

Cow-health, Antibiotics & Human health

**Will the interaction be more important and
can breeding play a significant role?**

Managing director, Sverre Bjørnstad, Geno

NØK – Conference 2010

Why pay attention to this topic?

- **Clear connection between product quality and human health**
- **Foodborne diseases are a big concern**



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Leading research to understand, treat, and prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases.

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Foodborne Diseases

Foodborne Diseases

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Infectious diseases spread through food or beverages are a common, distressing, and sometimes life-threatening problem for millions of people in the United States and around the world. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates 76 million people suffer from foodborne illnesses each year in the United States, accounting for 325,000 hospitalizations and more than 5,000 deaths.

Foodborne disease is extremely costly. Health experts estimate that the yearly cost of all foodborne diseases in this country is 5 to 6 billion dollars in direct medical expenses and lost productivity.

There are more than 250 known foodborne diseases. They can be caused by bacteria, viruses, or parasites. Natural and manufactured chemicals in food products also can make people sick. Some diseases are caused by toxins (poisons) from the disease-causing microbe (germ), others by the human body's reactions to the microbe itself. To better understand the epidemiology (study of disease origin and spread) of foodborne diseases in the United States, 10 states across the country are collecting annual data on the occurrence of new cases of the most common causes of bacterial and parasitic infections through the Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, a CDC-

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Research Feature

NIAID-supported researchers are seeking a new way to treat and prevent botulism, a rare but serious paralytic illness caused by the bacterium *Clostridium botulinum*. [Read more](#)

Related Links

- [Food-related disease information from the](#)
- [Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance](#)

Why pay attention to this topic?

- Clear connection between product quality and human health
- Foodborne diseases is a big concern
- **Animal welfare will become more and more of an issue**

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FDA Urges Meat Industry to Reduce Antibiotic Use

posted by: Mac McDaniel 23 days ago



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Mac McDaniel I am an animal rights activist and writer, environmentalist and Vegan, Straight Edge punk and... more ▶

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Why pay attention to this topic?

- Clear connection between product quality and human health
- Foodborne diseases is a big concern
- Animal welfare will become more and more of an issue
- **Development of resistance to antibiotics is a growing challenge**
- **Our sector's reputation and ability to be competitive with substitutes**
- **Net profit for farmers – especially from a long term perspective**

**Regarding resistance towards antibiotics;
Cows, Pigs, Veterinarians, Swedes, Norwegians and
Poultry.....**



Are you concerned about antibiotic resistant pathogenes?

FDA Urges Meat Industry to Reduce Antibiotic Use - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by GENO

http://www.care2.com/causes/animal-welfare/blog/fda-urges-meat-industry-to-reduce-antibiotic-use/

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can produce meat to meet the demands of the American population is through such means. Animal agriculture on this scale is by nature completely unsustainable and we are only wasting time by trying to reform an industry that cannot function without using the most wasteful, unethical and unhealthy business practices.

If the FDA recommendations do any good, it will be through convincing the average American that a diet free of animal products is not just good for the animals, it's also good for their own health.

How many more reports of this nature do we have to see before people on a large scale start to realize how terrible the animal agriculture industry truly is?

Read more: [bacteria](#), [fda](#), [livestock](#), [antibiotics](#), [animal welfare](#), [pathogens](#)

quick poll thanks for voting!

Are you concerned about antibiotic resistant pathogenes?

1% 0% 2% 97%

no! leaning no leaning yes yes!

440 votes

comments

153 comments

100 Dogs Rescued from Mississippi Puppy Mill (VIDEO)

132 comments

Parole for Dogfighting Kingpin?

