

# **Do labour productivity and work pace expectations affect reproduction management and performance in pig farms?**

**Gilles MARTEL, Jean-Yves DOURMAD and  
Benoît DEDIEU**

**UMR Métafort, équipe TSE, 63122 St-Genès Champanelle  
UMR SENAH, 35590 Saint-Gilles  
FRANCE**

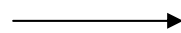
# Labour changes over 16 years

1990

2006



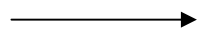
2.2



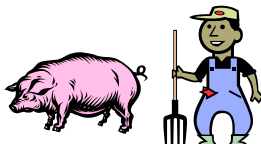
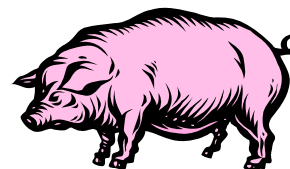
2.6



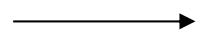
70



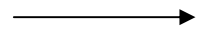
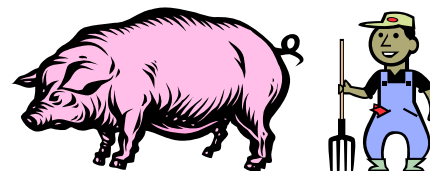
150



32



58



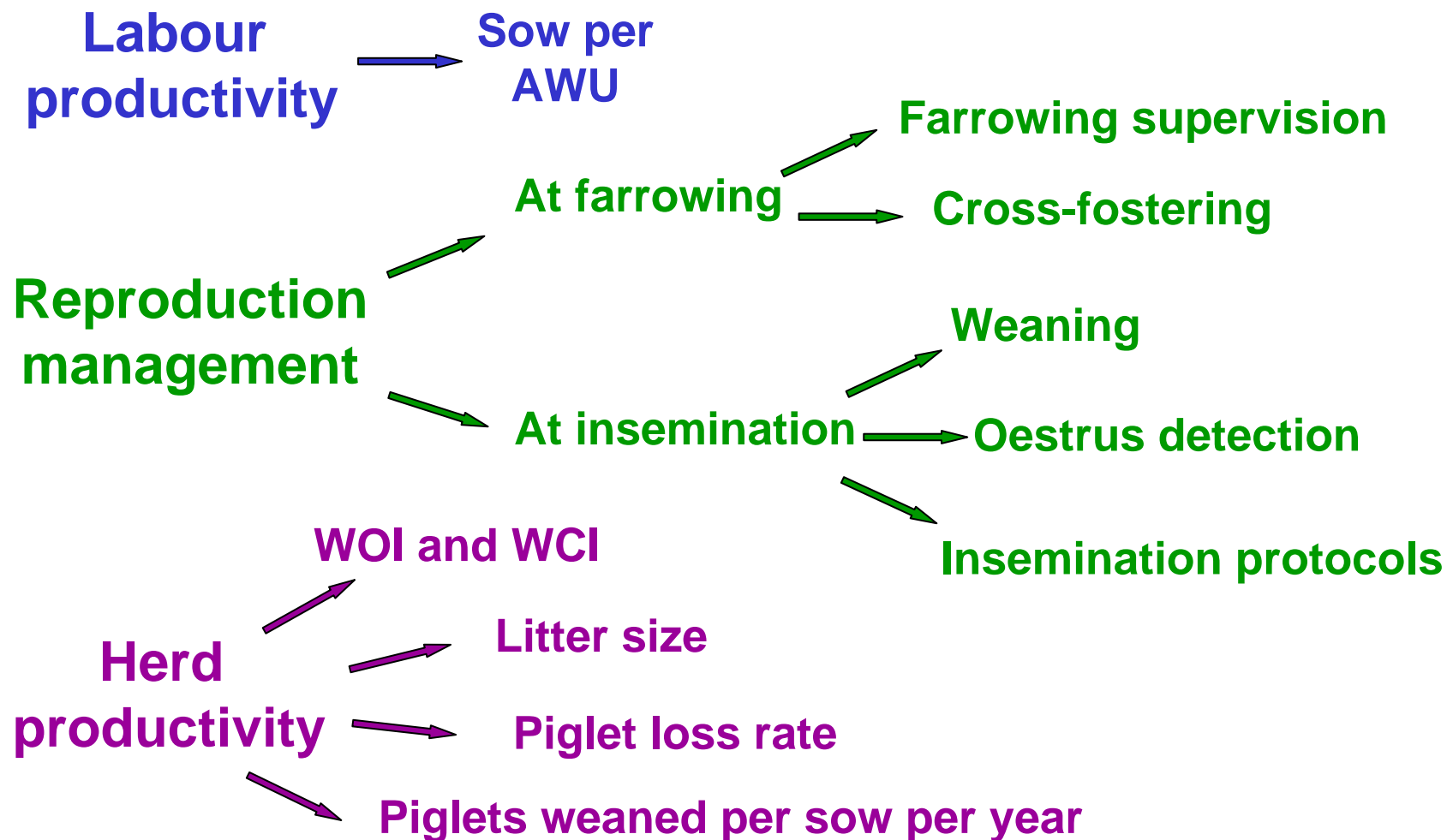
# Questions

- Increase in labour productivity
  - Simplification of reproduction management ?
  - Consequences on herd productivity ?
- Changes in work pace expectations

Work intensity between weeks depends on the number of farrowing batches

  - Management of the weekend and / or control working time: what adaptation of reproduction management?
  - Consequences on herd productivity ?

