

The value of grass: A grazing management tool for organic sows

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Promilleafgiftsfonden for landbrug



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Previous studies

Gestating sows are good at grazing

What can be gained through systematic grazing?

- Protein
- Energy



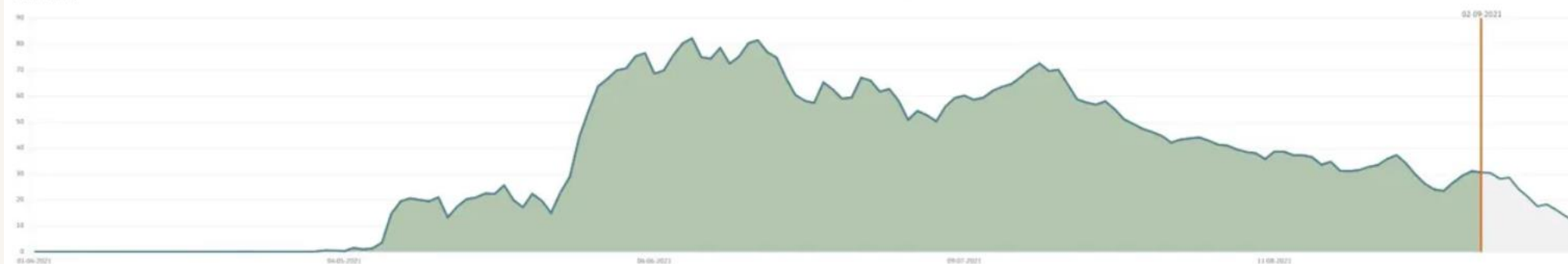
FEN/ha	Protein - g/kg TS	Sukker - g/kg TS	NEL20 - MJ/kg TS
30	244	68	6,46
▼14	▲17	▼32	0



☐ Anvend vandbalance model til beregning af vandier

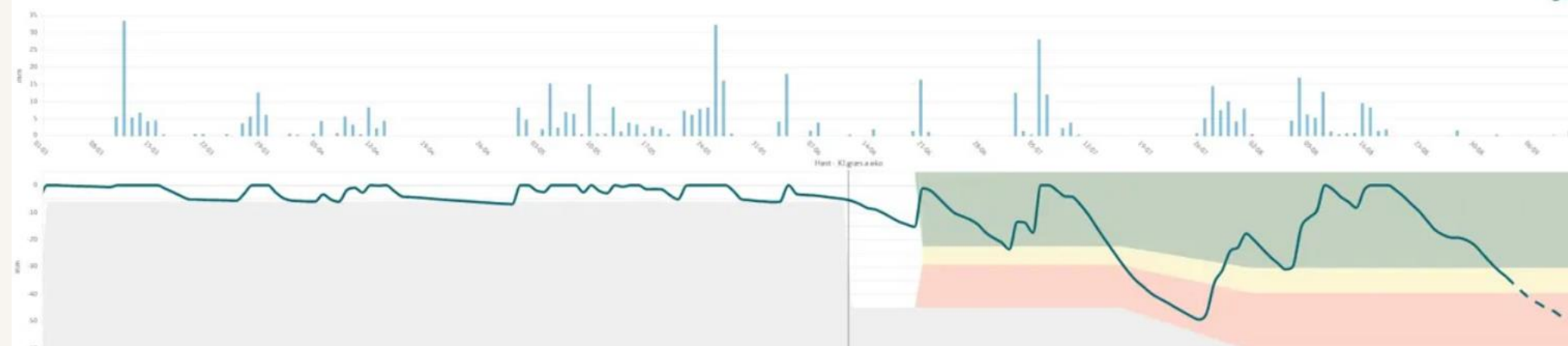
▲ ▼ viser udviklingen af kvaliteten i de kommende 5-7 dage

