap Pig Performance Testing Station can also be used to test different types of feed. There are already compound feed businesses in several countries that use the stations for this purpose, the product specialist says.

There are now several hundred of these systems in use worldwide, particularly in breeding organisations and large integrations. The technology behind the system has been around for over twenty years. But for the primary pig farm it is still relatively new; linking it to the Nedap Pig Management Technical Platform only recently became possible. The pig farmer can also monitor the system remotely via this online platform. If required, external advisors can log in to watch and offer advice.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PIG MANAGEMENT

Van Brandenburg expects that the system will offer new opportunities for pig management. "It is a very simple application, consisting of a weighing platform and a feed trough. You don't need anything else other than the 24-volt Nedap cable with an integrated data cable. You can have it installed within a day."

MORE INFO

Read more about Pig Performance Testing at our website.

www.nedap.com/pigperformancetesting

SELECTING THE BEST GENETICS

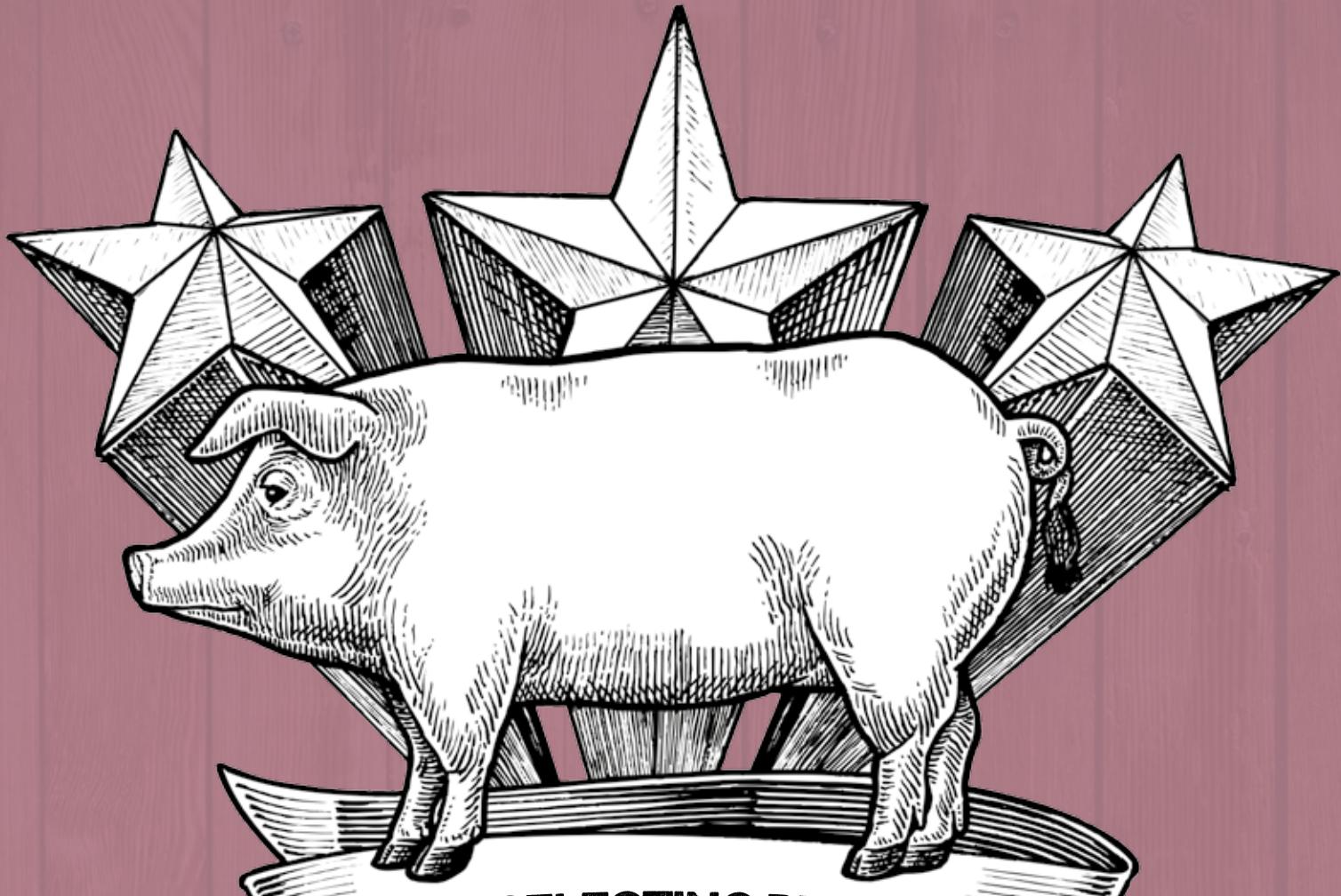
Pig farmers would also be able to use the system to test adjustments to rations. The possibilities have still hardly been explored, according to Van Brandenburg. "You can see how much feed the pigs eat and how many grams they grow from day to day. You are

"This station registers exactly how many grams of feed individual pigs eat, and how fast they grow."

constantly aware of it during the growth phase, and you can get all sorts of information from that.

