

Global Pig Production – Trends, Economic Realities & Outlook

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agri benchmark Pig network & InterPIG



From Beef to Pigs – Framing the next Session

This presentation follows the previous session on beef and shifts the focus to pigs

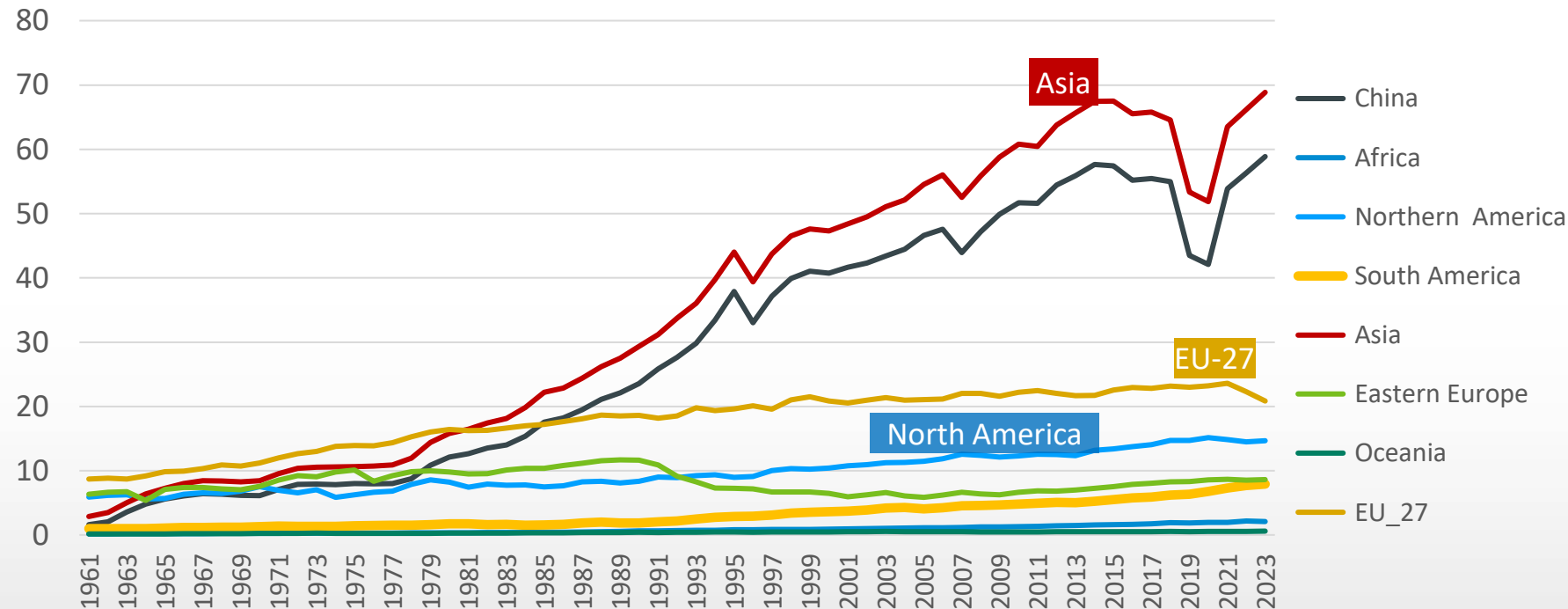
- **We will look at current developments in pig production from a global perspective**
- **The analysis includes production trends, economic drivers, and international comparisons**
- **Data and insights are based on work from the *agri benchmark* Pig Network**

The session is structured into three parts:

- market and framework conditions
- farm-level economics
- and an outlook on the future of pig husbandry

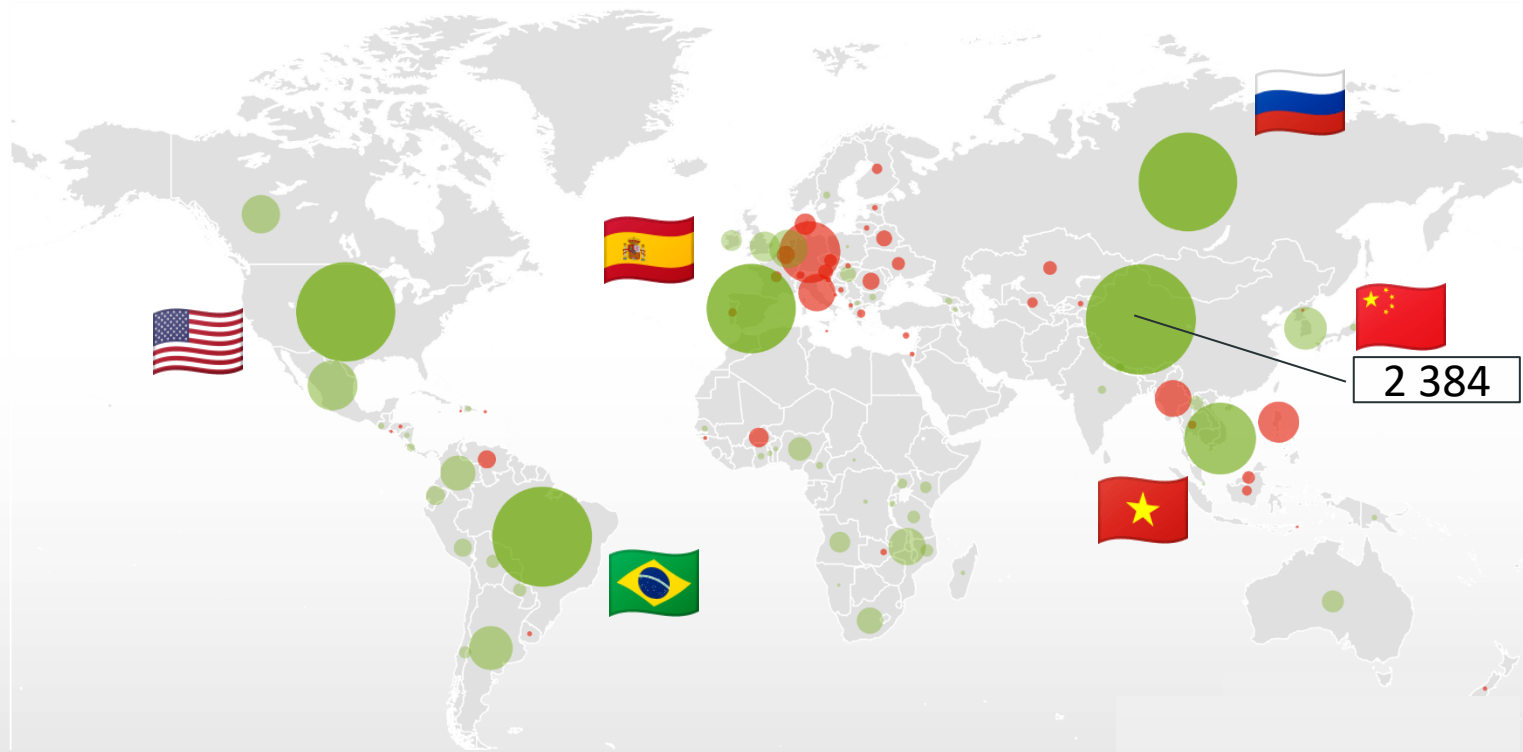
Asia continues to dominate pig production, China fully recovered, EU and US losing ground (million tons)