FEN pr. ha pr. dag



Vandbalance

INFO



Sampling throughout the grass growth season



May



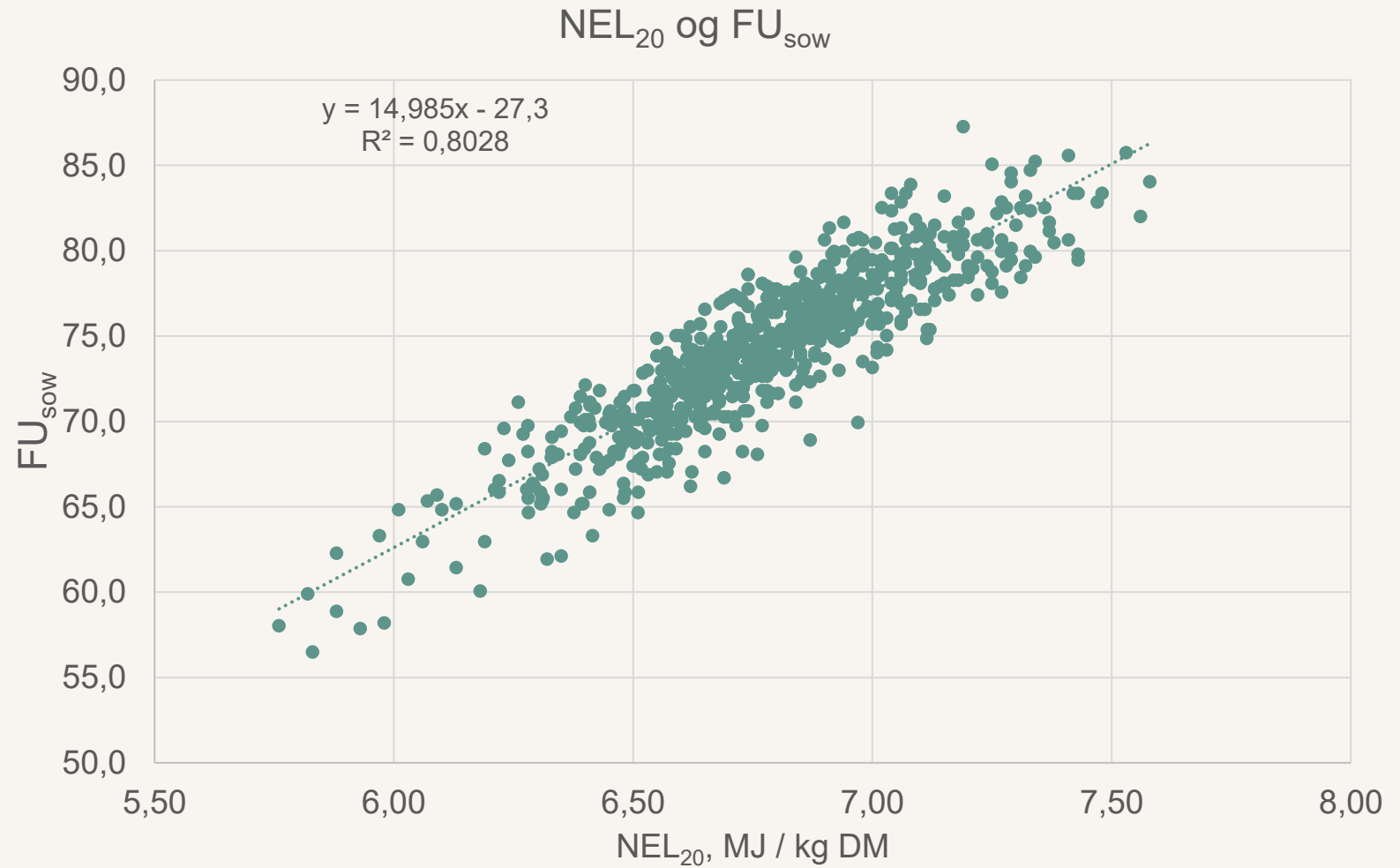
June



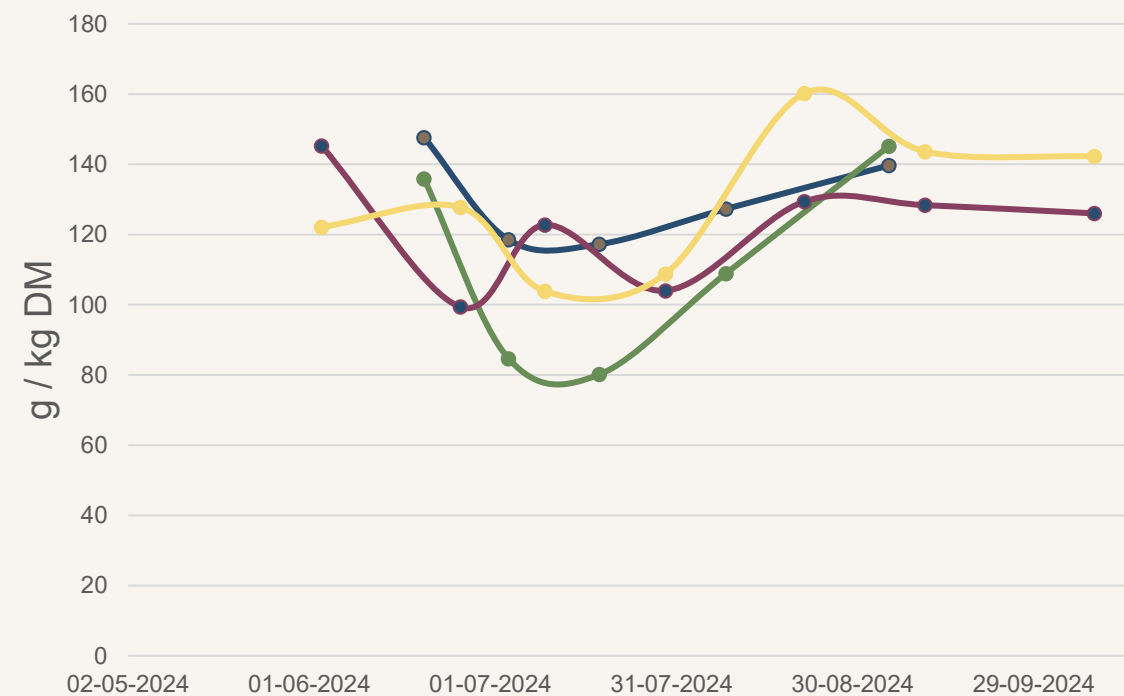
September

Transforming data