Perhaps we will later be able to tailor the feed type to each breed." In the future the station could also be used to collect data for genomic selection. But for the time being, selecting for feed efficiency is the most obvious application. "You can quickly gain insight into opportunities for feed savings. That means you can keep selecting the best genetics. And you can make rapid progress."

Nedap Pig Farming



**"SELECTING PIGS
FOR BREEDING BASED
ON FEED CONVERSION RATIO."**

ARNO VAN
BRANDENBURG



“NEDAP
HAS THE
BEST BRAIN
POWER.”

ERIC HINDSON, MARCIAL CHICO,
MIGUEL CHICO, DIRECTORS OF
GENETICA MEIDAM IN ROITEGUI,
NORTH-SPAIN





*Miguel Chico and Eric Hindson
Genetica Meidam
Roitegui, North-Spain*

WITH PIG PERFORMANCE TESTING, NEDAP OFFERS MORE EXPERIENCE THAN ANY OTHER COMPANY IN TERMS OF THE 'BRAIN PART' OF THE ELECTRONICS.

We have been using the Pig Performance Testing systems for a few months now. As breeders, it is our primary objective to establish an optimal boar line. Nedap Pig Performance Testing provides a solid basis that has proven its worth over many years." Eric Hindson (70), who has been working in the pig farming industry for as many as 55 years, tells us about his work. Originally from England, the farmer has lived in the province of Barcelona for the past 3 decades. Working with pigs is his favourite hobby. Genetics is his passion. The integration of Nedap Pig Performance Testing into his farms fits seamlessly with his background and experiences.

READ MORE

Read the whole reference case of Genetica Meidam and learn more about the advantages of Pig Performance Testing at our website.

[www.nedap.com/
pigperformancetesting/
references](http://www.nedap.com/pigperformancetesting/references)

HIGH QUALITY AFTERSALES SERVICE

Genetica Meidam Roitegui is a company with a significant focus placed on genetics. The fact that Nedap is a renowned European manufacturer with an excellent aftersales service was the ultimate reason for Eric and Miguel to select this company. Eric: "Nedap is a perfect partner; highly committed to providing support and service". Genetica Meidam aims

for classification of the optimal genetic lines, in order to identify those pigs that are the most efficient users of feed. The best feed conversion and scanning of the boars are further valuable elements in regard to the improvement of our business operations. That is the vital value of Pig Performance Testing."

THE BEST PERFORMING PIG

Nedap enables producers in the entire pig farming sector to save on their labour costs in the production process, to use the feed economically and to ensure that each individual pig performs optimally. For Genetica Meidam, Nedap specifically focuses on individual animal care and monitoring; based on individual electronic identification facilitated by Pig Performance Testing. As a breeding specialist, Genetica Meidam benefits from optimal insight into the genetic lines. Precise knowledge about the best performing pigs is becoming significantly more important in relation to the increasing food demand.

A PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPARENCY

Pig Performance Testing, which originally focused on breeding, is also an extremely suitable solution for regular pig farming purposes. The system automatically registers the growth and feed intake of

"NEDAP IS
A PERFECT
PARTNER;
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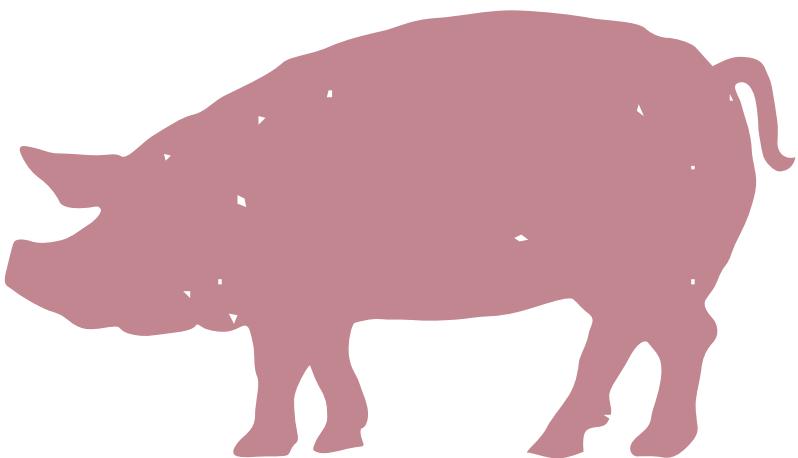
each pig. This identifies the best performing animals and makes it possible to select for the most important production traits. In short: the farmer obtains fast and clear insight in regard to boar-sow combinations that lead to the most feed-efficient pigs. The data registration is highly accurate, it is user-friendly, safely stores information, continuously monitors the specific weight of the feed and automatically stops when there is no feed. It creates a calm atmosphere and provides transparency.