148 comments

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A short history

- *Staphylococcus aureus* causes a lot of serious infections for both animals and humans – but can be handled with antibiotics
- *Meticillinresistant Staphylococcus aureus* - MRSA is a big challenge whenever it turns up
- MRSA has become more and more common the last 15 years, with the Nordic countries and the Netherlands as exceptions
- Until the year 2000, MRSA was hardly found in animals except when animals were infected by humans
- After 2000, dramatic change when MRSA was found in pigs and veal-production in Europe
- In 2005, MRSA was isolated from a family of pig producers in the NL
- After this, several surveys concluded that MRSA was wide spread among pigs, pig farmers, calves, chickens, horses, dogs and rats
- A recent study concluded that 10% of all incidents of mastitis in Belgium were MRSA

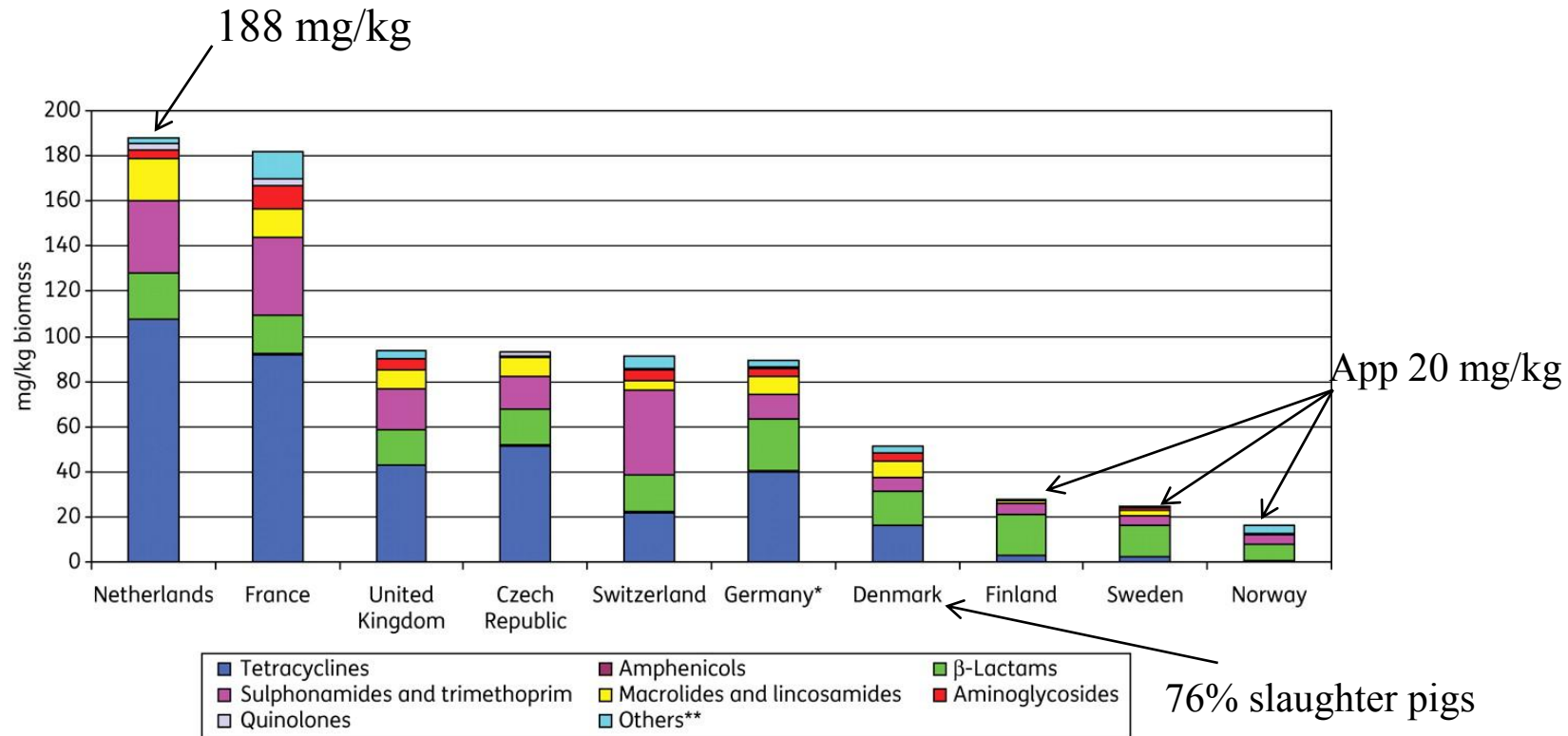
Compared to a Dutch teacher. How high is the risk of a Dutch pig farmer having MRSA?

