# Weaning Objectives

- Maximize Weaning weight (Target 8+kg at 26 days)
- Minimise Post wean Mortality
- Reduce Weaning Stress
- Maximise post weaning performance
- Maximise sow productivity (eg Reproductive efficiency)
- Optimum Weaning Age???
  - Natural 10-16 weeks
  - EU No less than 21days 28 recommended
  - USA Any time (often10 days)



#### Creep feed can impact lifetime performance



• Current HA Creep Intake 1kg+ per piglet birth - wean





Current Contract 360 85 -120 kg livewt

- Select 1/3 , 2/3
- 20-30 <85 Sold at second draw
- Wean Wt 9.4, 7.8, 6.1



# **Reducing Weaning Stress**

- Stressors
  - Mix, Move, Minus Mother, Diet Change
- Litter penning reduces mixing
- Mix litters prior to weaning Multisuckle
- Leave piglets in farrowing pen for a few days
- Keep nurse sow for smalls
- Creep feed from day 14
- Outdoor production?



#### **Finishing Performance**





Wean 28 days

Slaughter 140 Days

#### **Finishing Performance**





#### **Finishing Performance**



### Finishing Management Issues

- Temperature Wean 28°C → Finish 22°C
- Space Wean 0.25 m<sup>2</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Finish 0.75 m<sup>2</sup> Slates

1.25 m<sup>2</sup> Deep Straw

- Adlib Feed and Water
- Avoid Mixing
- Group Size
- All in All out Batch management



## Feeding Sows

- Feed to condition Score
- Two Diet System
- Gestation Dry Sow Diet CP14%, DE 13 MJ/kg
- Lactation Sliding Scale CP18%, DE 14 MJ/kg
- 1.2 1.5 Tonnes / Sow / Year



# Feeding Finishers

- Feed to requirements for growth
- Provide the correct balance of Energy and Protein for efficient lean growth
- Usually 4/5 diets from 8 to 90 kg
- Adlib access Restrict if necessary from 70kg at 85% of Voluntary Food Intake



### Feed Format

- Cobs Floor feeding outdoors or on straw
- Nuts Convenient low dust for sow feeding
- Pellets Palatable, Improved FCR,
- Meal Cheap, High Dust, More wastage
- Wet Good Performance, Needs good facilities



## Feed Ingredients

- Pigs are Monogastric's
- Energy Source mainly Starch
- Compound diets formulated to precise specifications. e.g. DE, Lysine, Ca, P, Vitamins
- Highly digestible ingredients for young pigs
- Straights and By-products



#### **Nutrient Types**

Energy Wheat Barley Maize Oils Protein Fish Meal Soya Bean Meal Rape Seed Meal



## Feed Ingredients

- By-products
- Dry Biscuit Meal
- Wheat Feed
- Coconut & Citrus meal
- Maize Gluten
- Palm Kernels
- •
- Wet Whey
- Fish Factory Waste
- Liquid Potato Feed
- Brewery Waste
- •
- + Mineral & Vitamin Supplements
- + Synthetic products and additives (e.g. Lysine)



#### **Example Diet Minimum Specifications**

Stock Classification	10-15kg	15- 25kg	20- 50kg	50- 90kg	20- 90kg	Gest Sow	Lact Sow	General Sow
DE (MJ/kg)	14.75	14.5	14.0	13.0	13.5	12.5	14.0	13.0
Lysine (g/kg)	13.5	14.0	12.75	10.0	11.0	4.5	8.5	7.0
Linoleic Acid %	2.0	1.75	1.25	1.0	1.25	1.5	1.25	1.5
Crude Protein %	21	22,23	20,22	18,20	19,21	13.5,15	18,19	16,17
Na %	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
Ca %	0.75	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.85	0.8
AvPhosphorus %	0.4	0.35	0.35	0.3	0.35	0.35	0.45	0.4