LEAN AND MEAN

"Genetic technology has advanced significantly in recent years. The number of piglets born per sow keeps rising. We strive for optimal lean and mean pork production for the supermarket customers. Nedap Pig Performance Testing plays an essential role in this process. The most current data is now available to us. Real-time data ensures that we can anticipate and respond perfectly to the desired feed/growth situation, from breeding to finishing," Eric concludes before he once again sets off on the road to the province of Barcelona.



*Marcial Chico
Genetica Meidam
Roitegui, North-Spain*



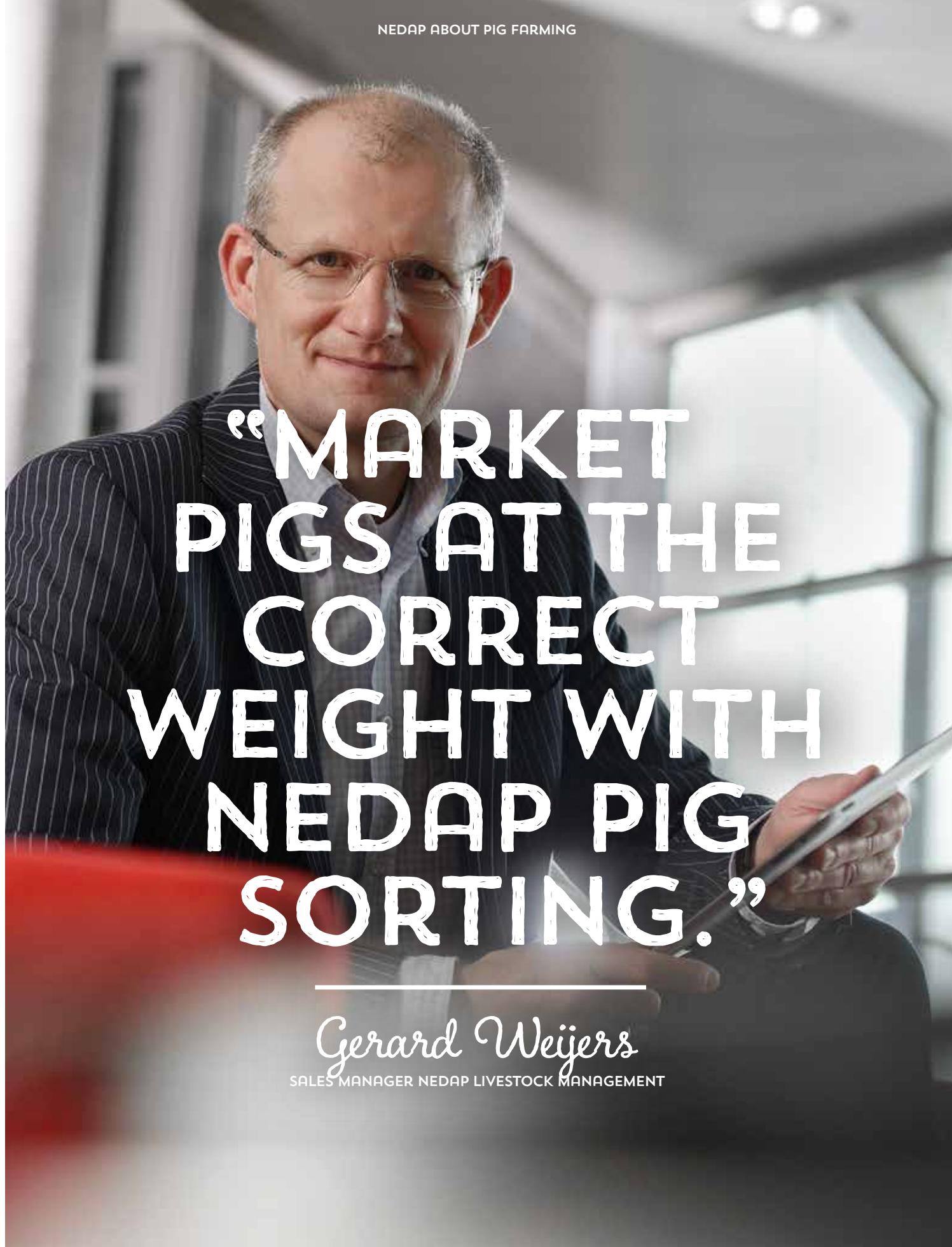




**“FEEDING FINISHING
PIGS BETTER.”**

PIG SORTING



A professional man with glasses and a striped suit is smiling at the camera while holding a tablet. He is positioned in front of what appears to be a modern agricultural facility with large windows.

“MARKET
PIGS AT THE
CORRECT
WEIGHT WITH
NEDAP PIG
SORTING.”