Million tons



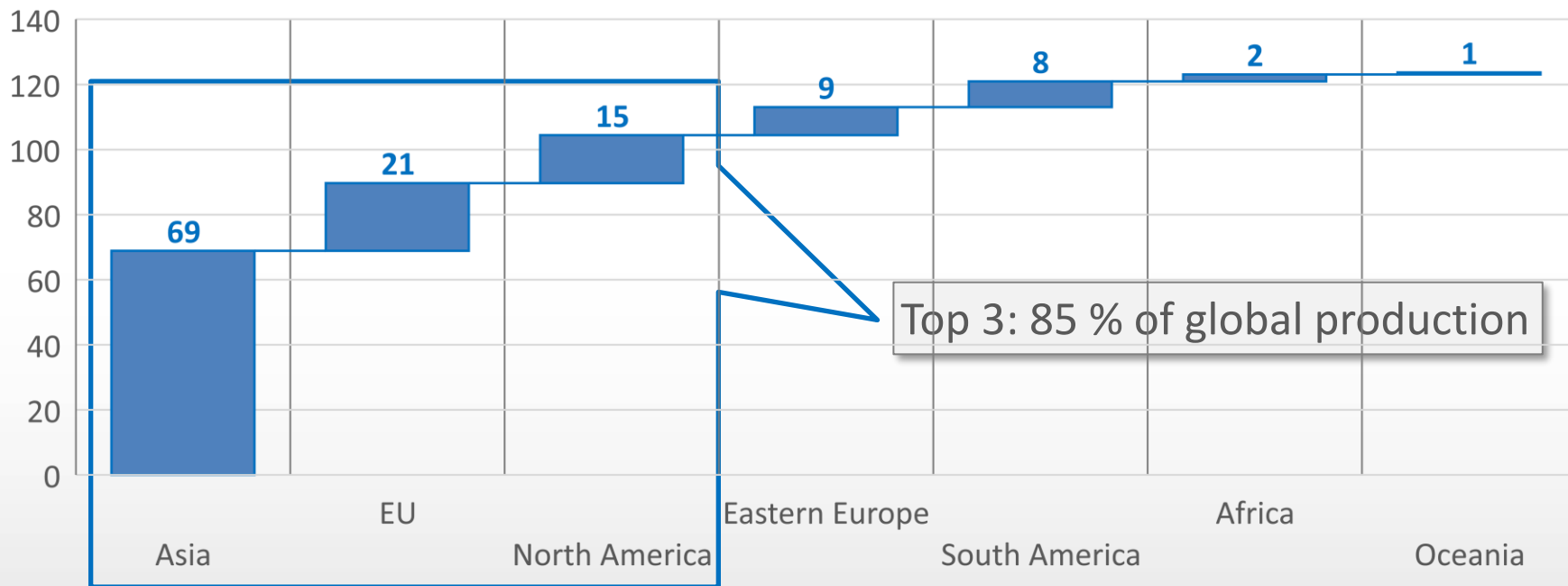
Source: FAOStat 04/2025

Absolute change in global pig meat production ('000 tons) 2021 - 2023 vs. 2011 - 2013



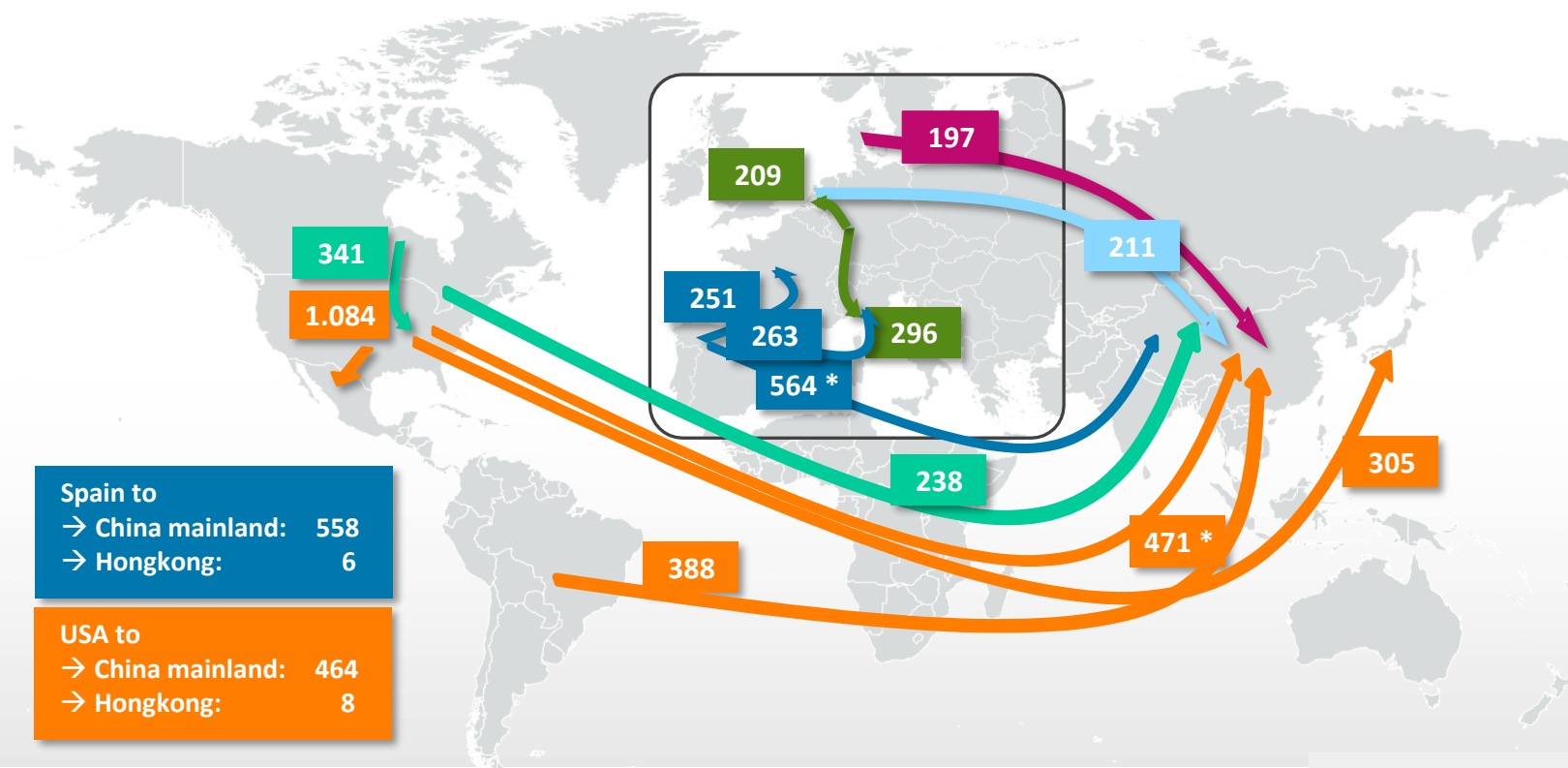
Asia produces two times the quantity of the EU and North America, respectively (million tons)