# Materials and Methods : criteria



# Materials and Methods : criteria

Reproduction  
management

Herd  
productivity

Batch  
management

Number of batches

Batch size

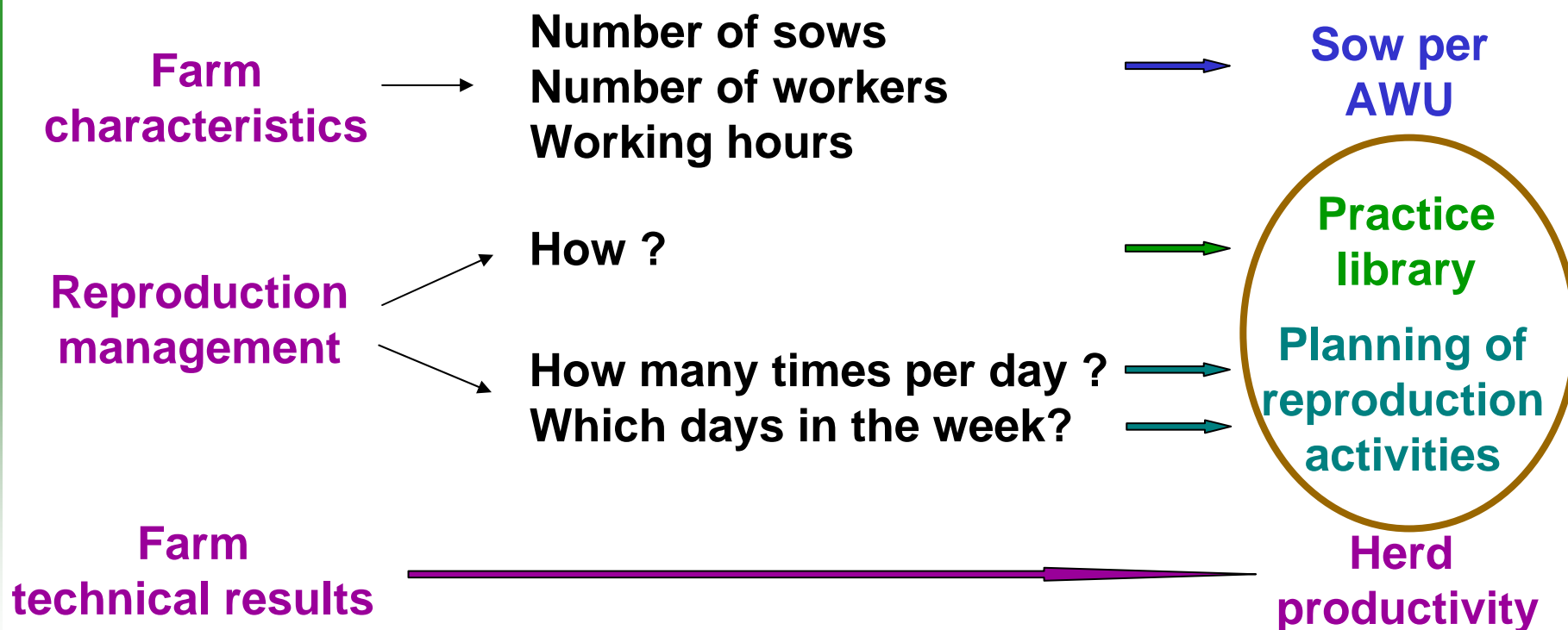
Time interval  
between batches

Work pace  
expectations