from cattle to sows

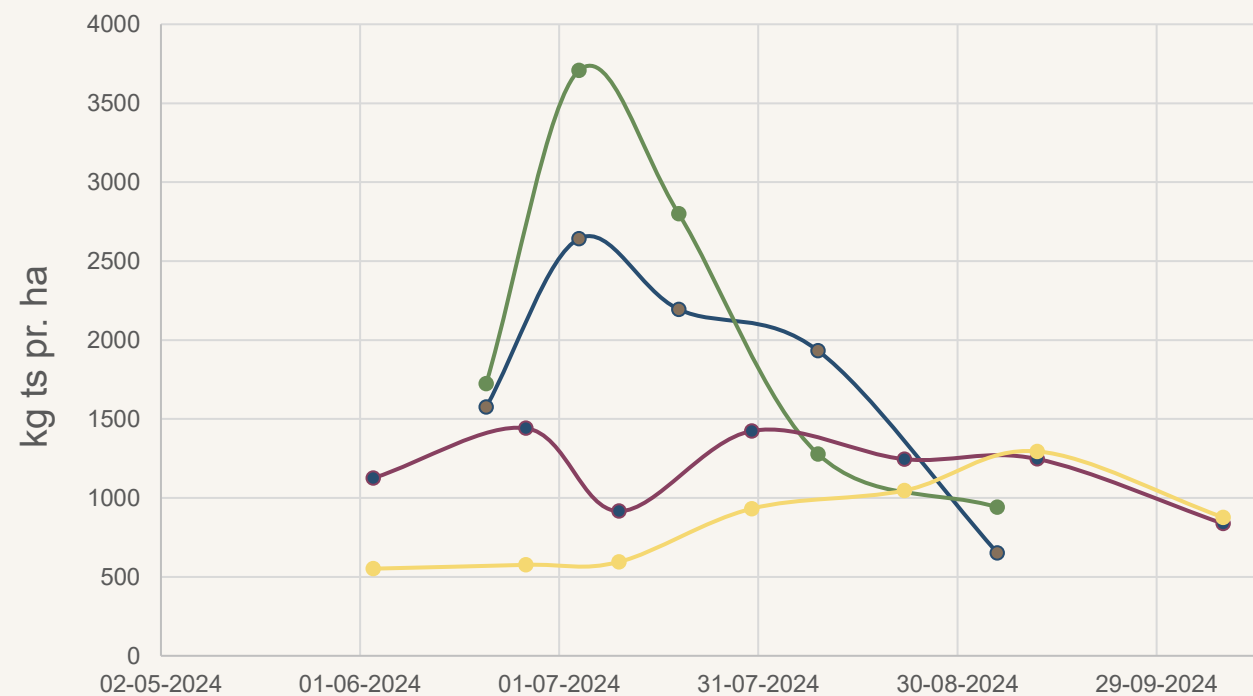
$$FU_{\text{sow}} = 15 * NEL_{20} - 27,5$$