Million tons

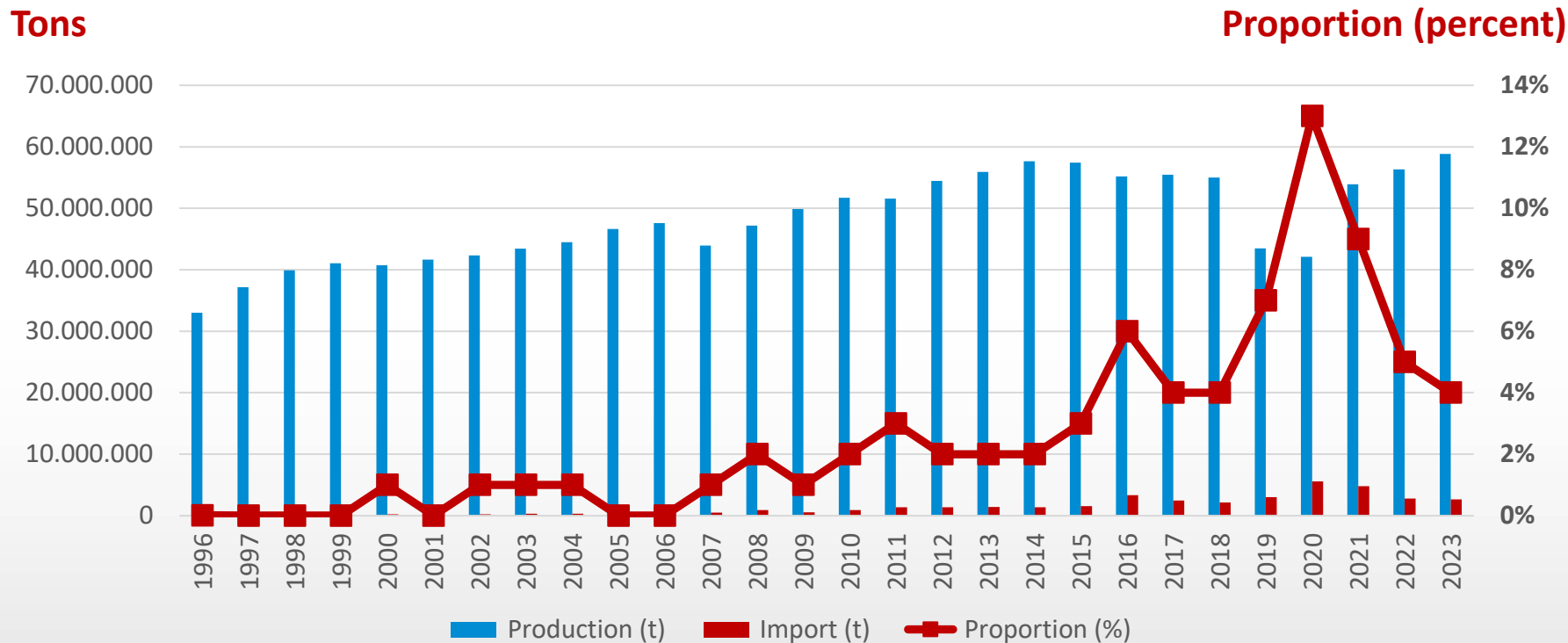


Source: FAOStat 04/2024

Top 10 pig meat export flows 2023



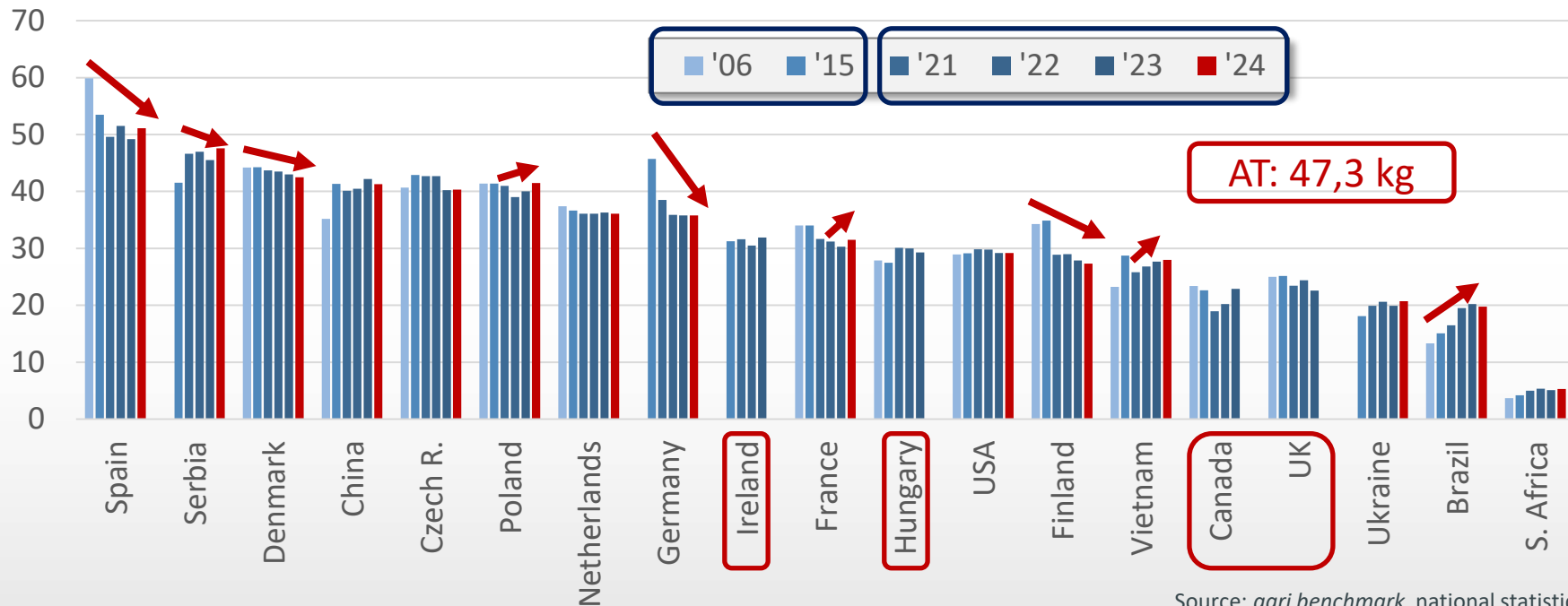
Import share of Chinese pig production (import quantities / production quantities)



