



Long live the cows!

What? How? Why?

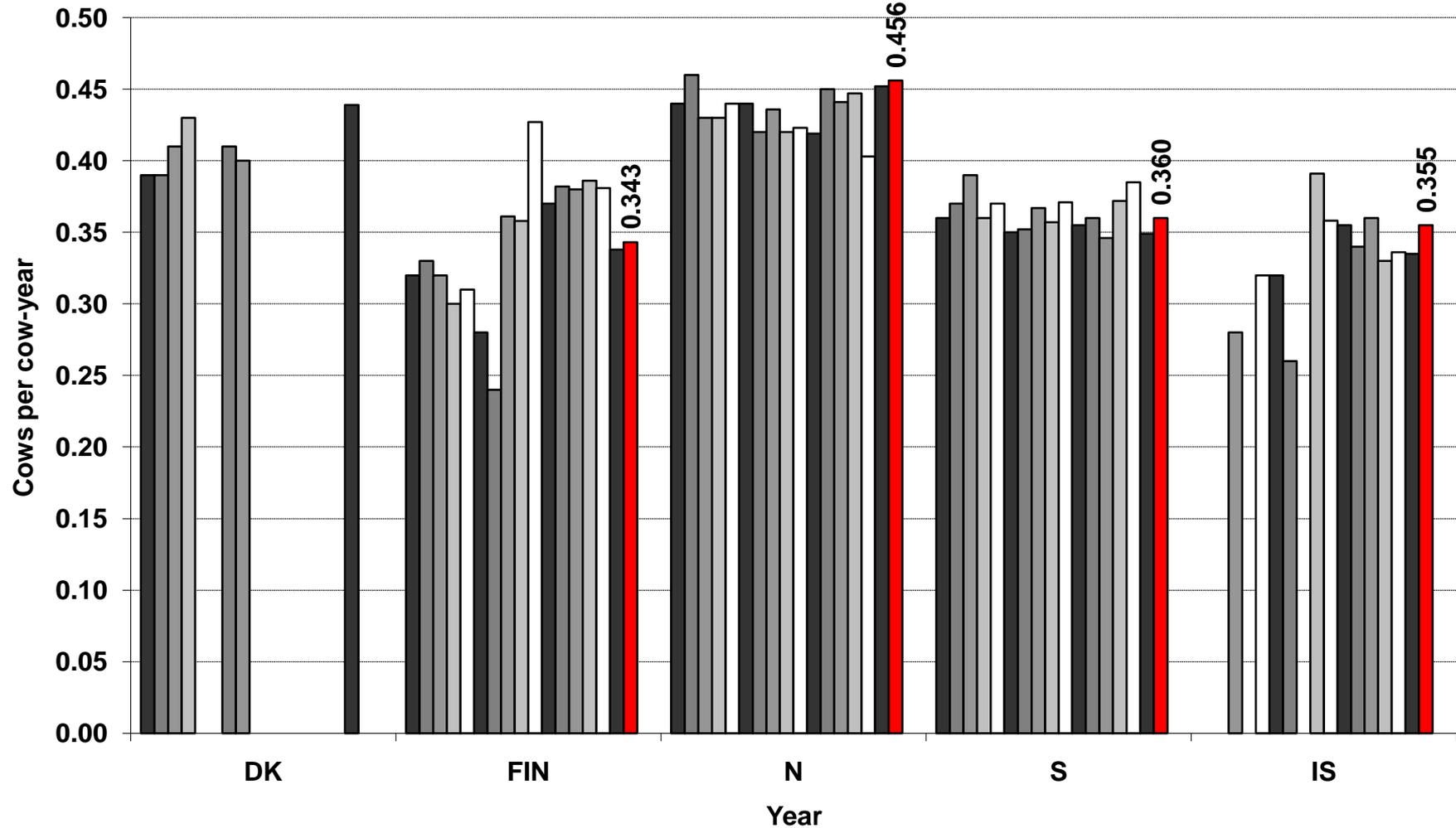
Charlotte Hallén Sandgren

NÖK

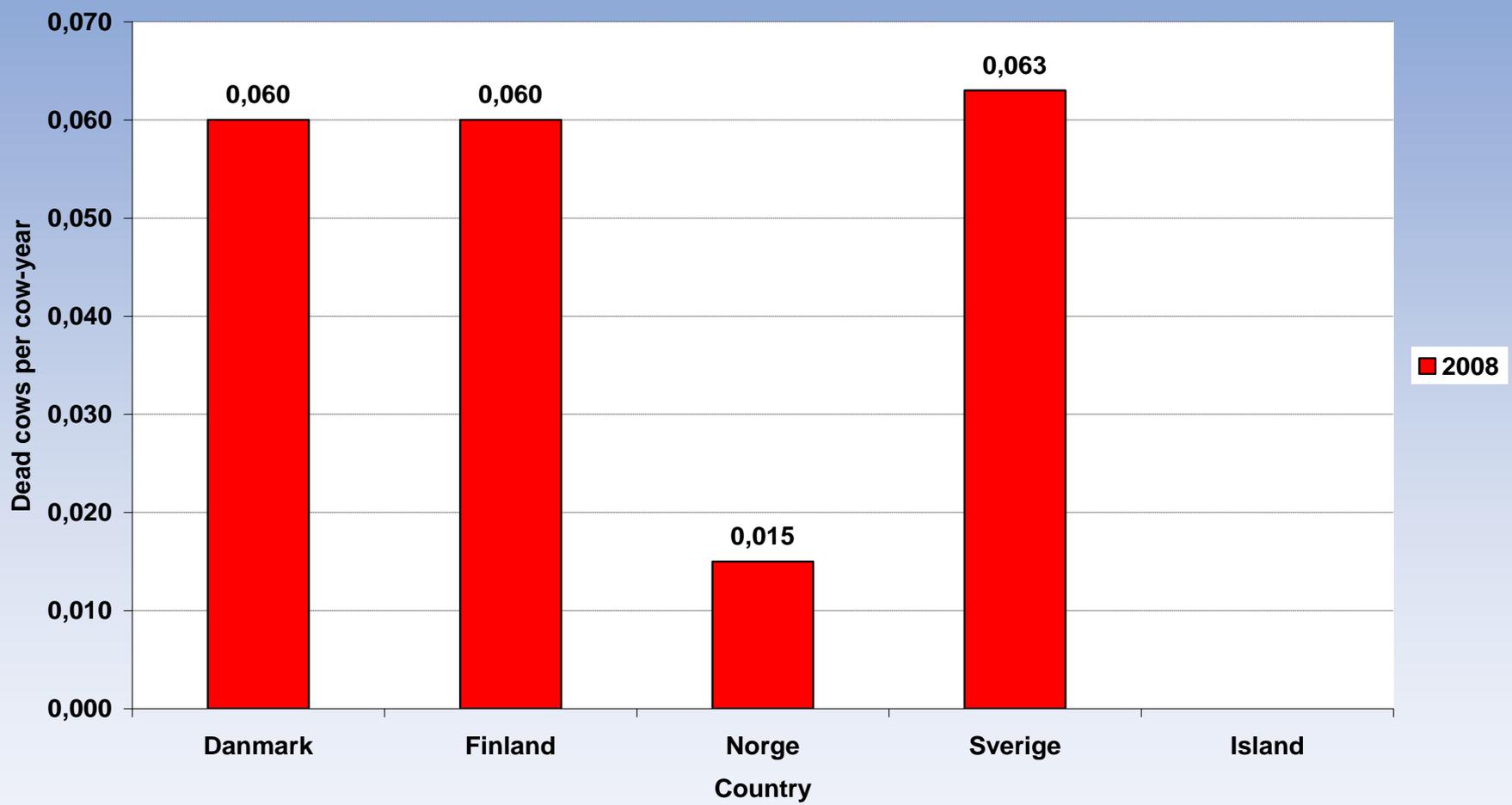
svensk**mj**ölk
SWEDISH DAIRY ASSOCIATION