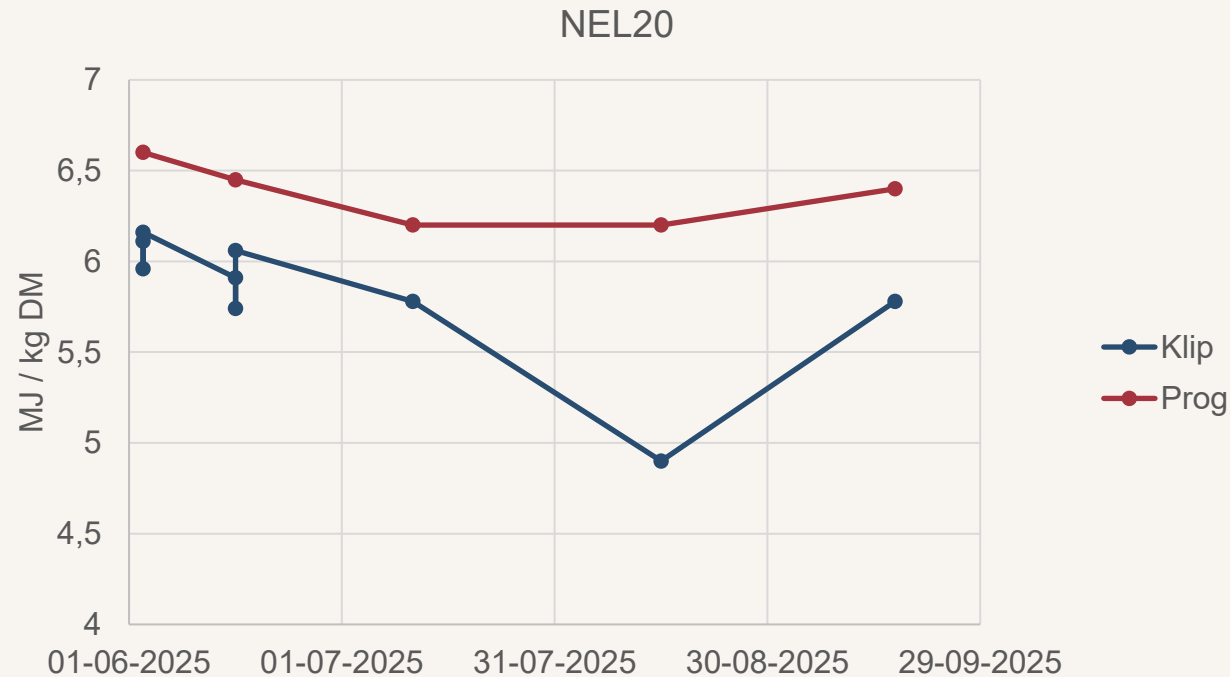
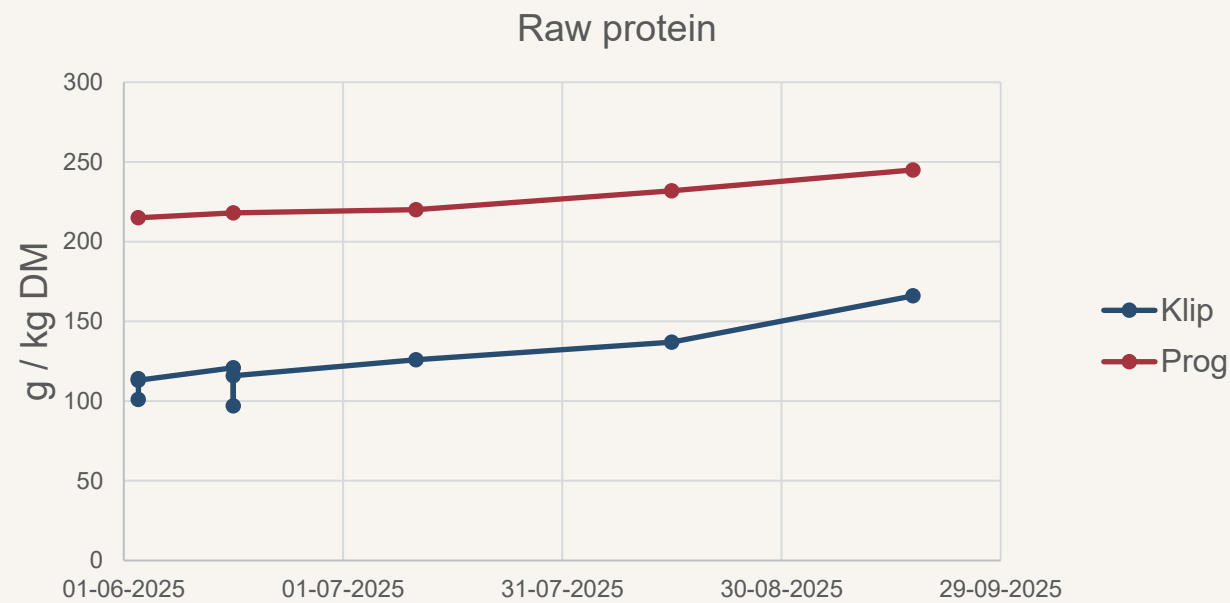
Raw protein



Grass yield



Validation of the grazing tool



Gestating sows grass uptake

	Grassuptake (kg DM/day)	Fresh grass (kg)	Raw protein (%)
Our LL	1,6-2,2 (estimated)	10-13	10-15
Eskildsen et al 2000	0,4-0,6 (reduced protein)	2,5-3,5	18-24
Sehested et al 1998	2,4-3,7 (reduced 1 FU)	14-22	19-24