Gerard Weijers
SALES MANAGER NEDAP LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

MARKET AT THE CORRECT WEIGHT WITH NEDAP PIG SORTING

Delivering pigs to the slaughterhouse at exactly the correct weight. This benefit has been an immediate hit with users of Nedap Pig Sorting, according to Gerard Weijers, Sales Manager at Nedap Livestock Management. "The ranges that pig slaughterhouses use for the supply of pigs are becoming increasingly narrow. For a typical pig farm, the annual difference would be more than enough to buy a nice car if they deliver all pigs at the correct weight," he says.

HOUSING SYSTEM FOR FINISHING PIGS

Nedap Pig Sorting is a group housing system for finishing pigs. Each pig that wants to eat needs to go over a weighing platform first. Then the pig is led to the correct type of feed – start, middle or end – based on its weight. Once the pig has reached the correct slaughter weight, it can go directly to the

separation area on the delivery day.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT OF FEED EFFICIENCY

Sorting according to the type of feed greatly improves feed efficiency, says Weijers. "The users consider that a great advantage too. After all, start feed is about 20 percent more expensive than middle feed."



**"PIGS FEEL
PERFECTLY AT
HOME IN A
LARGE GROUP."**

He anticipates that there will be a lot more benefits on offer in the future, when feed types can be precisely tailored to pigs' growth capacity. "This sorting station gives pig farmers access to a key figure which they've never had before: they can monitor growth during the fattening period. You can adjust during this period if you need to. There is still an enormous amount of potential."



MORE INFO

Read more about
Pig Sorting at our website.
www.nedap.com/pigsorting

ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION

Nedap Pig Sorting can be expanded with electronic animal identification if required. That means that you can direct the animals on the basis of sex, or use ID to keep animals being treated with antibiotics separate from the others. But Weijers thinks that is probably still a step too far for most pig farmers. "At the moment 90 to 95 percent of all pigs are still kept in traditional pens."

EXCELLENT RESULTS ALL OVER THE WORLD

Keeping pigs in groups of 200 to 400 animals is still relatively new. That means there's still a lot to learn about the possibilities that daily weight information can offer. Nonetheless, hundreds of pig farmers around the world are already using this pen system and achieving excellent results. "If we in our sector learn to use the additional information that Sorting provides in order to feed our pigs more intelligently, we can improve those results even further."

EXCELLENTLY MANAGED PIGS, EVEN IN LARGE GROUPS

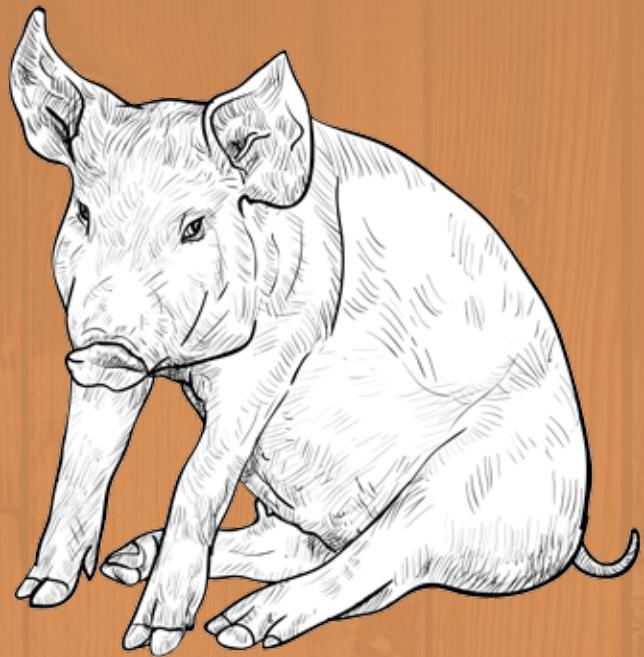
The sales manager predicts that the popularity of this type of pig management will increase. "Even from an appearance point of view. Pigs in a large open space, possibly with some straw, looks much more pleasant than sheds full of pens. And pigs feel perfectly at home in a large group."

"Monitor growth during the fattening period."

And thanks to Nedap Livestock Management's smart technological solutions, pigs can be managed excellently, even in large groups. As well as being directed on the basis of weight, the pigs' activities are recorded. The number of visits to the station is a good indicator of health, Weijers says. "Animals that are sick tend to eat less often. Our users say that they are able to take action a day earlier when a flu outbreak occurs."

CONSTANT AND ACCURATE WEIGHT CONTROL

In this way Nedap Pig Sorting also offers an additional health-monitoring tool. But the great advantage of the feeding and sorting station remains that pig farmers are able to keep constant tabs on the pigs' weights, and get forecasts for weight development in the next 2, 3 and 4 weeks. "That means that you can determine the delivery date very accurately. On that basis alone, our users expect the investment will pay for itself in around two years."