What? NMSM – Health comparisons

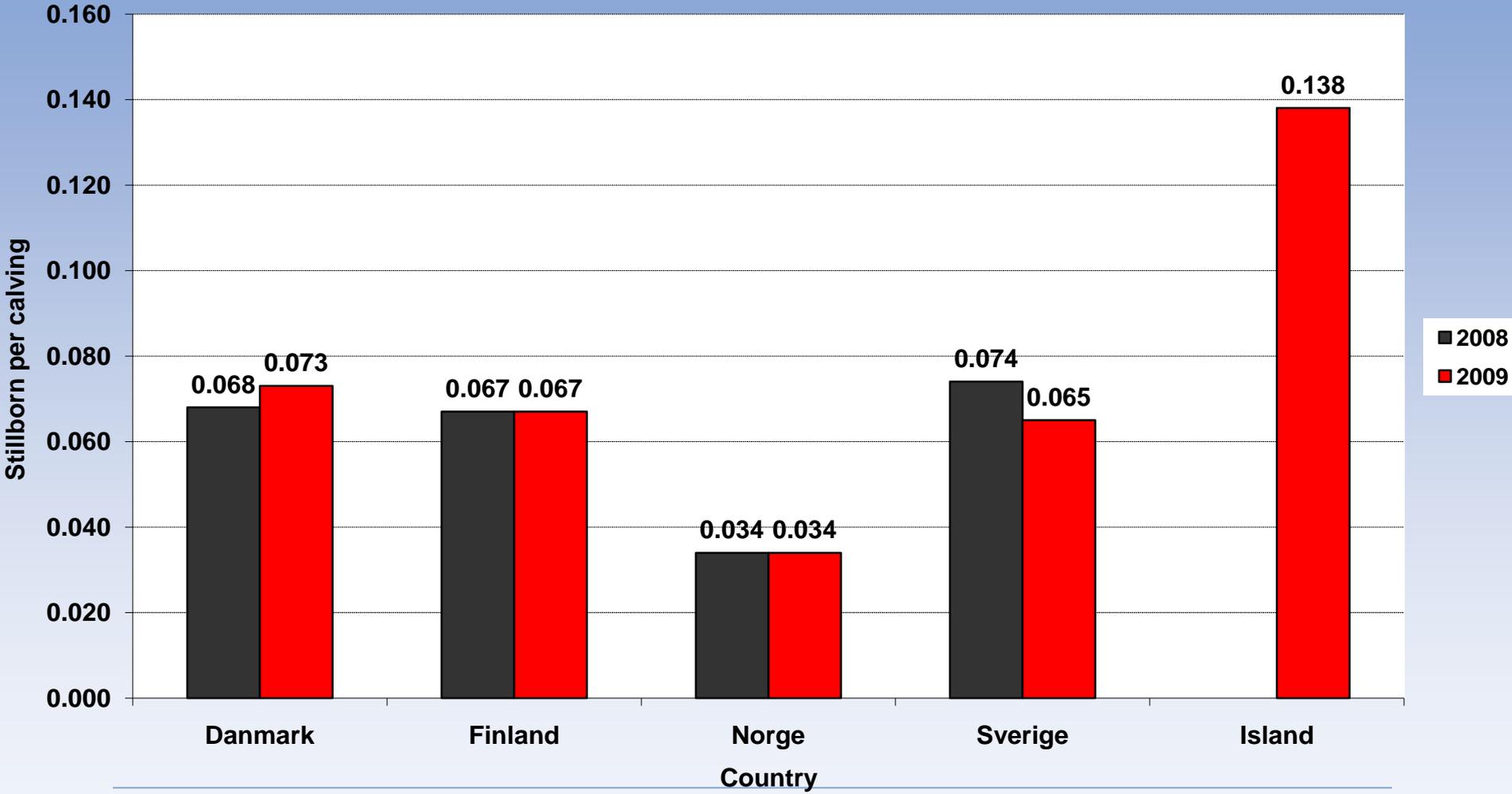
Culling rate



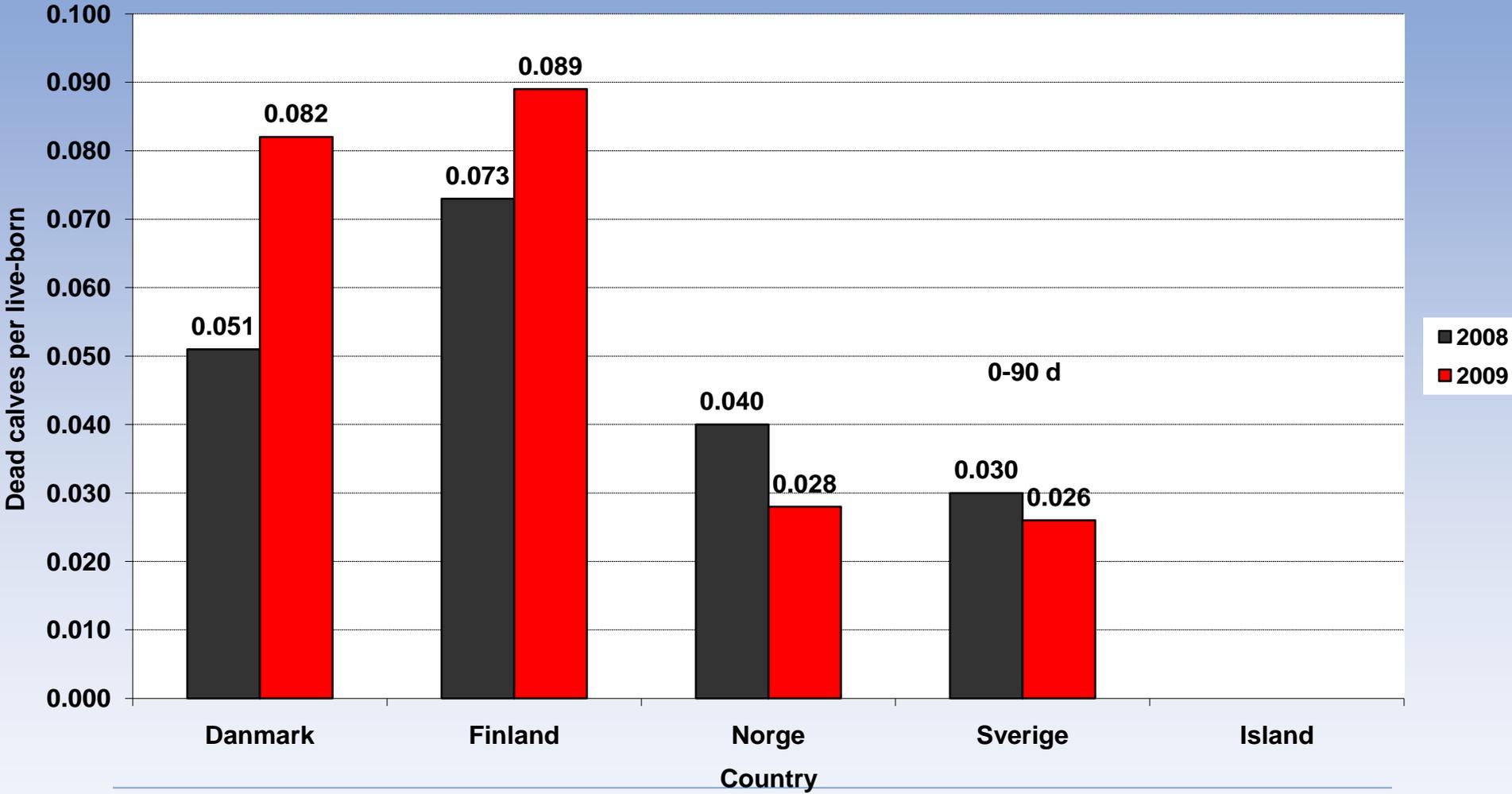
Dead or euthanized cows



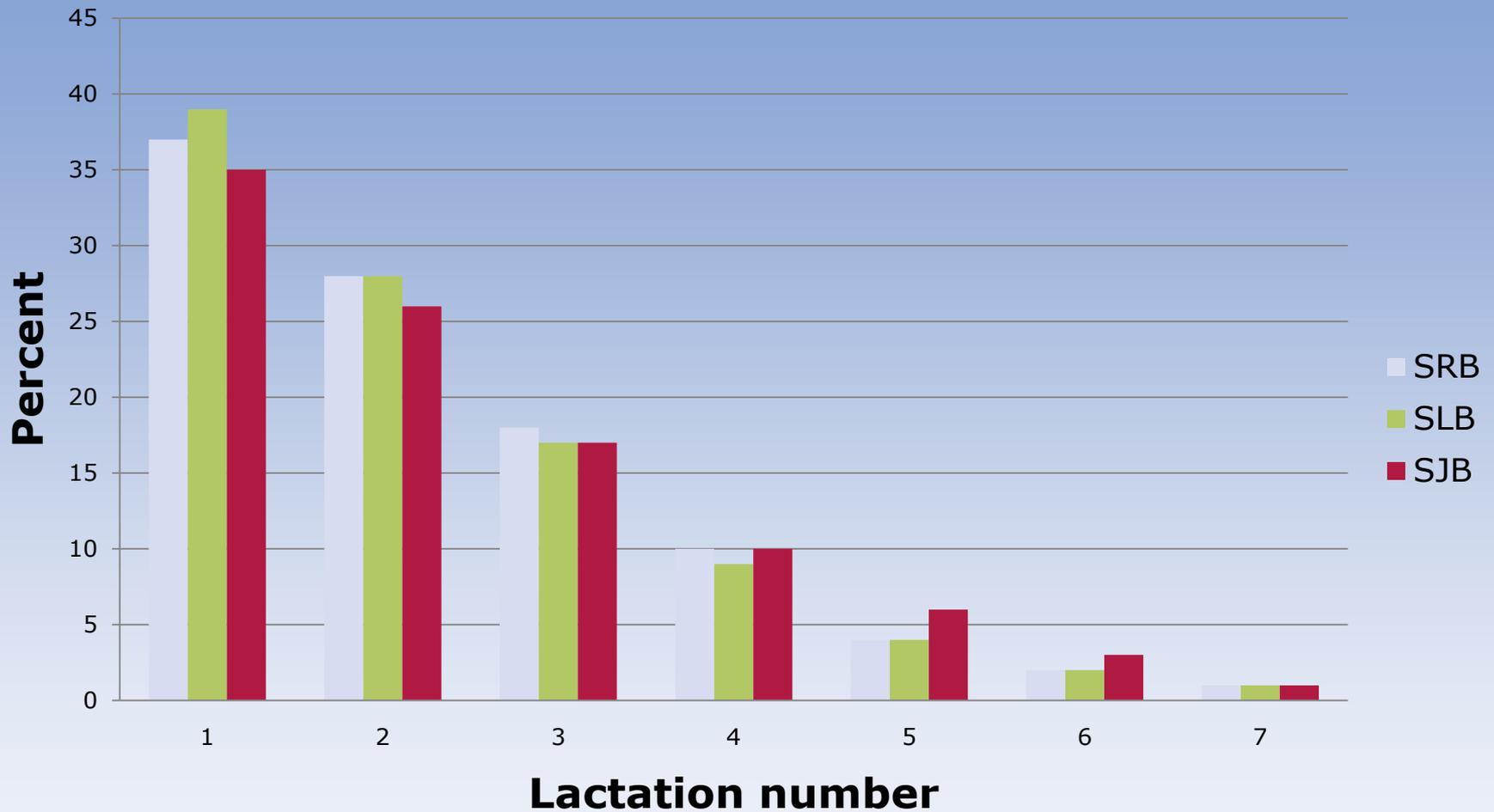
Stillborn frequencies



Dead calves live born till 180 days of life



Distribution lactation number Swedish milk recording system



Swedish milk recording system 2009

Signaler Djurvälstånd

Sök besättning

Status

Kalvar

Ungdjur

Kalvningar

Foderbalans

Sjukdomar

Överv/Skötsel

Hållbarhet

Översikt status

Användarhandbok

Formelsamling

Fel bes.uppgifter?

Aktuell status i vald besättning