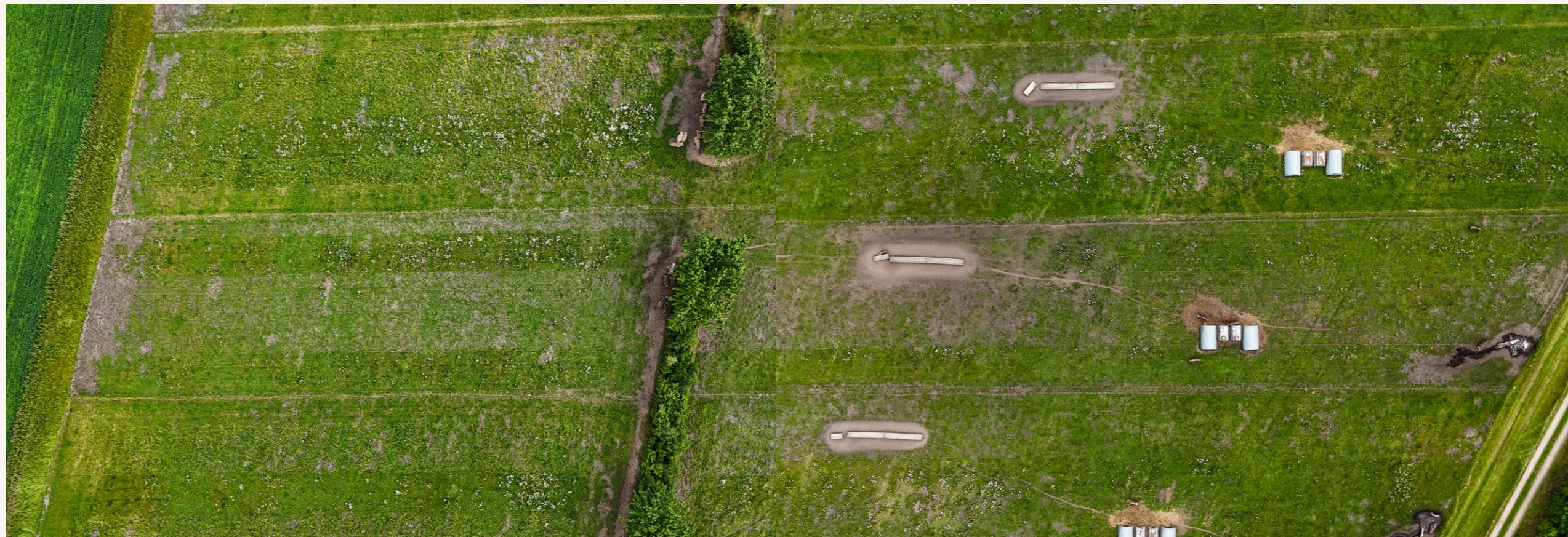
Alternative grass mixes to improve grass quality, paddock cover & soil structure

	Farm 1, herb mix	Farm 2, herb mix	Traditional mix (Ø55), control
Lucerne org. (%)	20	20	
Burnet conv.. (%)	0	15	
Chicory org.(%)	10	7,5	
Sainfoin org. (%)	35	35	
Caraway conv. (%)	20	10	
Bird's-foot trefoil conv. (%)	5	5	
Ribwort plantain org. (%)	10	7,5	
White clover, small-leaved (%)			10
Perennial ryegrass, late diploid (%)			50
Perennial ryegrass, late tetraploid (%)			15
Red fescue (%)			25
Organic proportion	75	70	100

Dato:		Bedrift: Krarup			Observatør:		Placering (vej/bagkant):	
Registreringsperiode: 9:30-10:30 +om muligt (sikkerheden er vigtigst!! hvert 5. min under klip + hvis tid efter klip, så frem til kl. 14:00								
Tid	Fold	Antal græssende			Total antal ude af hytten	Total antal ligger (ude)	Antal søer	Noter
		Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3				



Farm 1











Take home messages

- Different results at different farms
- Grass is a valuable resource
- Systematic grass management is necessary to maintain grass quality
- A grazing management tool is now available
- Including grass in the feeding ration for pigs will increase the sustainability of organic pig production

Innovation Centre for Organic Farming

Promilleafgiftsfonden for landbrug

STØTTET AF



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