



Boars heading for 2018

“Ending castration Not a tainted subject”

The farmers perspective”

**Annechien ten Have-Mellema
Pigfamer and
Chairman Committee Boars 2018**



Personal introduction

- Pig and arable farmer in The Netherlands
- 2005-2012: chairman of pig farming sector of the farmers union
- Since 2008: chairman of committee boars 2018
- Member of the EU expert group on the alternatives of surgical castration





Boars heading for 2018

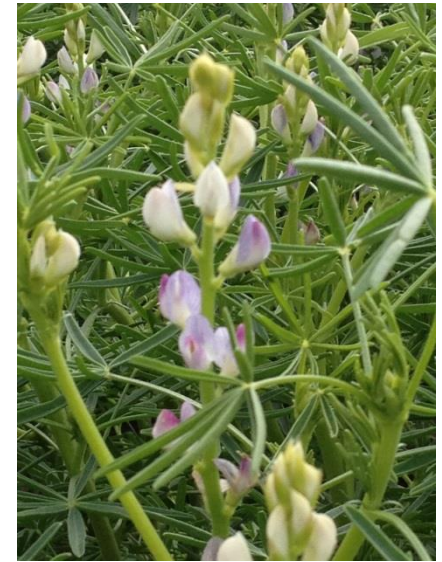


My farm

- Pig farm 600 sows and 3000 finishers
- Family operated
- Group housing sows on straw since 2000
- Fattening of non-castrated boars since 1995
- Free farrowing pens since 2014
- Arable farming and biogas
- Participate in Better Life Scheme since 2010

Plans:

- Growing lupins to replace soy beans
- We are building a two stars free range pig barn





My experiences:

- Boars since more than 20 years
- Do's and don'ts when raising boars
- It works, but it is different!





How to manage boars?

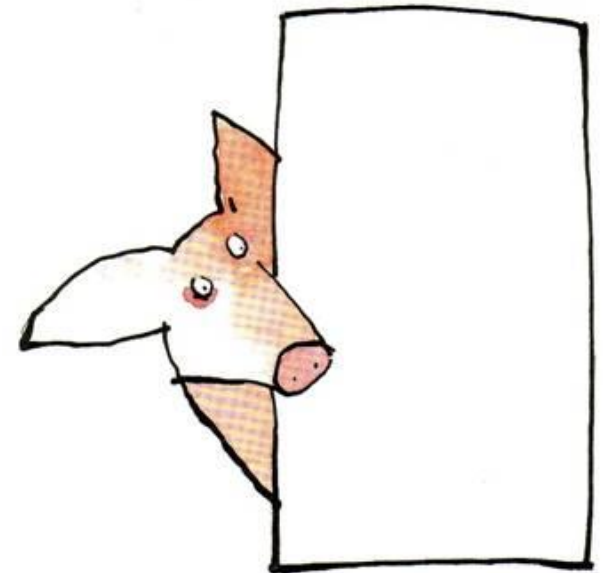
- Boars behave and react different
- Leg problems at slaughterline:

Farm 1:	0,2%	(1 m ² - gilts)
Farm 2:	0,2%	(1 m ² – boars)
Farm 3:	0,6%	(1 m ² - boars)
Farm 4:	0,8%	(0,8m ² - boars)
- Average slaughterhouse: between 1,3%-1,5%



How to manage boars?

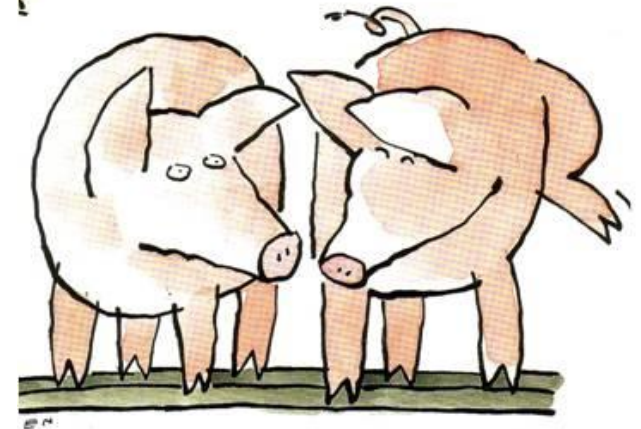
- We are having a regular pig farm.
- 1 m²
- Try not to mix
- Rest in the room and own behavior
- Good health
- Good floor
- Fed ad libitum or high feed level
- Special diet for boars – amino acids
- Enough water





Advantages of no castration for the pig farmer

- Better technical results boars - barrows
 - Daily gain
 - Feed conversion ratio
 - Meat %
 - Less infection risks
 - Less manure
 - **RETURN**



- The best return is: the end of inconvenient castration labour



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Thank you for your attention



- @PiggyPower1
- www.boars2018.com