Genom att klicka på en av rubrikerna ser du vilka nyckeltal som ligger till grund för bedömningen av din status. Från sidan som öppnas kommer du även att kunna jämföra dina resultat med andra.

Besättning:

Besättn. ras: SRBxSLB

Mjölksystem: Högmjölksledning

Stallsystem: Uppbundet kortbås

Prod form: Konventionell

Kontrollår: 2008/2009

Avkastning kg ECM:

Besättningsstorlek: 63,8

Senaste provmjölkning: 2010-05-10

Visa alla nyckeltal

Dagens datum: 2010-06-10

	Kalvar
	Ungdjur
	Kalvningar
	Foderbalans
	Sjukdomar
	Övervakning och skötsel
	Hållbarhet

10%

40%

50%



Kalvar

- Kalvdödlighet, 1 - 60 dagar
- Kalvdödlighet, 2 - 6 månader



Ungdjur

- Ungdjursdödlighet, 6 - 15 månader
- Ej påbörjade kvigor äldre än 17 månader
- Inkalvningsålder



Kalvningar

- Spädkalvsdödlighet, 0 - 24 timmar
- Svåra kalvningar



Foderbalans

- Förlamningar och kramper
- Övriga utfodringsjukdomar
- Avvikande ureavärden
- Låga ureavärden



Sjukdomar

- Sjukdomsrapporterade kor totalt
- Mastitbehandlingar
- Beräknat tankcelltal



Övervakning och skötsel

- Kalvning - Första ins. mer än 70 dagar
- Kalvning - Senaste ins. mer än 120 dagar
- Utgång fruktsamhet
- Kalvningsintervall