Pig meat consumption 2006, 2015 and 2021-2024

kg pig meat per capita and year

 = data for 2024 not confirmed yet

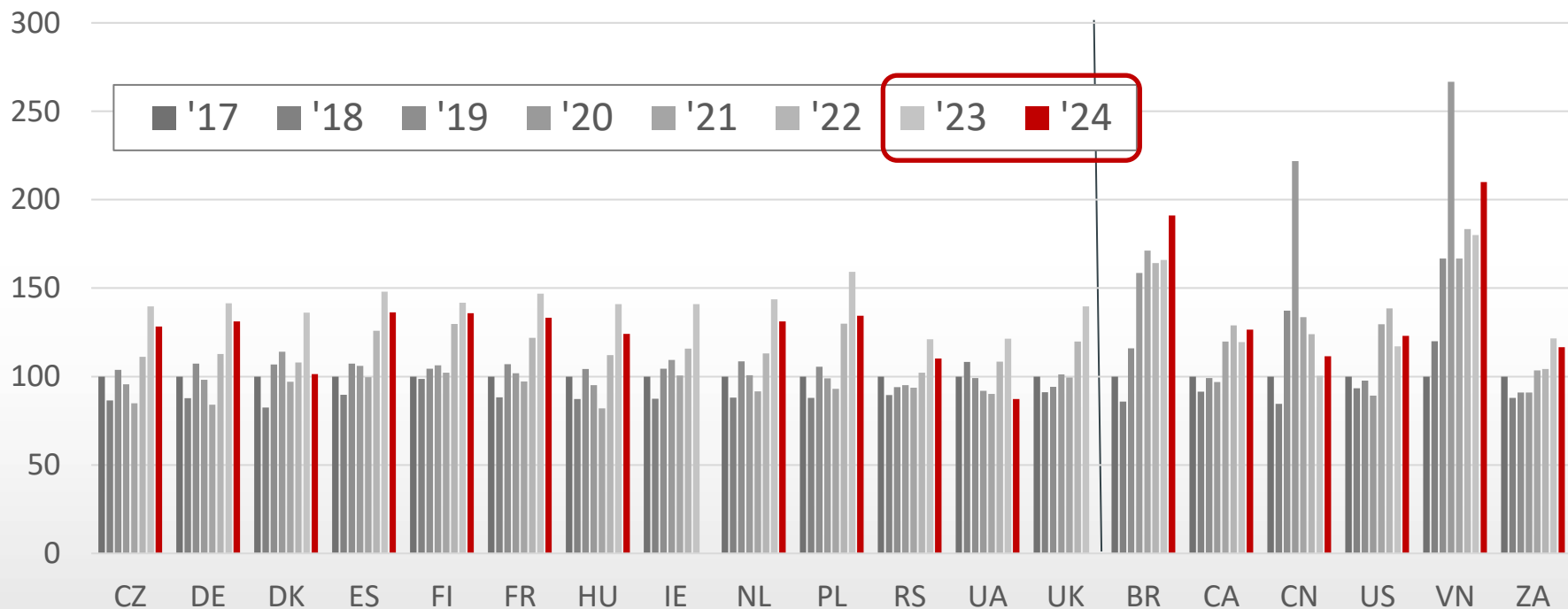


Source: agri benchmark, national statistics

Piglet price index 2017-2024

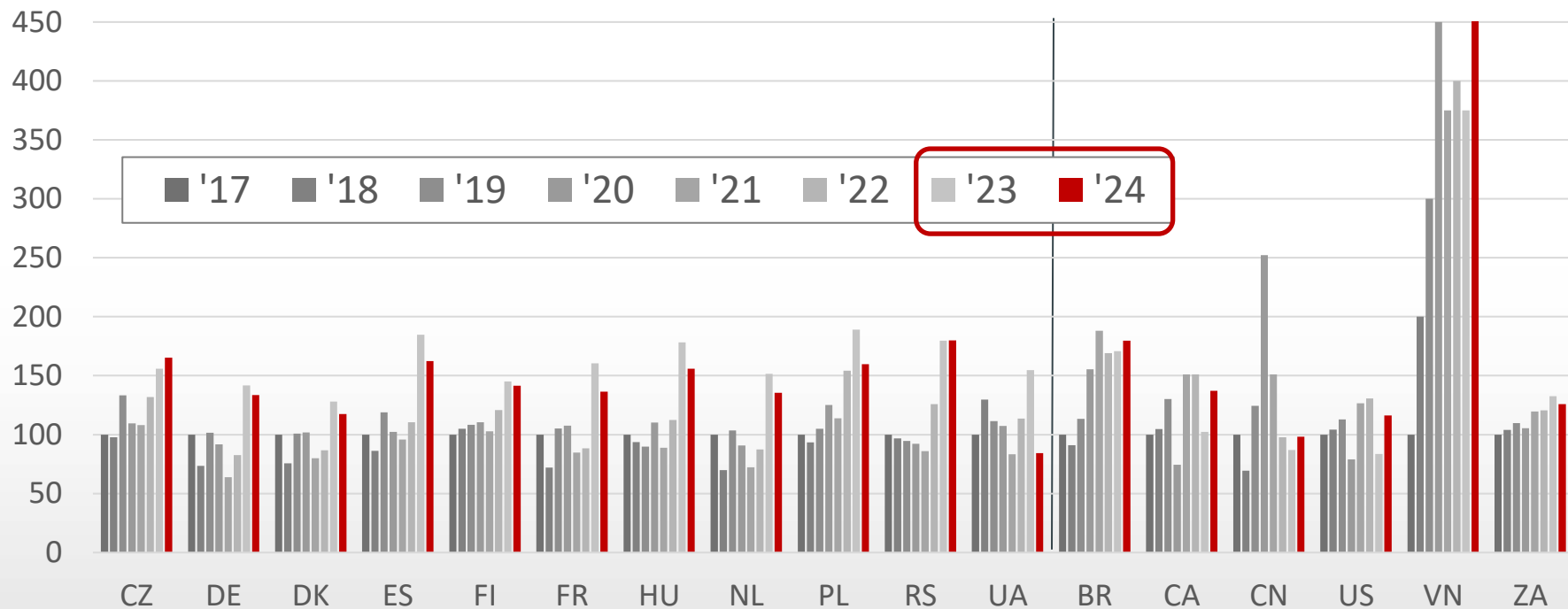
– Europe down, RoW mainly up, opposite to previous year

Index 2017 = 100



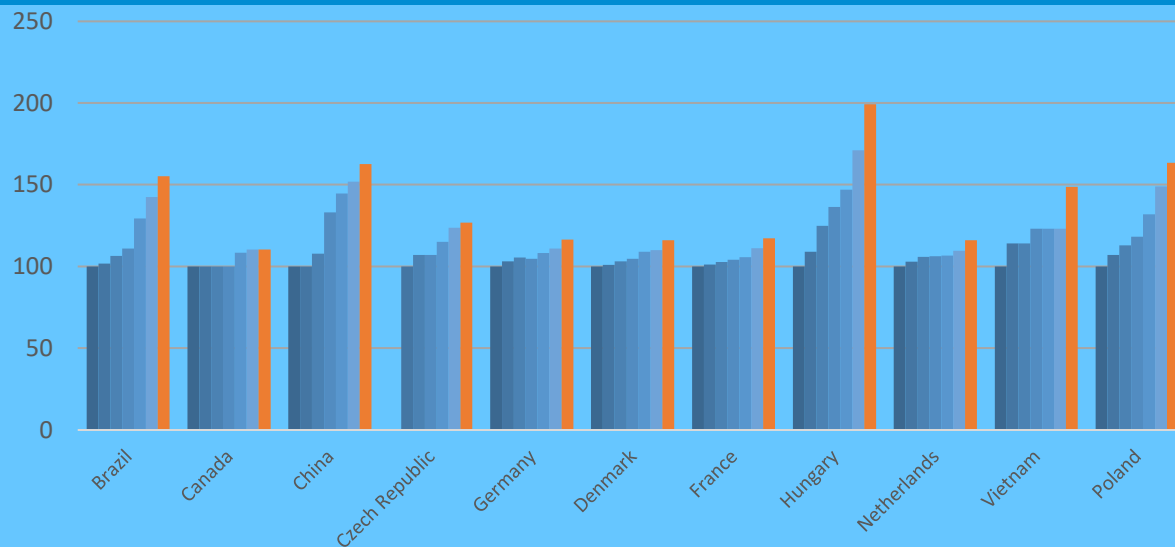
Pig price index 2017-2024 – Europe mainly down, RoW mainly up, opposite to previous year