Nedap Pig Farming

**“MONITOR
GROWTH
DURING THE
FATTENING
PERIOD.”**

GERARD
WEIJERS

“**LARGE
GROUPS, YET
INDIVIDUAL
MANAGING
AND
TRACKING.**”

TOON CLASSSENS, VEULEN,
THE NETHERLANDS



Toon Classens
Veulen, the Netherlands



PIG FARMER TOON CLASSSENS BELIEVES IN HOUSING FINISHING PIGS IN LARGE GROUPS,

both for his personal job satisfaction and with regard to social acceptance. He has chosen to use Nedap Pig Sorting to track and manage the individual animals in a targeted manner.

"I could watch this for hours," says Toon Classens, as he oversees the unit. There are 250 pigs in the area. Some of them are eating, others are playing together and most of them are fast asleep. "There is much more interaction between humans and animals, as well as among the animals themselves. It is just an excellent way to work, I think."

"THERE IS MUCH MORE INTERACTION BETWEEN HUMANS AND ANIMALS, AS WELL AS AMONG THE ANIMALS THEMSELVES."

READ MORE

Read the whole reference case of Toon Classens and learn more about the advantages of Pig Sorting at our website

[www.nedap.com/
pigsorting/references](http://www.nedap.com/pigsorting/references)

THE SYSTEM

In 2011, Classens built a new barn for 2,440 pigs in order to maintain control over the growing and finishing process of all the piglets from the sow farm. A choice was made for groups of 250 animals with the use of the Nedap Pig Sorting system. This system consists of a weighing unit with individual animal identification and three exits. Two exits lead to a feeding area with dry feed troughs, allowing the farmer to provide two different types of feed. For

example, Classens has set the system to ensure that the heaviest 40% of the pigs receive growing-finishing feed, whilst the lightest 60% in the other feeding area are given starter feed. When this group reaches a specific weight limit, the station will adjust automatically. In doing so, the group remains as uniform as possible. As the system identifies boars and gilts, the animals can be automatically separated for delivery by directing them to different exits.

JOB SATISFACTION

Various motivations have led to the choice for this particular system. Toon left the decision mainly to his son. After all, he will eventually take over the farm. "I am very enthusiastic about the large groups of sows. I would not have it any other way," Sjef says. "I enjoy going into the barn every day, which certainly contributed to the choice for large groups of finishers. Furthermore, we deliver our pigs under the Dutch environmental quality label 'Milieukeur'. We also have been granted a star by the Better Life hallmark 'Beter Leven'. Large groups fit in very well with this indeed." The choice for Nedap was partly made on the basis

of positive experiences gained with the feeding stations on the sow farm. "We have been cooperating with Nedap for thirteen years now, to our full satisfaction, but we certainly looked at other systems, too."

PIG FARMER TOON CLASSENS

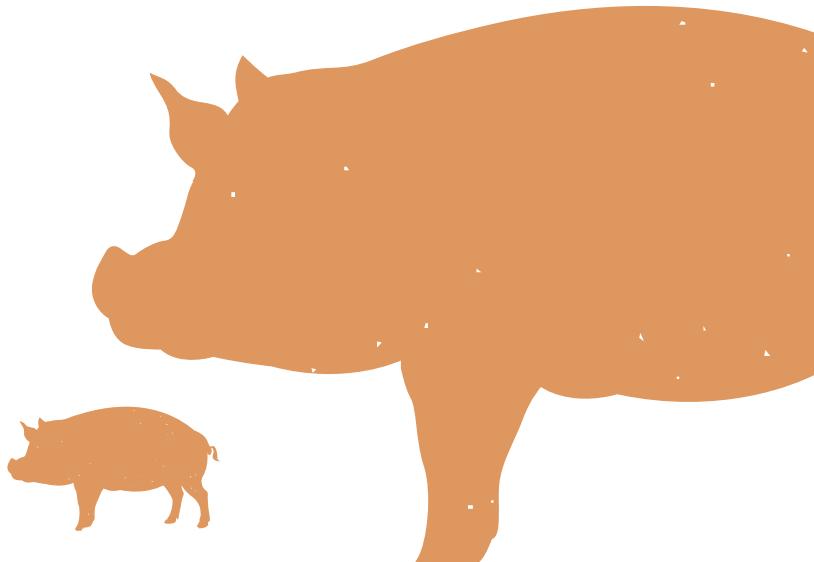
"I am convinced that identification & registration and transparency will become more important in the future when it comes to both legislation and social acceptance."

TARGETED SELECTION

In addition to the positive public image the pig farmers also identify advantages in terms of management. In the first place the system provides the option to feed and manage each individual animal in a targeted manner, even within a large group. Moreover, Classens is hoping that tracking pigs from start to finish will contribute to a structural improvement of results. "The technical results within the sow farming sector are constantly improving, whilst the finishing pig farming industry is in fact stagnating. Monitoring animals from birth onwards may lead to useful indications for better selection. By the end of the process



it may turn out that the sow farrowing 33 piglets every year is yielding less than the sow with 26 piglets, as that particular litter performs better in the finisher house. This information is useful in regard to the selection of sows. Once this succeeds, I think we are ready to take a major step forward. Both in social and technical terms."