- The risk is **760 times** higher for a pig farmer than an average Dutch citizen
- This is why Dutch pig farmers who go to a hospital are now being kept in isolation

Why has the MRSA-clone been able to spread?

1. MRSA-ST 398 is also resistant to tetracyclines, which are used a lot, especially in pig production in many countries
2. Very common for many dairy farmers in Europe and America to use Cloxacillin for treating dry cows. MRSA is resistant to cloxacillin
3. When competing bacteria are killed we actually tell the MRSA;
"Here you are, the floor is yours"
4. MRSA-ST 398 is good at moving among species, going between animals and humans and from human to human

Amounts, in mg, of veterinary antibacterial agents sold in 2007 per kg biomass of pig meat, poultry meat and cattle meat produced plus estimated live weight of dairy cattle



Grave, K. et al. J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2010 0:dkq247v1-247;
doi:10.1093/jac/dkq247

Selection experiments to see if selection can be a significant tool for decreasing mastitis and the need of antibiotics?

- Collaboration between Geno and Department of Animal, Aquacultural Sciences, Norwegian University of Life Sciences and 9 herds (agricultural schools)
- 2 selection groups
 - In each herd approx same no. cows in the 2 groups in each herd
- 1978-1989: High and low milk yield
 - HPY** = High Milk Yield
 - LPY** = Low Milk Yield (control group)
- 1989 → High milk yield and low mastitis
(Based on HPY cows from the first experiment)
 - HPY** = High Protein Yield
 - LCM** = Low Clinical Mastitis

Data

- Animal model
 - **2.7 million first-lactation cows with data**
 - **3.3 million animals in the pedigree-file**
- Selection experiment I (1978-1989)
 - **2696 cows with EBV for CM**
 - **5 cow-generations**
- Selection experiment II
 - **2826 cows with EBV for CM**
 - **5 cow-generations with completed first lactation**

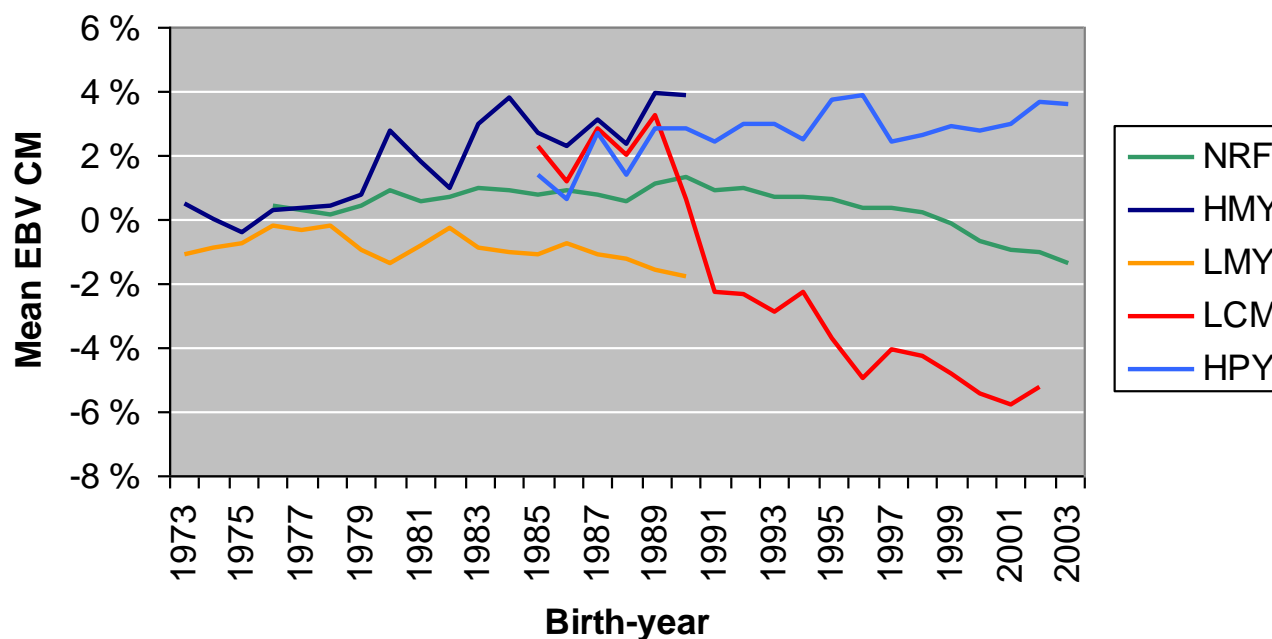
Proven sires from Norwegian Red breeding program

