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Genetic Analysis of Piglet Growth and its Correlation to Further Reproductive Performance in Landrace Sows

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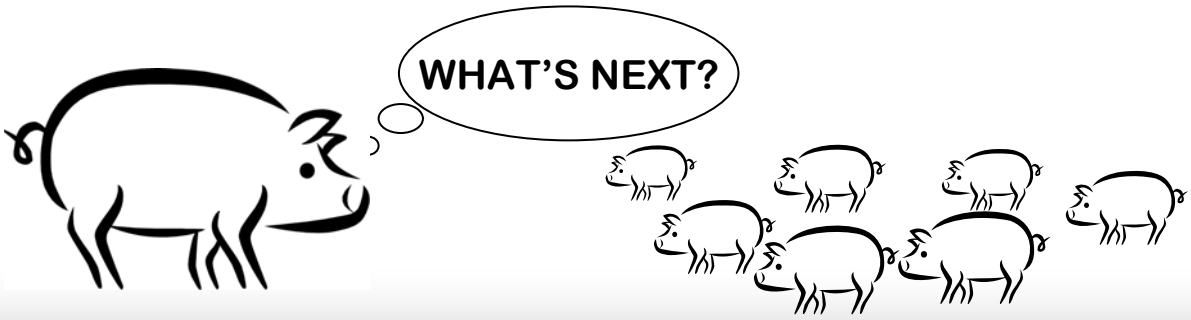
Aim

To investigate the associations between piglet growth and return to oestrus and litter size in the following parity.

Material and Methods

Data on 10 603 Norwegian Landrace sows and their piglets, from 2000 to 2007, were used.
Genetic parameters were estimated with a multivariate animal model including both direct and maternal effects on weight gain.



Genetic Conclusions

Ability to grow fast as a piglet will delay return to oestrus

Ability to raise fast growing piglets in the first litter will decrease litter size in the following litter

Results

Traits correlated	Correlations	
	Direct	Maternal
Piglet weight gain (0-3 w) – Weaning to service interval (within 10 d)	$0.34_{0.14}$	$-0.02_{0.12}$
Piglet weight gain (0-3 w) – Number born total in next litter	$0.17_{0.12}$	$-0.42_{0.10}$