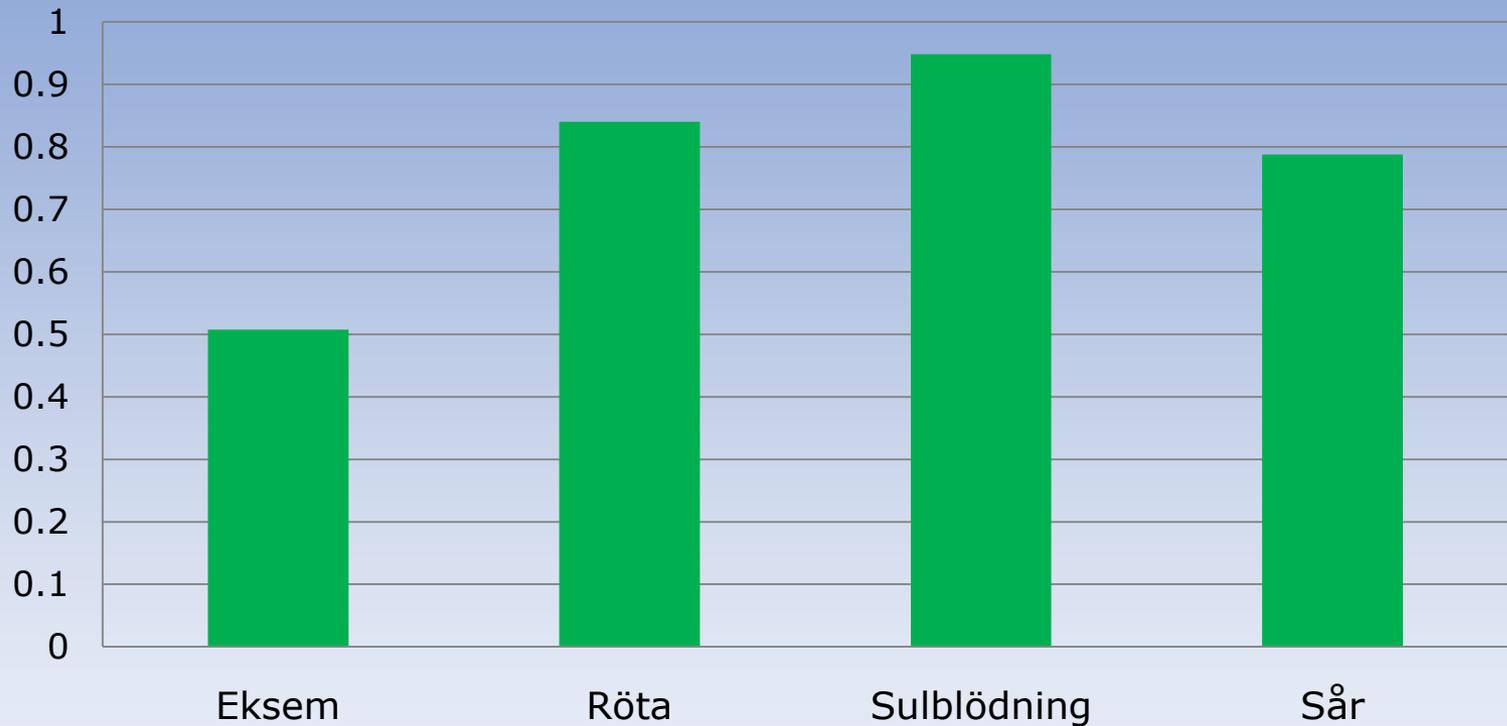
Hållbarhet

- Klöv och bensjukdomar
- Utgång förstakalvare, 1 - 90 dagar efter kalvning
- Utgång juversjukdom
- Utgång klövar ben
- Utgång totalt
- Själv döda/Avlivade kor

Longevity cows - Associations

	Culling rate	Dead or Euthanized	Culling due to foot or legs
Herd size	Decrease	Increase	n s
SHF	n s	Increase	Increase
Milk yield	Increase	Decrease	Increase
Loose housing	Increase	n s	Increase
Organic prod.	Decrease	Decrease	Decrease

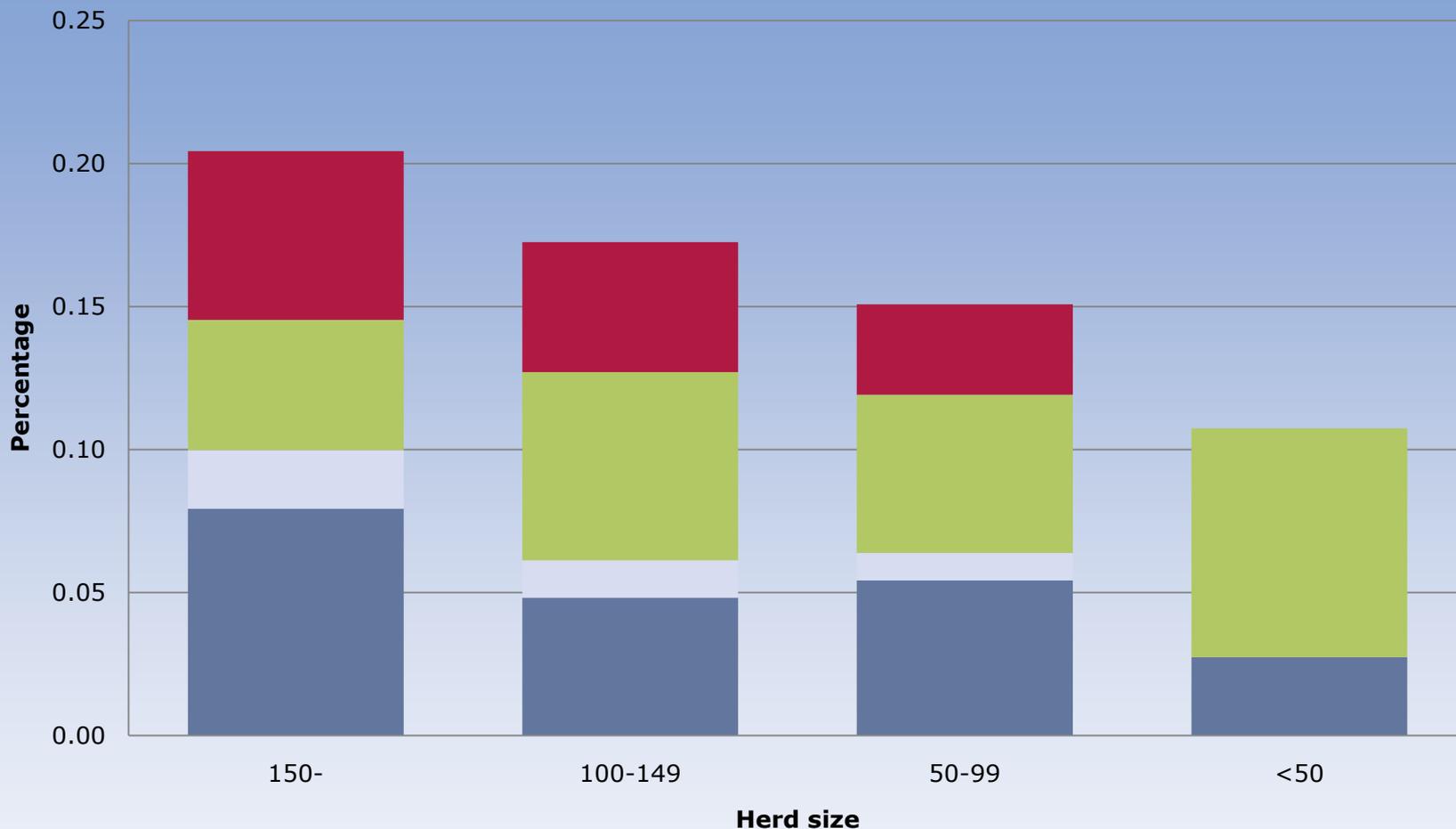
Proportion remarks at claw trimming Organic versus Conventional production