“LESS TIME,
MORE
CONTROL
AND A
BETTER
RETURN ON
THE PIGS.”

CHRISTOPH WENNEKAMP,
BORGENTREICH, GERMANY





Christoph Wennekamp
Borgentreich, Germany



THIS SYSTEM IS MUCH LESS STRESSFUL FOR THE ANIMALS

In a nutshell, that's why Christoph Wennekamp (34), pig keeper in Borgentreich near Kassel, Germany, uses Nedap Pig Sorting in his new finisher house. The young farmer talks to us while keeping an eye on what's happening in the house on his PC via the webcam. The first piglets arrived in the new house a few weeks ago, so it will be interesting to see how they behave.

CALM PIGS

Taking a look at the central aisle in the house, behind the glass we can see a whole lot of calm pigs in an area flooded with natural light. The 300 or so pigs are wandering around, a few are dashing to and fro, and in one corner there are about twenty dozing next to each other and half on top of each other. Some active pigs are busy playing with the toys that Wennekamp has hung up.



Read the whole reference case of Christoph Wennekamp and learn more about the advantages of Pig Sorting at our website

[www.nedap.com/
pigsorting/references](http://www.nedap.com/pigsorting/references)

A general atmosphere of contentment reigns among the animals in this large group housing. And the pig keeper is happy too. "This system is much less stressful for the animals. That impacts positively on their health, and they grow more quickly too," Wennekamp says.

EXPERIENCE

Wennekamp runs the family farm together with his father. In addition to pig keeping, they have 140 ha of arable land and also do contracting work. The pig side of their

business involves 1,900 finishers: there is room for 600 in the old house, with space for another 1,300 in the new one.

Wennekamp uses the Nedap sorting system in both houses. "We gained some valuable experience in the old house first with another brand of sorting system. But Nedap is superior in terms of electronics and software. Now I can keep tabs on everything from anywhere and at any time, even on my mobile phone. And I get very secure messages about discrepancies, so I have more control."

RIGHT WEIGHT

Wennekamp has a Nedap sorting system without individual animal identification. This means that he can monitor the herd's average growth every day. If he discovers any discrepancies, he can track down the cause. The pig keeper does not currently need to track his animals individually, even though the sorting system can easily be upgraded to incorporate it and the electronic ear tags are cheap to buy.

But once the animals have got used to the system, he wants to take the opportunity to feed pigs weighing more than 60 kg a different type of feed. "That feed is cheaper, so the sooner I can switch to it, the lower my costs will be."

For Wennekamp, the biggest benefit of the system is the ability to deliver his pigs at the right weight. "I would usually do that by instinct before, and sometimes the slaughterhouse would knock something off the price. Now I can deliver at precisely 120 kg and I get the highest returns in net terms."

GROUP HOUSING

Group housing is also better for the pig farmer's image, he believes. Colleagues visiting his new house always respond enthusiastically. Does Wennekamp recommend the Nedap system to them too? "They all need to make their own decisions. But I think it's a good investment. Particularly if you're building a new house, it's not unaffordable. For me, the Nedap technology works very well. And their service has been great so far. I will be very happy if it stays that way!"



WENNEKAMP CAN NOW DELIVER AT PRECISELY 120KG AND GETS THE HIGHEST RETURNS





“FITTER
FARROWING
& LACTATING.”



FARROWING
FEEDING







“THIN SOWS
IN THE
FARROWING
PEN ARE A
THING OF
THE PAST.”

Chiel van Lenthe
PRODUCT MANAGER NEDAP LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

How do you prevent sows losing too much condition in the farrowing period? Nedap Livestock Management now has the answer to that question with Farrowing Feeding, a new system which allows sows to be fed individually according to their needs.

"Thin sows in the farrowing pen? Not anymore," product manager Chiel van Lenthe promises.

**"IT CAN
EASILY BE
ATTACHED

TO ANY
TYPE DROP
FEEDER."**

ACHIEVE THE DESIRED FEEDING CURVE - FROM DAY 1

"Many farmers find it difficult to get sows to eat enough in the farrowing pen. You want to feed them as much as possible, but that's not easy with the usual systems because you have to manually adjust the feed quantity every day. In addition, you then feed a maximum of two to three times each day," says Van Lenthe." With Nedap Farrowing Feeding you can set

the desired feeding curve from day 1, and you can feed much more often each day. That's very easy to accomplish and can be regulated fully automatically."

FARROWING FEEDING: THE MOST IMPORTANT ADVANTAGES

Nedap developed the feeding system based on research carried out by Wageningen University which looks at the conditions for increasing feed intake in farrowing sows. This stimulates optimal milk production.

The four most important points are:

- feed more often each day (with Farrowing Feeding this can be done up to 24 times per day)
- allow the feeding curve to increase quickly during the lactation period, and also allow it to increase at the end
- feed at night too (this increases the feed intake in hot weather in particular)
- adjust the feeding speed to the sow: first-litter sows eat more slowly than older sows.