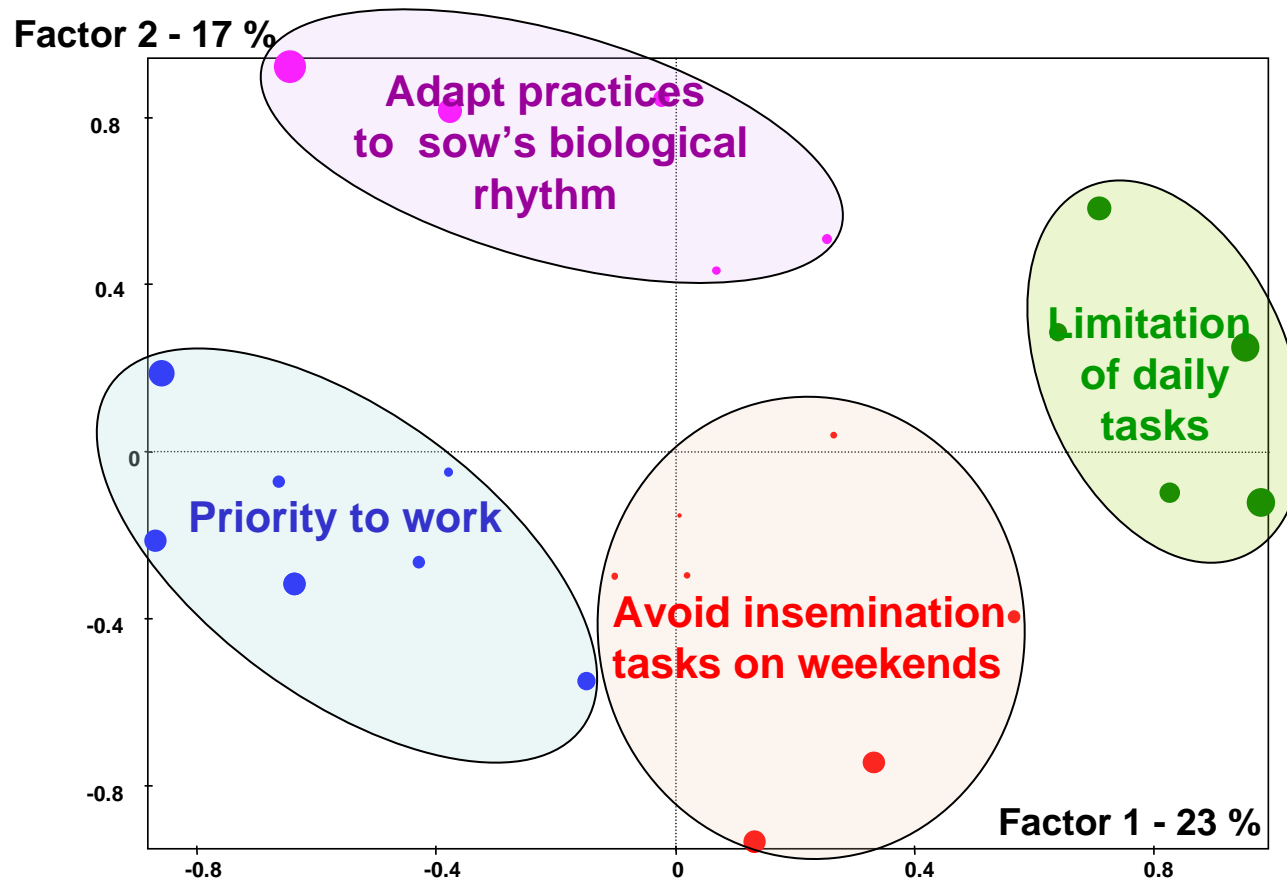
Planning of  
reproduction activities

# Materials and Methods : on farm survey

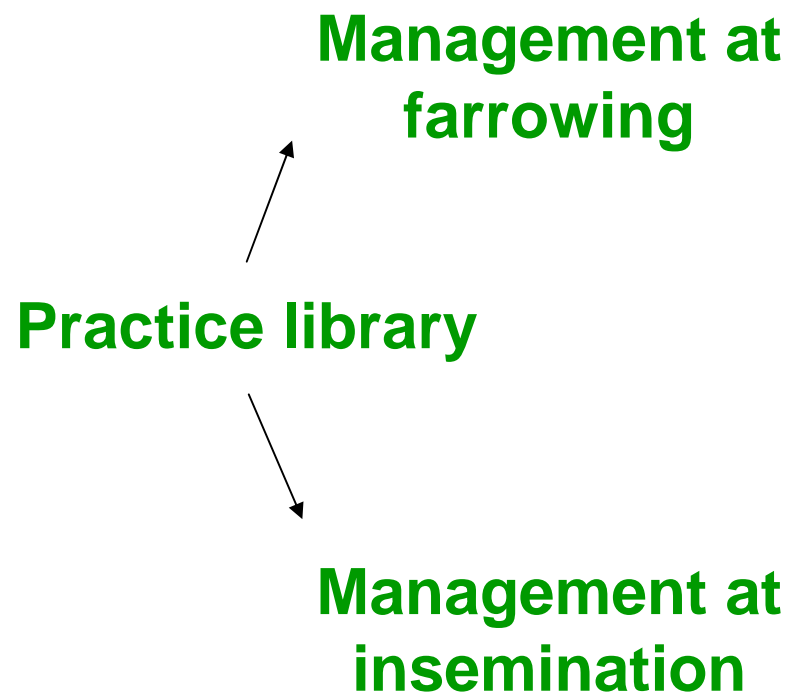
25 farmers with different batch farrowing systems, workforce composition and herd size, surveyed during about 2 hours