Index 2017 = 100



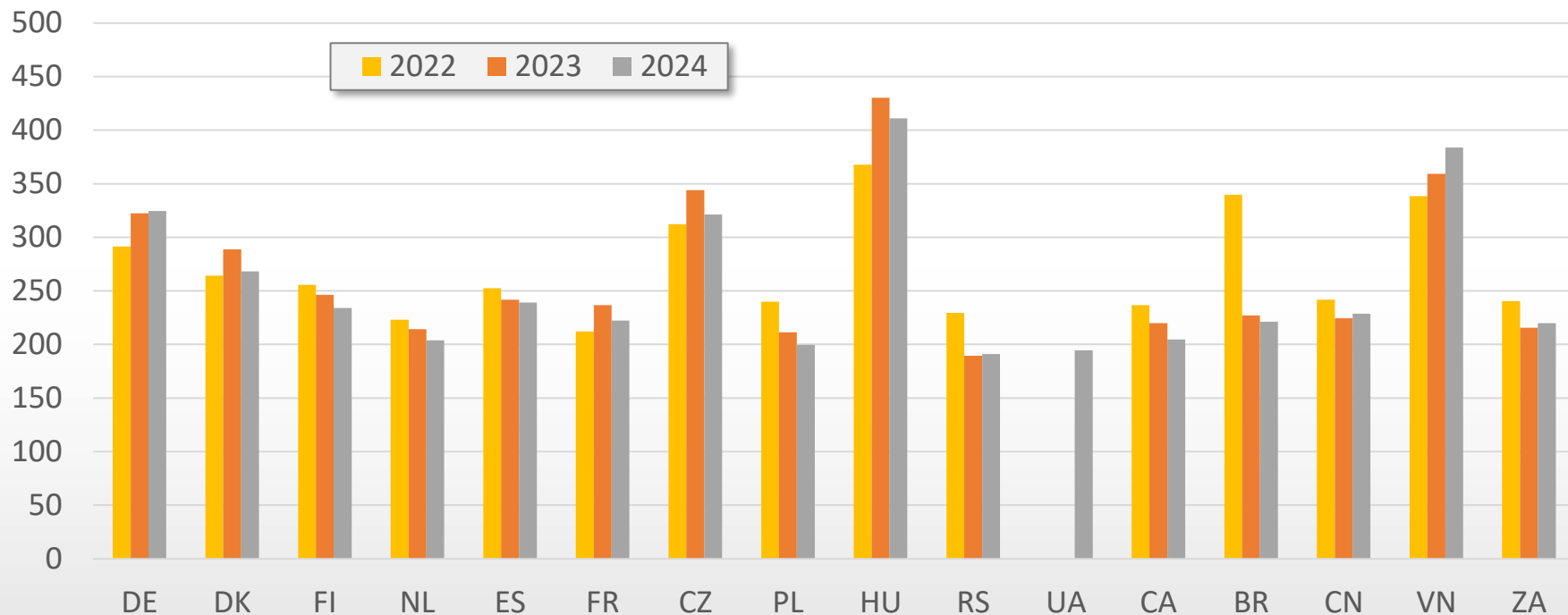
Farm-level Economics

Results by the *agri benchmark* Pig network



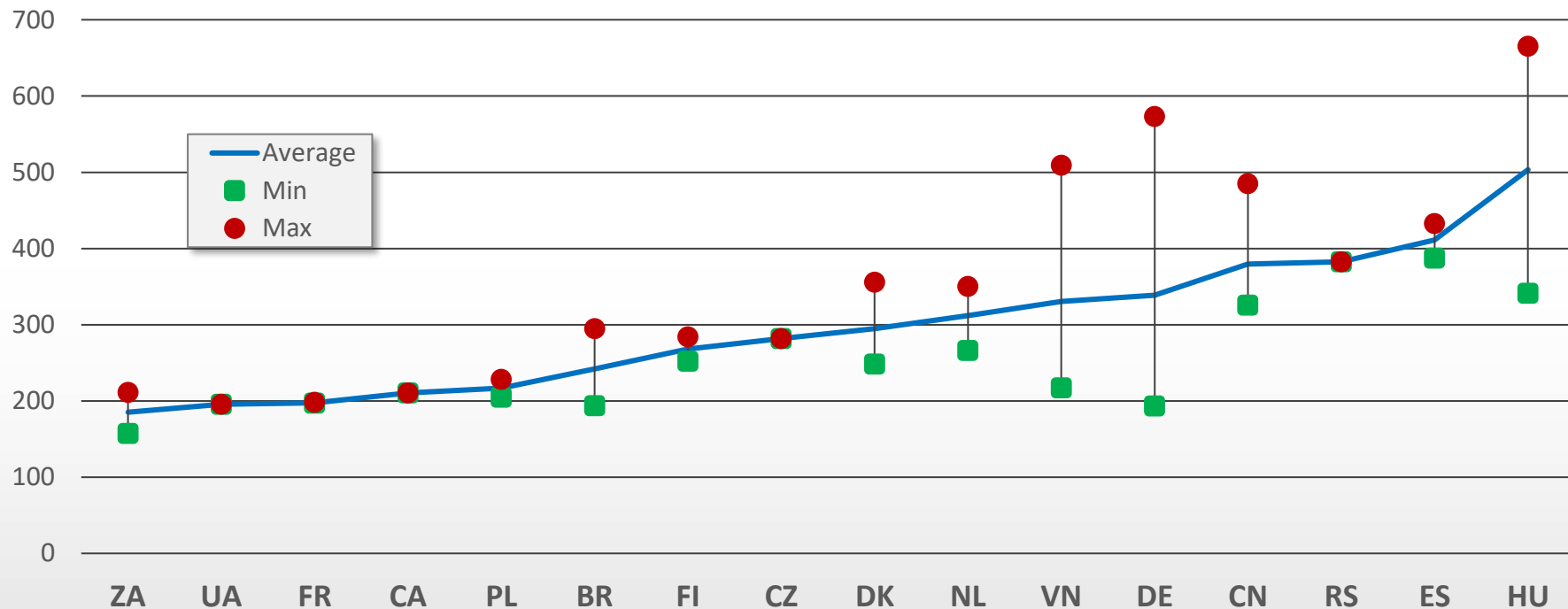
Sows: Change of total costs 2022-2024

USD per 100 kg live weight produced



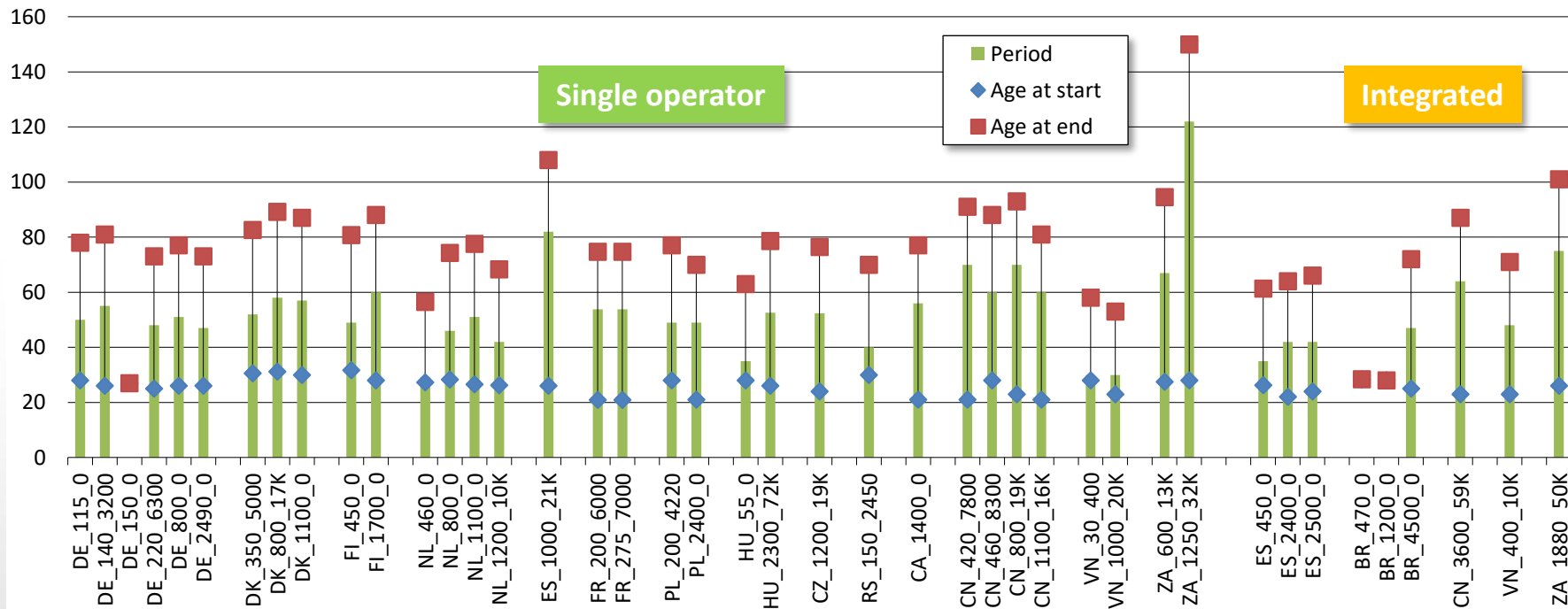
Sows: Total returns and their variation 2024