"Each sow is fed optimally and the piglets grow much faster."

COST PER SOW PEN: AS LOW AS POSSIBLE

All four points are easy to carry out with Nedap Farrowing Feeding. "Actually what we've done is simply attaching an auger dosing unit to a 24-volt motor," says Van Lenthe. "It can easily be attached to any sort of drop feeder in the farrowing pen, regardless of the brand. This allows us to keep the cost per sow pen as low as possible. It can be managed from any location you like; inside or outside the building, using the Nedap Technical Platform. Starting from €250 per sow pen, you're all sorted.

BETTER CONDITION, GROWING FASTER

The pig farmers at five European test operations – three in the Netherlands, one in Denmark and one in France – have observed that the condition of the sows in the farrowing period is now much more stable, says Van Lenthe. "Each sow is fed optimally. Farms saw

no excessive loss of condition in sows," the product manager says enthusiastically. "And there's more what the test farmers see: the piglets grow much faster, meaning that they can wean heavier piglets. And that effect remains in the fattening period."

GOOD FOR THE SOW, PIGLETS AND THE SOW FARMER

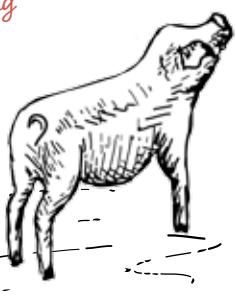
If you can avoid excessive loss of condition during the lactation period, that's also good for fertility. After all, during the lactation period you're laying the foundations for the next cycle. "Because these intelligent systems were not yet commercially available to date, there are no figures available from practice yet. But we do know that a sow in good condition produces more piglets." And of course, it's also good for the sow's wellbeing if she doesn't lose too much weight during the farrowing period. "Otherwise you spend the whole of the gestation period trying to redress the loss of condition."

In short: individual feeding is good for the sow, piglets and the sow farmer. In this way Nedap helps contribute to healthy growth, with a good balance between work, profit and welfare.

MORE INFO

*Read more about
Farrowing Feeding at our website.*

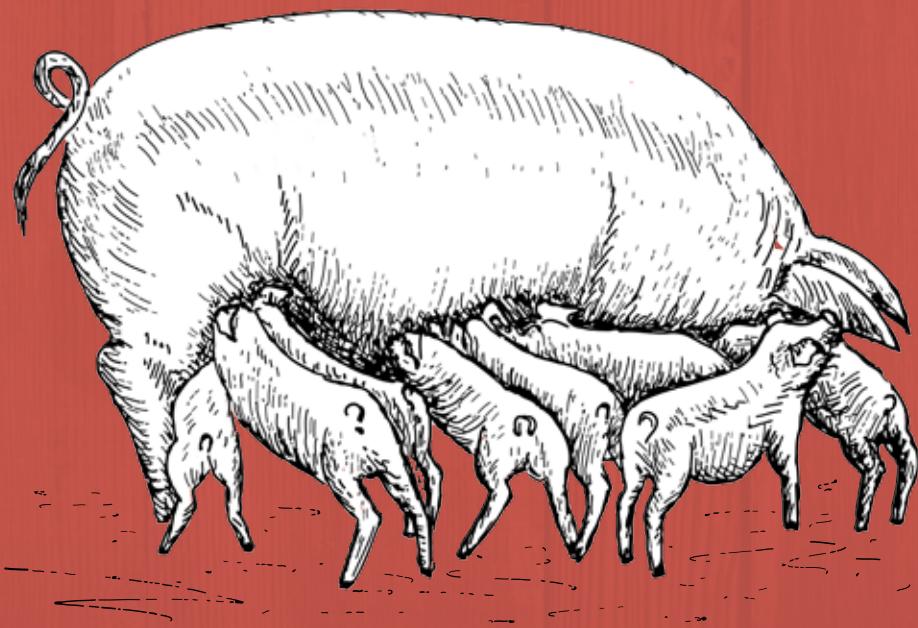
www.nedap.com/farrowingfeeding



Nedap Pig Farming

**“ADJUST THE
FEEDING
SPEED TO
THE SOW.”**

CHIEL VAN
LENTHE





“SOWS IN
BETTER BODY
CONDITION
AND HEAVIER
PIGLETS.”

RICHARD WELLINK, AALDEN,
THE NETHERLANDS





Richard Wellink

Aalten, the Netherlands



SOW FARMER RICHARD WELLINK FROM AALTEN, THE NETHERLANDS, CAN SEE A CLEAR DIFFERENCE.

In the section where he uses the Farrowing Feeding system, the sows are in a better condition and the piglets are heavier when weaned. "Soon I'm going to install it in all the sections," he says enthusiastically.