- HMY:** The 3-7 highest ranking sires for **milk yield** each year (total 49 sires)
- LMY:** A group of sires with milk yield index around 90 in the progeny test in 1978 and 1979 (total 21 sires)
- HPY:** The 2 - 4 highest ranking sires for **protein yield** each year
- LCM:** The 2 – 4 highest ranking sires for **mastitis resistance** each year

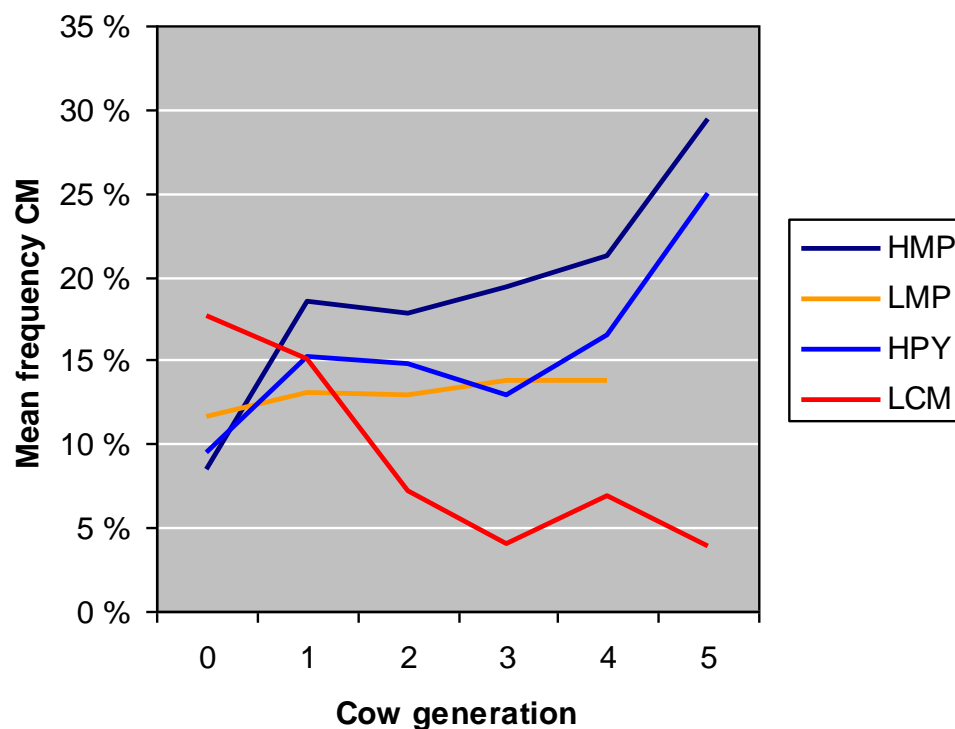
Proven sires from Norwegian Red active breeding program
used as sires →

single trait selection (milk or mastitis) of sires pre-selected for Norwegian Red's breeding objective

Genetic trends for clinical mastitis (CM) in Norwegian Red and the 2 selection experiments



Mean EBV for clinical mastitis (CM) by birth year for the 2 selection experiments and the Norwegian Red population



Mean frequency of clinical mastitis (CM) per cow-generation for groups of cows selected for high milk production (HMP) and low milk production (LMP) in experiment I, and groups selected for high protein yield (HPY) and low clinical mastitis (LCM) in experiment II.

