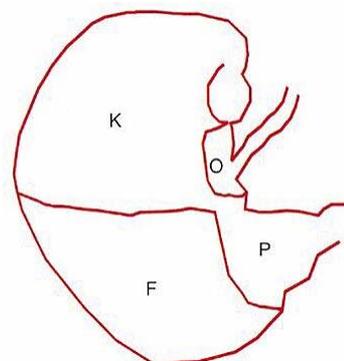


Prevention of gastric ulcers in gilts and sows

Gastric changes

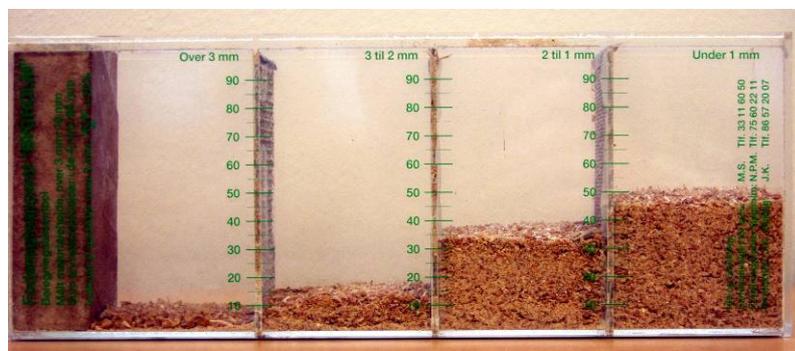
Gastric changes occur in the white part of the stomach immediately after the mouth of the oesophagus. This part of the mucosa is not protected by mucus against the acids and enzymes that form in the lower part of the stomach. If the gastric content is thin, acids and enzymes get in contact with the white part of the stomach, while a more thick (porridge-like) content prevents this contact.



Drawing of the stomach
O = the white part (unprotected),
F = fundus (this is where acids and enzymes form and from here they wash over the unprotected part)

Prevention - improve the structure of the feed:

- Change grinding to give the feed a coarser structure.
- The structure of the grain must be "medium-coarse ground" or coarser.
- "Medium-coarse ground" corresponds to 50% < 1 mm, 35% between 1 and 2 mm, 12% between 2 and 3 mm, and 3% above 3 mm.
- Avoid whole grains.
- Use the Bygholm sieve to check the grinding of the grain.



A Bygholm sieve showing "medium-coarse ground" grain

Composition of feed:

- Use barley as the only cereal.
- Reduce the energy content in the lactation diet to 105 FU_{sow}/100 kg.
- Make sure the animals have access to fresh straw.
- If pelleted feed is used, you can supplement with approx. 20% "medium-coarse ground" grain.

In Info Svin you will find more detailed information including a video under "Ulcers" at www.infosvin.dk

This fact sheet is also available in Danish and Russian at www.infosvin.dk



Thin gastric content



Thick gastric content