The Nedap Farrowing Feeding automatic feeding system allows you to feed each farrowing sow exactly according to her requirements. From the farrowing day through to weaning, the feeding curve can be programmed precisely according to the sow's condition, the number of piglets and the lactation stage. The program can even take account of the feeding speed: first-litter sows eat less quickly than older sows. This means that each sow receives exactly what she needs.

READ MORE

Read the whole reference case of Richard Wellink and learn more about the advantages of Farrowing Feeding at our website

[www.nedap.com/
farrowingfeeding/references](http://www.nedap.com/farrowingfeeding/references)



Richard Wellink owns a sow farm, Topigs 50, in Aalten in the Netherlands. He had Nedap Farrowing Feeding installed on a trial basis in a single section with eight sows. "I've used it for several rounds now, and I'm very happy with it," he says. "In the other sections, I have to feed the sows by hand every day. With Nedap Farrowing Feeding I've just put in a curve. The sows automatically get a little bit more feed each day."

Wellink usually feeds twice a day, but that means that – certainly at the end of the lactation period – the sows are given an enormous amount of feed to deal with. "Then you're at 8 to 9 kilos of feed per day; when you're feeding twice that's quite a lot of kilos. Especially in hot weather."

Feeding smaller quantities more frequently helps to stimulate feed intake. With Farrowing Feeding that can be up to 24 times per day. Wellink now gives a smaller portion of food four times per day. "That's the big advantage," he says. "They get up on their feet, they drink something, and that's good for milk production. I can see that the piglets are heavier at weaning than those in the other sections. And the sows are staying in better condition. That's important, because the foundations for the next round are laid in the farrowing pen."

EASY CHANGE

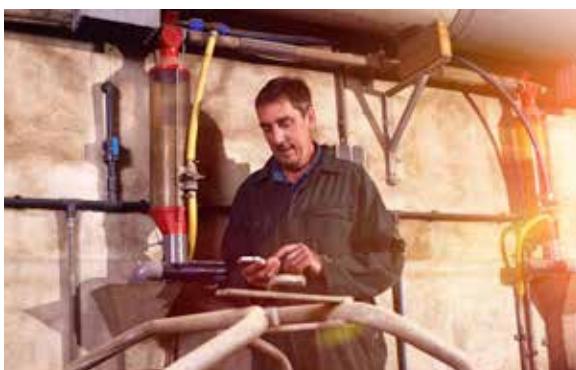
That's why he has decided to have Nedap Farrowing Feeding installed in all sections. This is fairly simple to do, because the

system consists of an auger dosing unit and a 12-volt electric motor. In principle it can be attached to any feed hopper beginning at 250 euros per sow place. It is controlled from the central corridor; the process unit runs on the Nedap Pig Management Technical Platform.

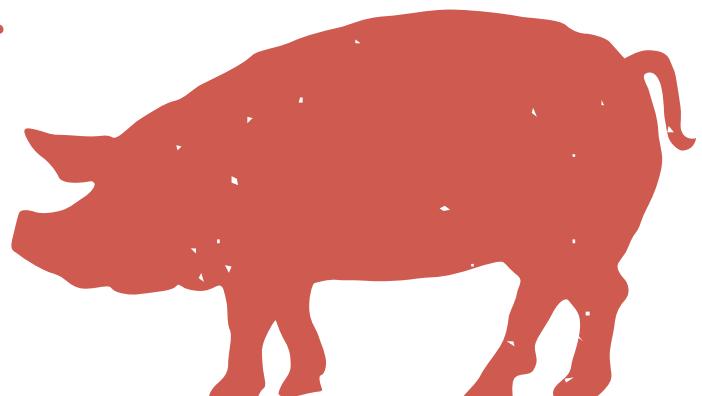
FEEDING MORE

"Once the entire shed has been converted, I'm going to try to feed a bit more," Wellink says. "For now I've kept the total feed levels the same, but I think that with Nedap Farrowing Feeding the feed level per sow can be increased. You feed more often, so they eat it more easily. In addition, it stimulates water intake. And if you feed a lot right from the start, milk production gets going more quickly."

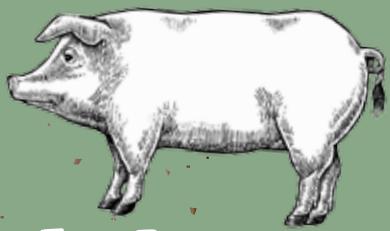
If the sows in the farrowing pen stay in better condition, he expects that it will also have a positive effect on fertility. "I am now at 27 to 28 weaned piglets per sow per year, so there is still room for improvement. With Nedap Farrowing Feeding I say, bring on 30!"



"YOU FEED MORE OFTEN, SO THEY EAT IT MORE EASILY. IN ADDITION, IT STIMULATES WATER INTAKE."







I like pigs.

DOGS LOOK UP TO US.

CATS LOOK DOWN ON US.

PIGS TREAT US

** as equals **

Winston Churchill



NEDAP PIG FARMING

around
THE WORLD



 nedap
technology that matters

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