Conclusions *(Björg Heringstad, Geno/IHA)*

- Illustrates the importance of a broad breeding goal
- The first dairy cattle selection experiment that includes direct selection against mastitis
- Two groups with large genetic difference in susceptibility to clinical mastitis
 - Valuable genetic resource
 - Of interest for research purposes



Conclusions

- Selection for increased milk yield results in unfavorable correlated selection responses in CM, KET, RP, LSCS, and female fertility
- Considerable genetic response can be achieved for CM if sufficient selection pressure is put on the trait
- Selection against mastitis = indirect selection for more robust COWS
 - **Increased resistance to other diseases**
 - **Reduced lactation mean somatic cell count**
 - **Improved fertility**
- Genetic correlations works as expected
 - **Unfavourable genetic correlation between milk production health and between milk production and fertility**
 - **Postive genetic correlation between health traits and between helath and fertility**

Milk and dairy-production is now a good position

- The world needs more milk – at least in a longer perspective
- Good situation regarding animal welfare – compared with other productions
- BSE-crises is about to become history
- Blue tongue is under control
- The discussion reg. milk, health, heart diseases and obesity is about to turn in favor of the milk

Åpenhet om kosthold

LØRDAG 26. JUNI 2010 **VE**

- Mine råd blir tatt mer på alvor av Statens råd for ernæring, mener Fedon Lindberg.
- Staten anbefaler mindre brød og poteter enn tidligere.
- Fortsatt er rådene unødvendig fettfobiske.

Nasjonalt Råd for Ernæring har nylig offentliggjort utkast til nye nasjonale kostråd. Arbeidsgruppen under ledelse av Professor Rune Blomhoff ved Universitetet i Oslo fortjener berømmelse for et omfattende, grundig og seriøs arbeid. Det blir spennende å se i hvilken grad faglige innspill fra eksterne fagfolk blir tatt videre når de endelige kostrådene skal lanseres til høsten.

Tidligere har jeg erfart en del arroganse og mangel på faglig nysgjerrighet for nye tanker og forskning fra enkelte kostnoldeprofessorer. Det ble ramseskrisk blant enkelte ernæringseksperter da jeg i 2001 kom med en bok der jeg rådet folk med tendens til å legge på seg, til å kutte ned på inntaket av matvarer som belastar blodsukkeret mye (sukker, brød, poteter, ris og pasta). Debatten ble stygg i perioder og en stor belastning for meg personlig.

Det er likevel godt å registrere at den ikke var helt forgjeves.

Åpenhet og dialog

Må opplever jeg en prosess som inviterer til dialog, og dette representerer etter min mening et paradigmeskifte i norsk ernæringspolitikk. Under et åpent møte den 10. juni ble metodikk bak utarbeidelsen av rapporten, samt hovedkonklusjonene i form av 15 nasjonale kostråd, presentert av Rune Blomhoff og Ernæringsrådets leder Haakon Meyer. Det blir spennende å se i hvilken grad faglige innspill fra eksterne fagfolk blir tatt videre i den avsluttende fasen av prosjektet, når de endelige kostrådene skal lanseres til høsten. Arbeidsgruppen tar selv mange forbehold i forhold til resultatene i

KOSTRÅD



Fedon Lindberg, lege og spesialist i innremedisin

rapporten og det er bra med tydelighet. Ingen har godt av skråsikkerhet i et fagområde som er såpass sammensatt og hvor det er store hull i den faglige dokumentasjonen.

Utkastet til de nye kostrådene beveger seg etter min mening i riktig retning. Særlig bra er det at de nye rådene blir konkrete og basert på matvarer, ikke på næringsstoffer og prosenter som før. Folk spiser mat, ikke tall. Det er imidlertid fortsatt en del jeg er uenig i.