Mortality calves- Associations

	Stillborn frequency	Mortality 1-180 d	Mortality young stock
Herd size	Increase	Increase	n s
SHF	Increase	n s	n s
Milk yield	Decrease	Decrease	Decrease
Loose housing	Increase	Increase	n s
Organic prod.	Decrease	n s	Increase

Losses of calves, heifers and 1:st calvers



“Conclusions”

- Many **cows and calves are lost in large herds** - decreased supervision?
- **Loose housing systems are detrimental to claw health** and thereby longevity.
- Herds with **higher milk yield have lower levels of cow and calve losses but decreased longevity** - worse claw health?
- **SHF is a more fragile breed** compared to SRB.
- **Organic farming increase longevity and robustness** - due to pasture? More physiological diets? Lower production? Claws are much healthier!

A Swedish cow experiences 2.3 calvings

- SRB 2.3
- SHF 2.2
- SJB 2.3

- Finland approx. same level
- Norway and Denmark ~ **2 (or less?)**
- Longevity does not increase!

- **Is high exchange rate of cows a necessity in Nordic milk production?!**
- **Are we ready for the next step?**

***What does old cows mean
for production economy***

If due to a good health situation a lot!



Increased Longevity - How?

Corner stones

1. Longevity starts at birth! Take care of the calves!
2. A controlled and calm transition period is crucial!
3. Take care of weak and sick cows immediately!
4. High cow comfort a must and pasture!
5. Healthy claws!

1. Longevity starts at birth!

Many calves die during the first day of living!

- **Separate calving area** at least 16m²
- Dry, nonslippery and clean with fresh bedding
- Free access to food and water
- "Lockable" stanchions
- **Supervision!**

Good illumination

Easy entrance and exit

Risk factors for calf mortality

- Colostrum
- Late forage and concentrate
- First calver as mother
- Cow and calf together > 24 h
- Group calving
- Hygiene – climate!
- Large calve groups
- **Stockman**

2. A controlled and calm transition period

- Calving difficulties
- Decreased immunity
- Retained placenta/metritis
- Paresis
- Fatty liver
- Displaced abomasum
- Ketosis
- Mastitis etc.



One disease increase the risk for a second...

Measures from 3 weeks before and after calving

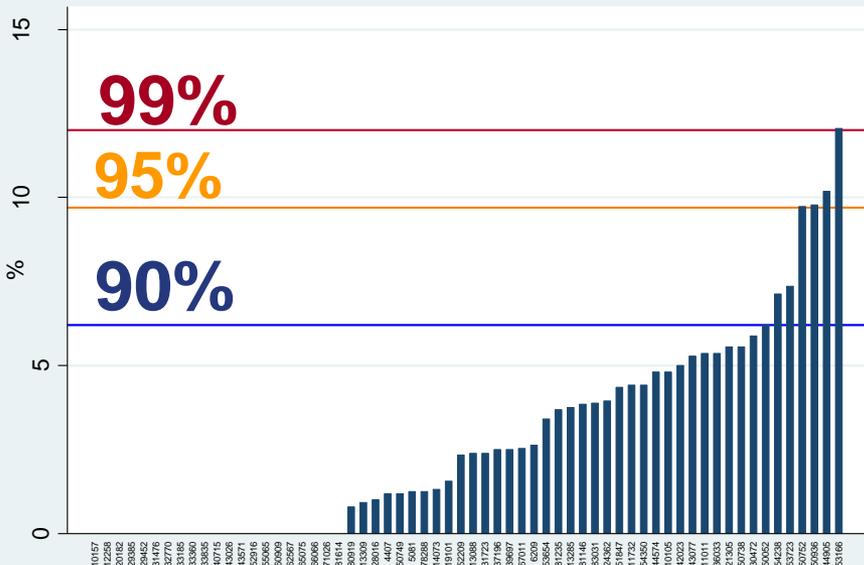
1. At least 70 cm bunk space to each cow.
2. Offer many comfortable cubicles
2. Move cows ≤ 1 once a week! Always more than one at a time!
4. Fat cows : Correct in low lactation!
5. Let cows calve alone! Test a waiting room model!
6. Supervise/Supervise/Supervise/Measure