# Results : Work pace expectations



# Results : Reproduction management



**Two levels of sow supervision**

**Two levels of care to piglets**

**Two ways to adapt protocols :**

- According to parity
- According to WOI

**Two focuses:**

- Oestrus detection
- Insemination

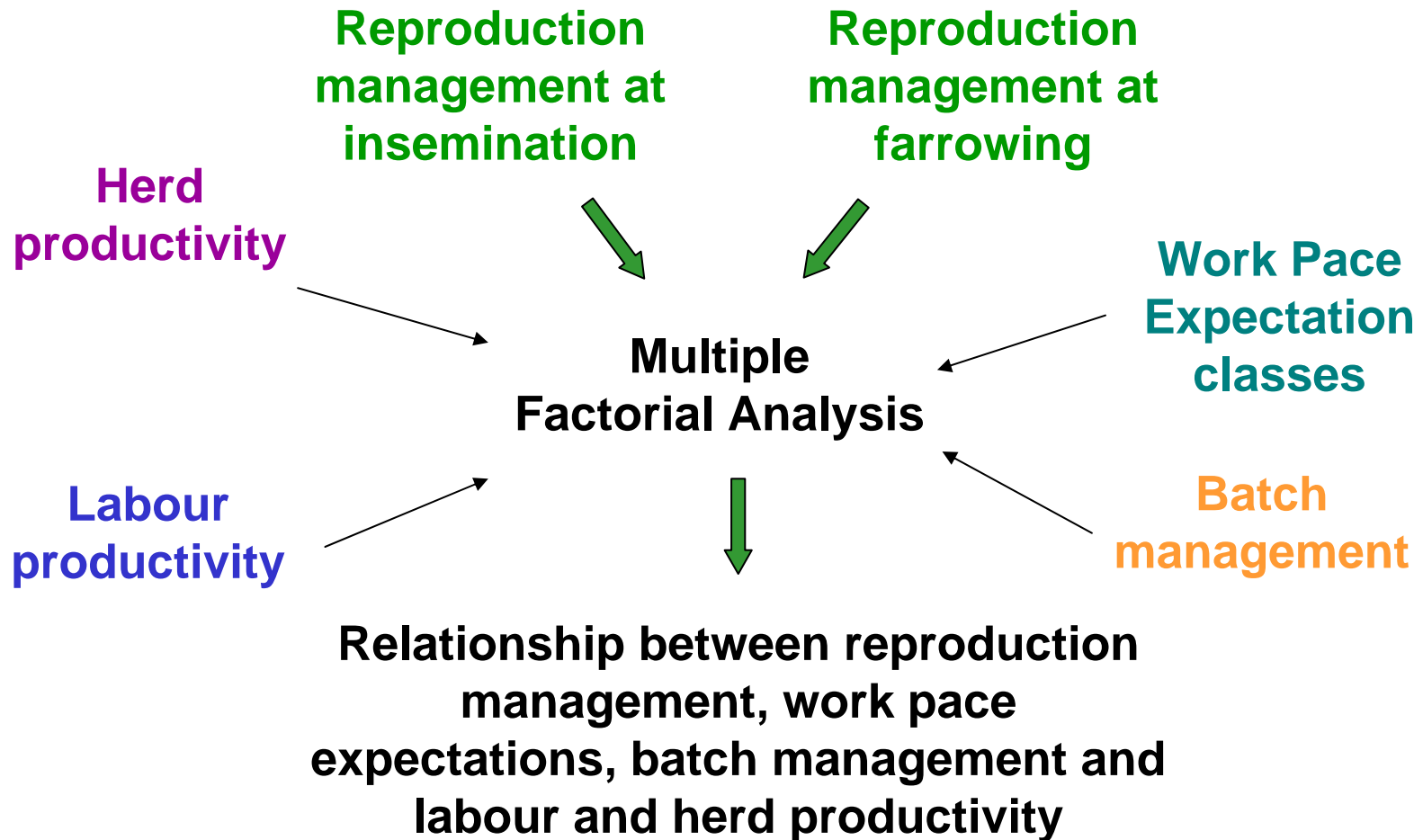




SENAH



# Relationships between the management and the other criteria: statistics





SENAH



# Relationships between the management and the other criteria: results

Reproduction management at insemination  
is related to  
Work pace expectations

Reproduction management at farrowing  
is related to  
Herd productivity  
Batch size

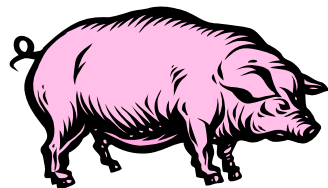
No relation was found between  
combining of practices and  
Labour productivity

## Conclusions

- **Does the labour productivity affect the reproduction management and the herd productivity ?**
  - No relationship was found.
  - The main factor related to the labour productivity is the batch size
- **Do the work pace expectations affect the reproduction management and the herd productivity ?**

Work pace expectations are various in pig production

  - They affect the reproduction management in particular the management of the oestrus detection and insemination
  - No relationship was found with the herd productivity



**Thank you for your attention**