USD per 100 kg live weight produced



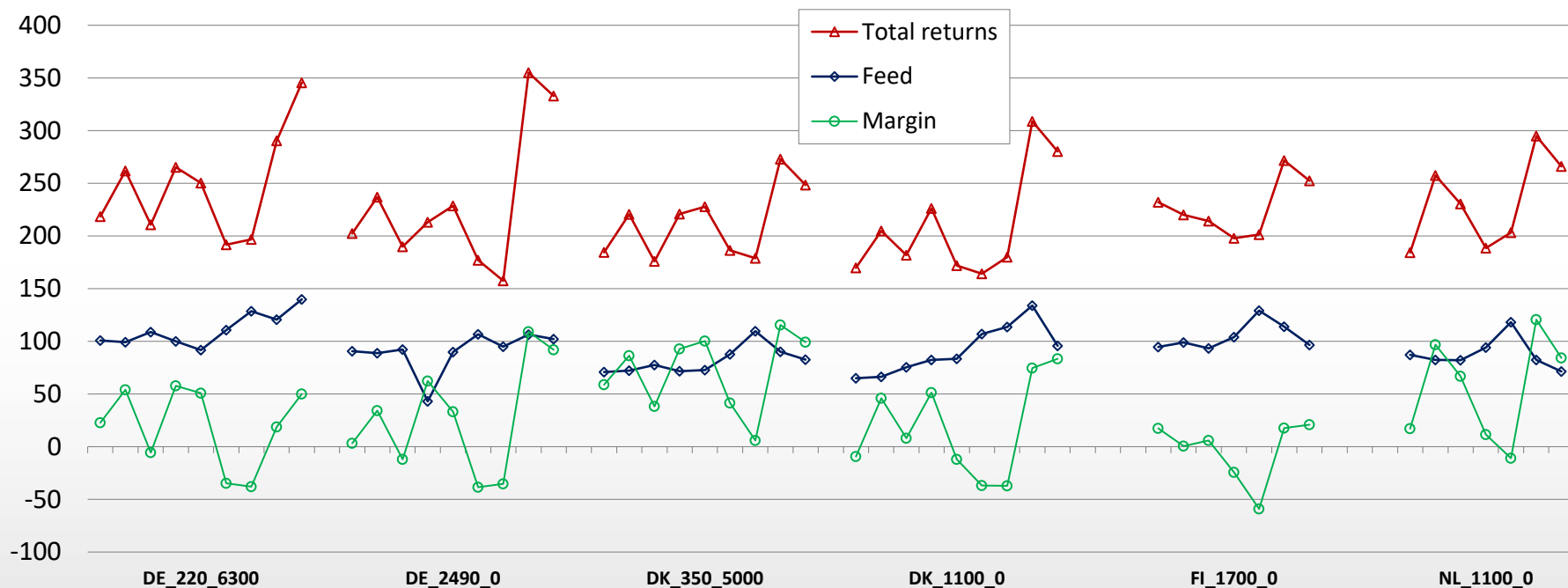
Rearing periods

Days



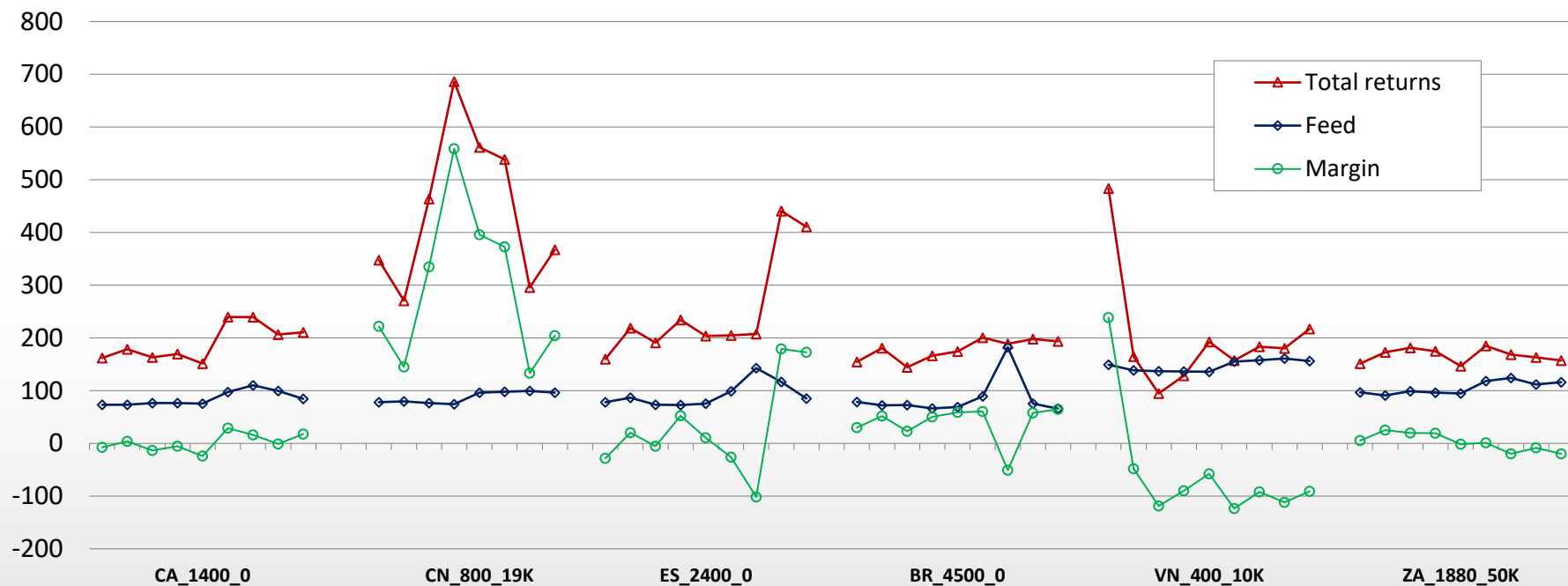
Sows: What determines profits? Selection of Europe