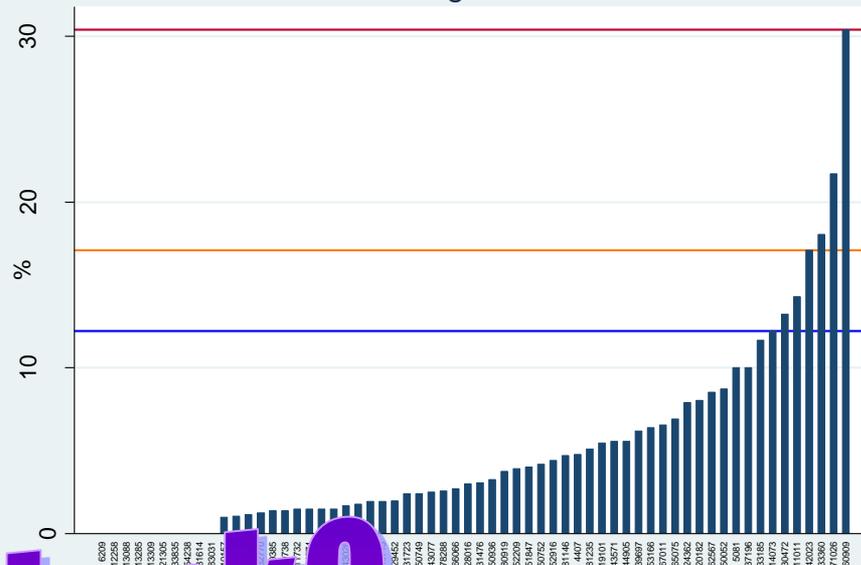
3. Identify and take care of weak and sick cows immediately!

- Lame cows and rising problems < 5 %
- Low body condition < 5 %
- Large injuries < 4 %
- **Love and care group!**

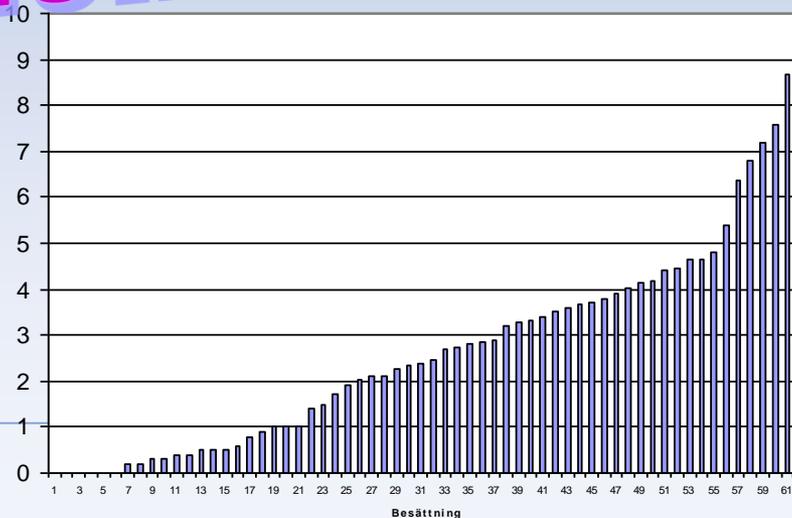
Halta kor



Magra kor



Home blank?



Ask the cow – Cow signals!



4. High cow comfort a must

Lying down is top ranked by the cow!

- Important processes while lying down
Rumination, milk production and relief of claws
- Lying down is in most cases the most important behavioral need
- Cubicle design
- Stocking rate - at least one cubicle per cow

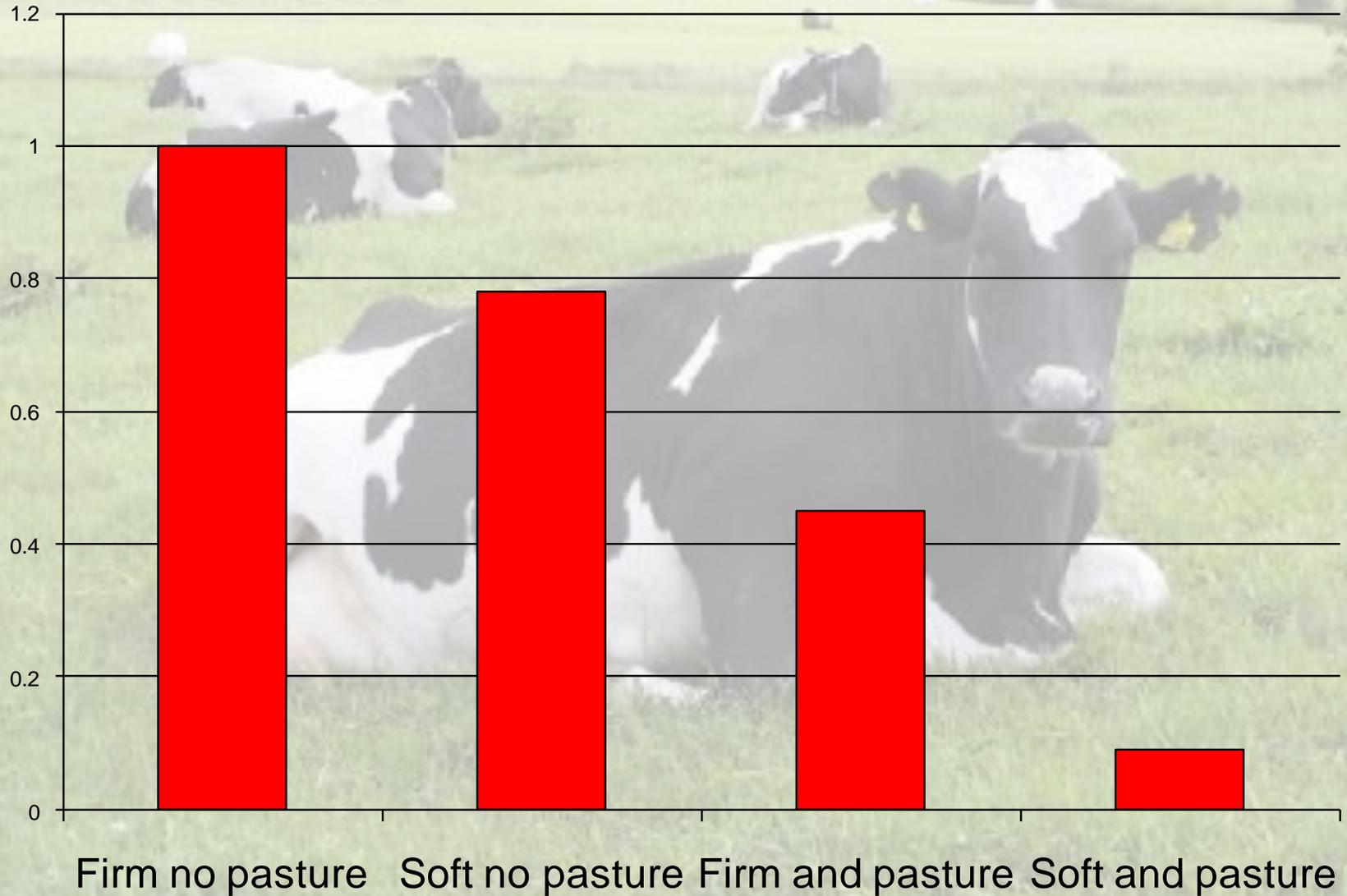
**Lying time 12,5-14 h
for health, milk yield and low gait scores**



