

# **Incidences des conditions d'élevage et d'alimentation en post-sevrage sur les performances ultérieures**

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## **The impact of breeding and feeding conditions during the post-weaning period on subsequent performance**

Economic value of differences in bodyweight at the end of the post-weaning period is always difficult to estimate, partly because it depends on subsequent performance during the growing-fattening period. In this trial, treatments involving degraded breeding conditions or reduced nutrient content of the diet were imposed during the post-weaning period. These treatments lead to differences in bodyweight at the end of the post-weaning period. We examined pig performance and carcass characteristics over the subsequent 25-115 kg bodyweight range across four batches of pigs.

Breeding conditions and diet composition during the post-weaning period had a limited impact on carcass quality. Diet composition had a limited effect on subsequent pig daily gain. Thus, differences in bodyweight at the end of the post-weaning period tended to be similar until the end of the growing-fattening period, suggesting that other nutritional strategies (i.e. less intensive) could be useful in decreasing the occurrence of digestive pathology post-weaning without affecting general profitability. Moreover, lighter pigs at the beginning of the growing period could present an improved feed conversion ratio, probably due, in part, to lower maintenance needs. When breeding conditions were degraded during the post-weaning period, subsequent pig performances were negatively affected in one batch and positively affected in another. This observation suggests a complex interaction between sanitary state and nutritional status of pigs.