USD per 100 kg live weight produced



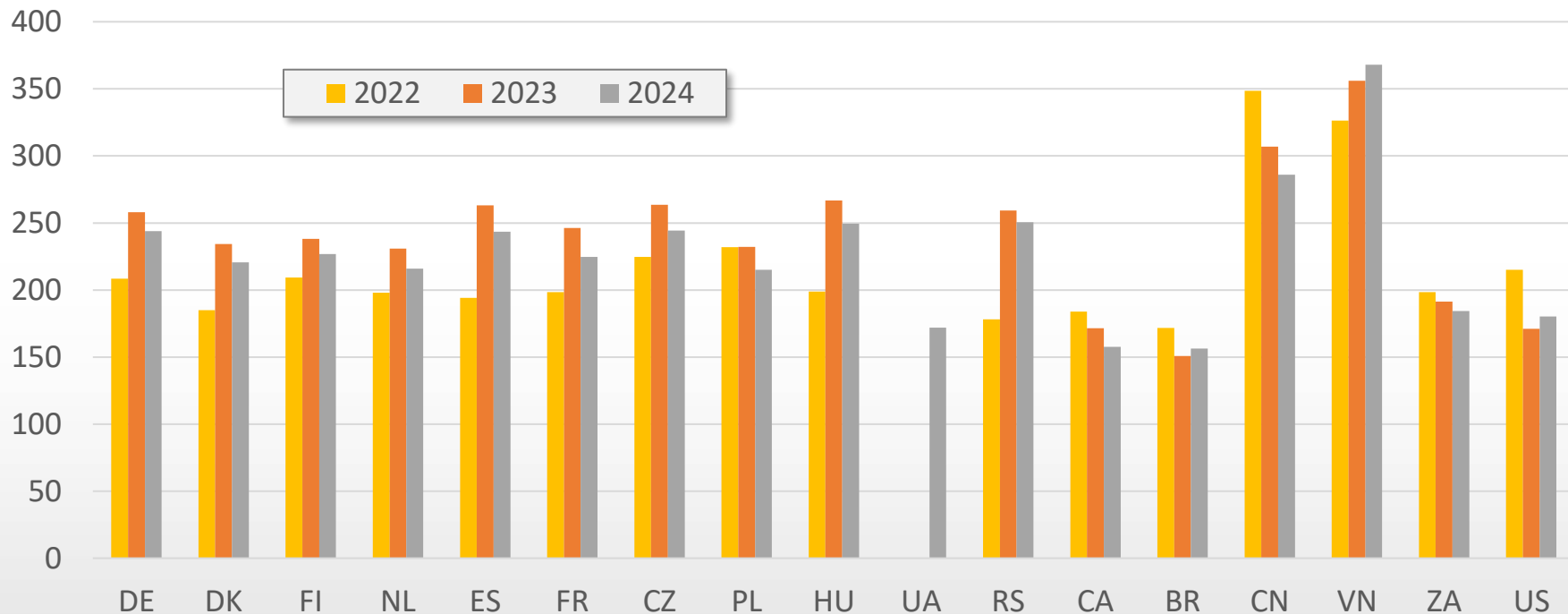
Sows: What determines profits? Selection of Non-Europe

USD per 100 kg live weight produced



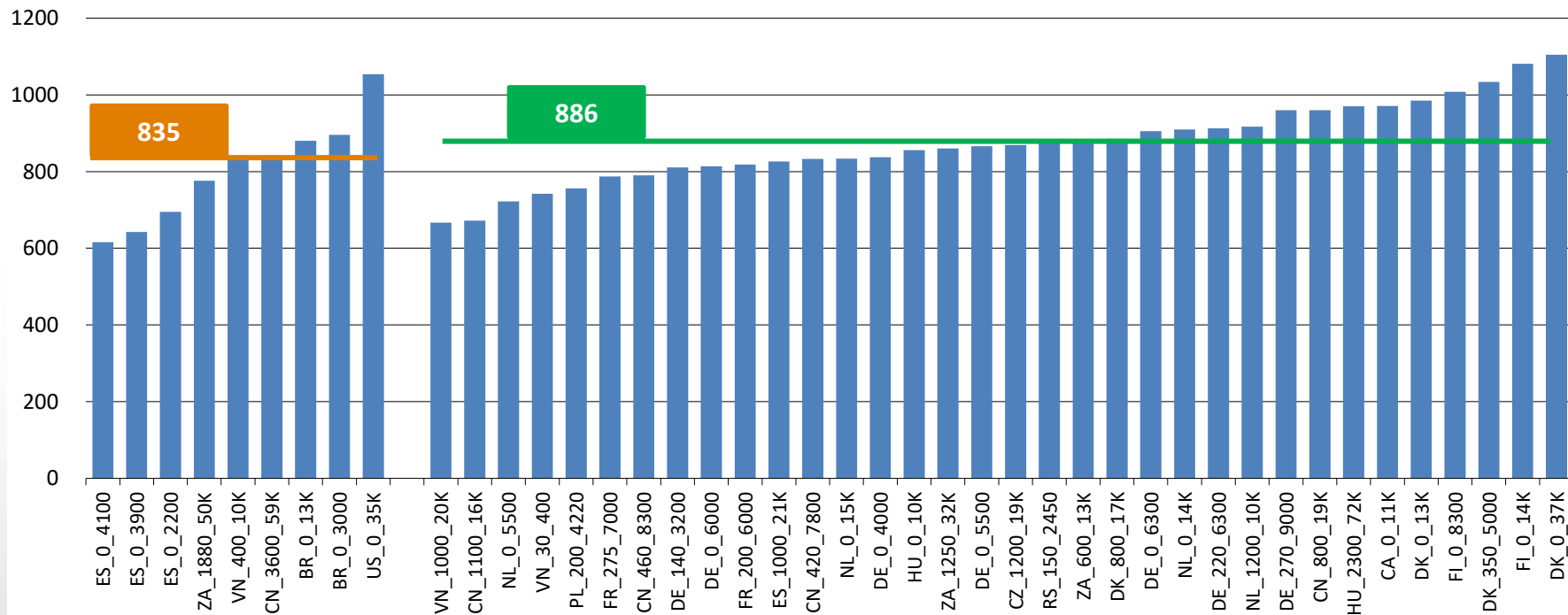
Finishing: Change of total costs 2022-2024