**Small mistakes –
Detrimental effects!**

Thomsen, P T. 2007

Risk looser cows



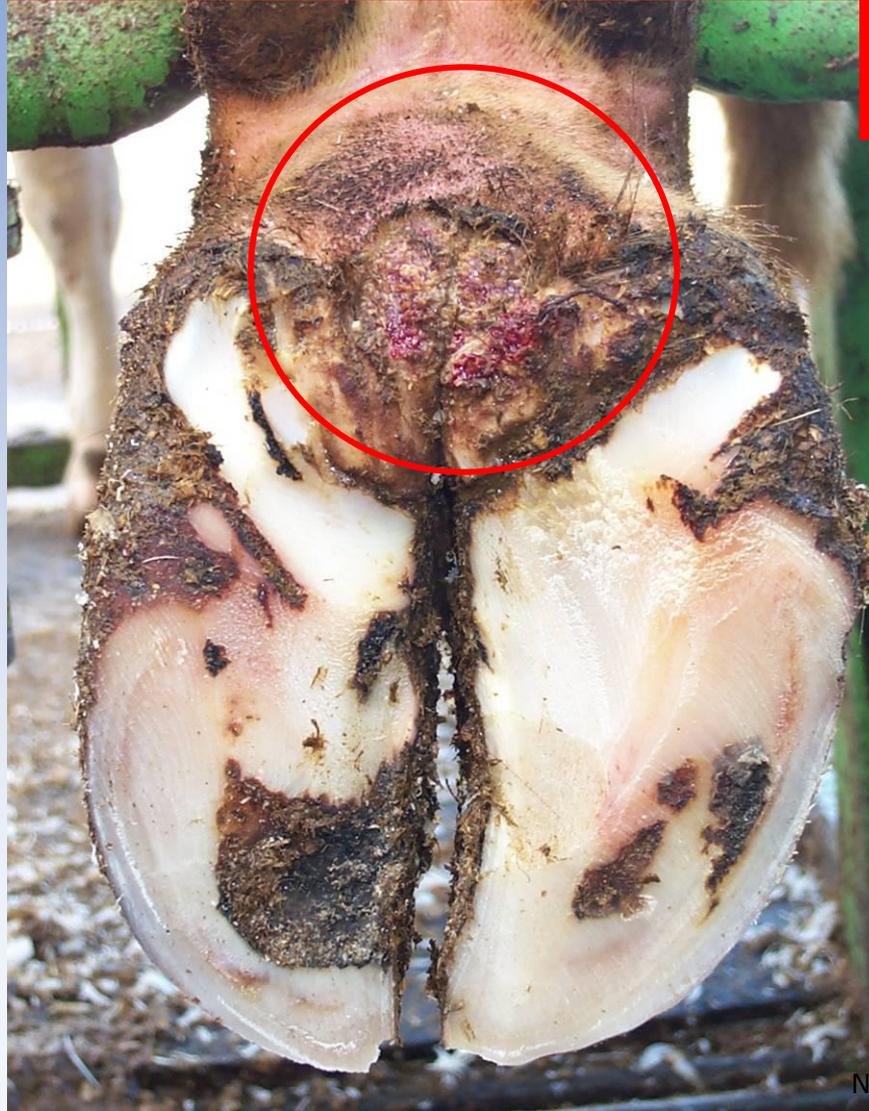
Social interactions can be positive – and negative...

*Social functions? Stocking rate?
Low ranked individuals?*

5. Healthy claws

Digital dermatitis

Sole ulcer, abscesses
bleedings



Lameness a real "killer"

- Trimming every 4th– 5th month
- Identify lame cows – direct measures
- Ruminantion - Fibre
- **Dry** non slippery flooring

A VISION?

- All animals leaves the herd as healthy!



WHY?

- **Economy**
- **Climate**
- **Ethics?**

-Do we really want older cows?

-Is it a realistic goal?