Mindre poteter og brød

Rapporten tar for lite hensyn til biokemi og fysiologi, og evolusjonsperspektivet (hvilket kosthold mennesket har tilpasset seg gjennom tidene) er totalt fraværende i rapporten. Det er synd når vi vet hvilken enorm betydning sammenspiillet mellom gener og mat har. Det tas også for lite hensyn til viktige grupper blant "friske" med spesielle behov, for eksempel gravide, innvandrere fra ikke-vestlige kulturer og eldre.

Det finnes ingen vitenskapelig dokumentasjon på at de er spesielt helsefremmende. Det er også bra at man anbefaler mindre brød enn tidligere, og at man kun anbefaler fullkornprodukter. Det er også bra at nøtter for første gang blir offisielt anbefalt i Norge, selv om mengden er for lav. Er det på grunn av kalorier og fettinnhold?

Man går imidlertid ikke langt

Fettfobi

Rapporten er fortsatt unødvendig fettfobisk. Det finnes ikke god dokumentasjon på at total mengde fett i kosten øker risiko for overvekt, diabetes, hjertesykdom eller kreft. Man blir like fet av å spise fett som man blir grønn av å spise grønnsaker. Fettkvalitet er imidlertid svært viktig. Vi blir fortsatt advart mot mettet fett, selv om nyere forsk-

skjen viser at det er store forskjeller i matvarer som er rik på mettet fett. Meierifett ser heller ut til å senke risiko for hjertesykdom og kreft, men kostrådet forblir å unngå fete meieriprodukter.

Man sidestiller feilaktig naturlig forekommende transfett fra



MER ÅPENHET: Det er et skritt i riktig retning at Statens ernæringsråd nå anbefaler mindre potet og brød, skriver Fedon Lindberg.

Foto: Aftenposten

nok i å anbefale at hvitt mel reduseres. Det tas også for lite hensyn til den sentrale rollen blodsukkerreguleringen har for både vekt og helse og viktigheten av å begrense blodsukkerbelastningen fra kosten. Det er ikke nok å anbefale mindre sukker. Man må også anbefale mindre inntak av raffinerte karbohydrater generelt, det vil si produkter med hvitt mel, pasta, ris og poteter.

Det er synd at bølghuker (linser og bønner) overhodet ikke nevnes i kostrådene, til tross for at det er dokumentert at de reduserer risiko for diabetes,

fedme og hjertesykdom. De bør anbefales på lik linje med grove kornprodukter. Etniske nordmenn kan lære fra andre matkulturer.

Når det gjelder kosttilskudd vet vi at det er stor avstand mellom det folk spiser og det som anbefales. Hvorfor åpner man da ikke for at flere kan ha behov for dem? Det blir feil å hevde at nesten ingen trenger å ta kosttilskudd.

Vitamin D-mangel medfører bærskjethet, mange unødvendige infeksjoner og trolig mange tilfeller av kreft i Norge. Mangel på vitamin D er ikke noe man

kan kompensere for bare ved hjelp av kosthold, men trenger nok sol i tillegg. Tilskudd bør derfor anbefales.

Fettfobi

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Man sidestiller feilaktig naturlig forekommende transfett fra melk og kjøtt (CLA) som har mange gode helsebringende effekter, med det kunstige og skadelige transfettet som vi finner i gatekjøkkenmat og en del industriell bakt. Stetnevnt bør etter min mening forbyes, slik man har gjort blant annet i Danmark.

Let's work together to avoid antibiotics and resistance becoming the next negative issue

- It's proven that selection is a tool than can be used with more power
- We need to focus on the topic because heavy use of strong antibiotics can give a short term benefit for a few, while putting the reputation for the whole industry at risk
- The Nordic countries has a unique position – let's keep it this way
- Remember the Bathtub => Resistance is contagious and we're in this together

Have a healthy glass of milk;-)