USD per 100 kg carcass weight



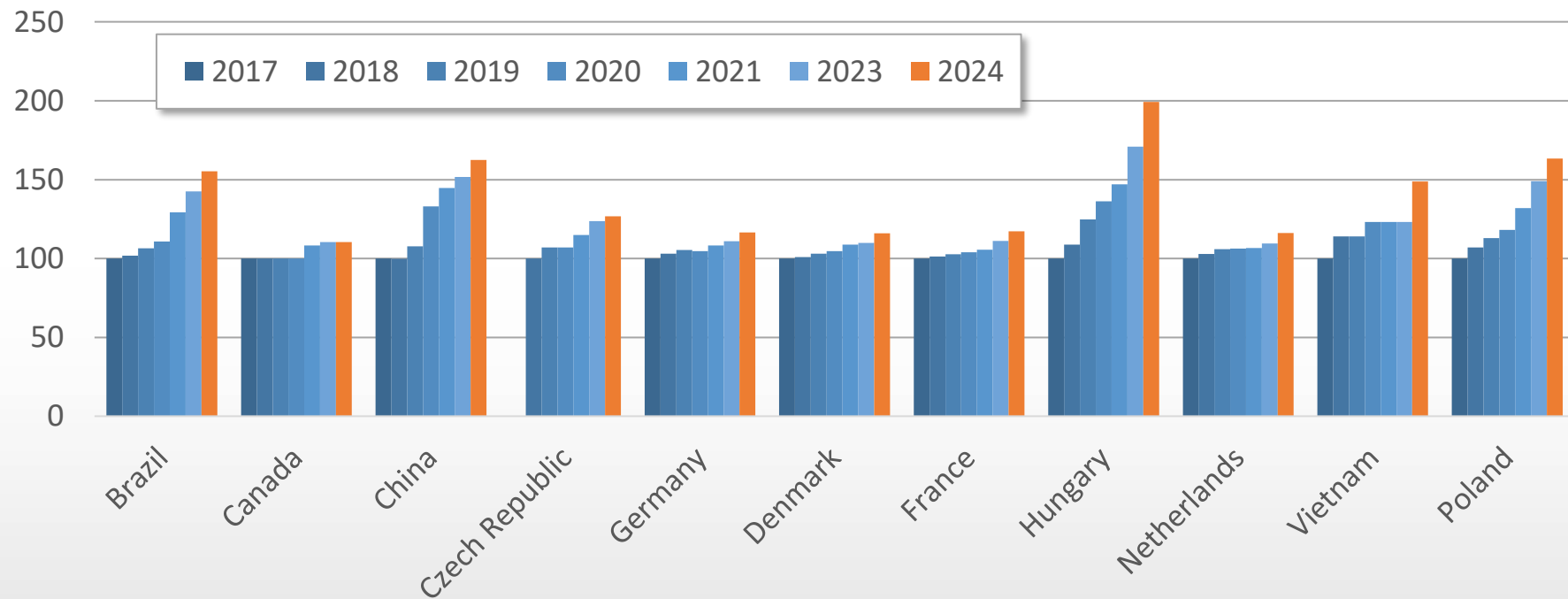
Daily weight gain

grams per day of finishing



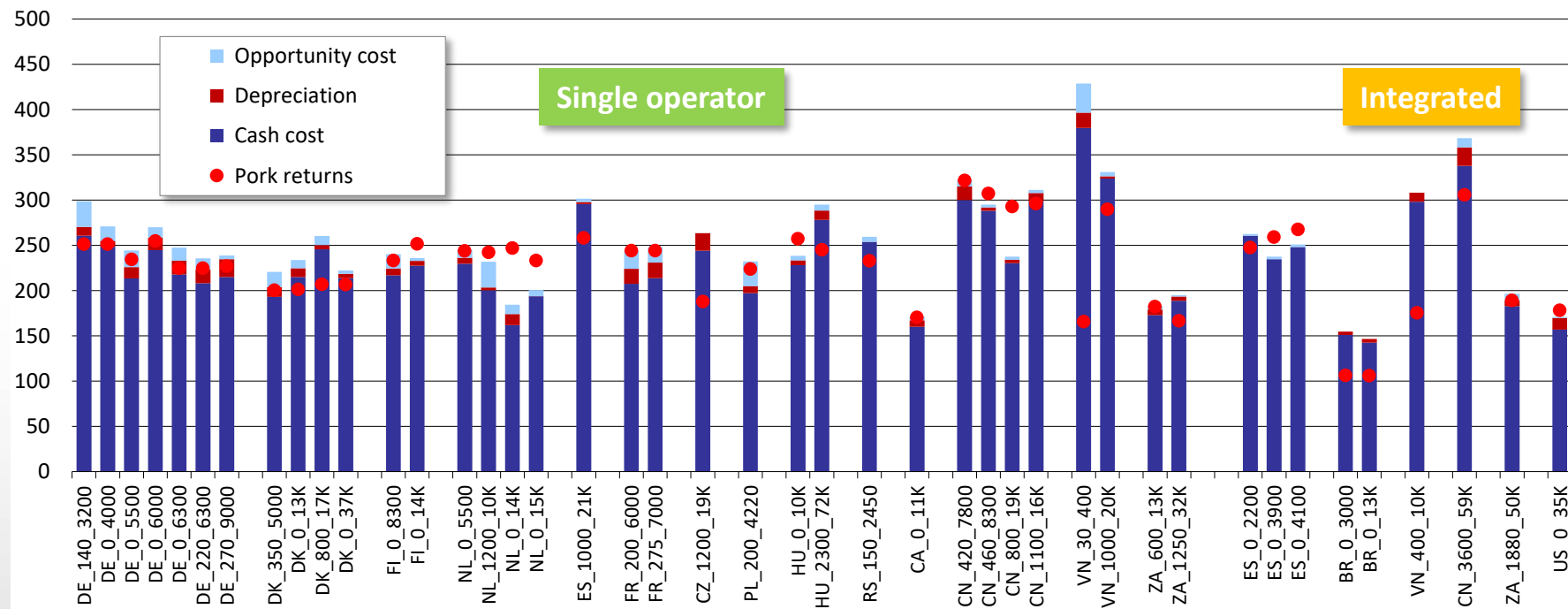
Finishing: Cost drivers 2017-2024 **WAGES**

Index 2017 = 100



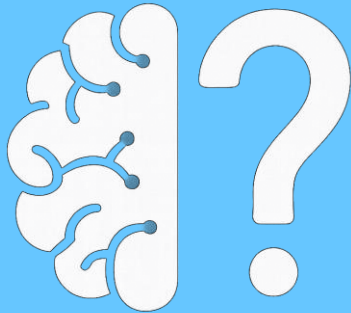
Total cost and returns of the pig finishing enterprise 2024

USD per 100 kg carcass weight

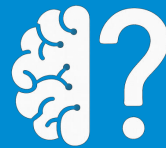


Outlook

An AI - Generated Perspective on the Future



Global Pressures – Why Change Is Inevitable



- Pig production is shaped by external forces
- Climate change, regulations, and societal demands call for new models
- Adaptation to environmental and welfare expectations is urgent

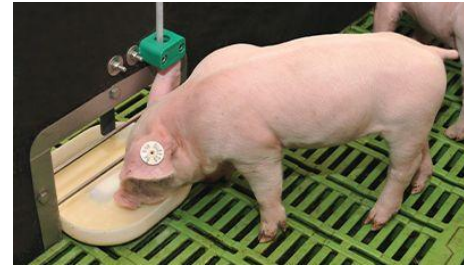
It's not about 'if', but 'how fast and how far'

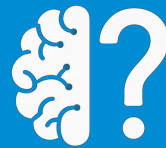


The Rise of Precision Livestock Farming (PLF)



- PLF = sensors, AI, and real-time animal monitoring
- Enables early disease detection and optimized feeding
- Machine learning recognizes patterns beyond human capacity
- Supports – not replaces – the farmer





New Standards of Housing

- Group housing for sows is becoming the global standard
- Farrow-to-finish systems aim to reduce transitions and animal stress
- Balancing animal welfare and labour efficiency is key for future viability

From Feed to Immunity – Health by Design

- Gut health is central to animal performance and resilience
- Biotics-based strategies support the microbiome
- Integrated health approaches aim to reduce antibiotic use

The Future of Pig Production – Empowered by Technology and Guided by Balance



Technology must empower, not overwhelm

- Practical usability, data ownership, and system simplicity matter
- Automation should support human expertise – not replace it

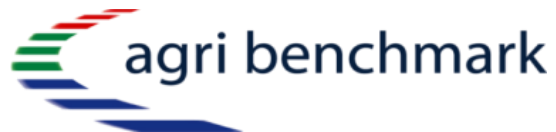
Progress means finding the right balance

- Between efficiency and welfare
- Between innovation and practicality
- Between global trends and local realities

Modern pig husbandry is not a fixed system – it's a continuous process

- Shaped by learning, adaptation, and strategic trade-offs

agri benchmark – passionate about facts



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