number of returns to oestrus was larger with R2, whereas more abortions were observed with R1, especially during the 3rd and 4th cycles.

It may be concluded that none of the two restricted energy levels can be considered as satisfactory for pregnant sow feeding.

VI. — PATHOLOGY

Biochemical and haematological profiles in reproductive sows influence of the physiological stage and of the reproductive cycle order

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In an experimental herd of breeding sows subjected to an intensive management system (2.5 cycles per sow and per year) and in satisfactory sanitary conditions, blood samplings were made regularly for one year in sows in mid-gestation or in late lactation.

A total of 11 biochemical parameters (natrium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, urea, cholesterol, glucose, total protein, albumin, globulin) and haematological parameters (erythrocytes and leukocytes, haemoglobin and haematocrit) were studied in the serum and total blood of 185 sows.

The influence of gestation was characterized by significantly higher calcium, potassium and albumin contents, but lower glucose, magnesium, urea and cholesterol contents as compared with late lactation.

The influence of the reproductive cycle order was marked on several blood criteria: in young sows inorganic phosphorus, erythrocyte, leukocyte and lymphocyte contents were significantly higher than is sows having achieved 5 or more reproductive cycles.

In multiparous sows however, it was noticed that blood variations were accompanied by a progressive weight decrease corresponding to lower gestation net gains, more litters and larger weight losses during lactation.

Pathological consequences of a deficient adjustment of feed supplies to breeding sow requirements

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An ecopathological study was carried out in several sow herds exhibiting non specific pathological manifestations. This study revealed the consequences of feed deficiency on the health and performance of these herds. Although there may be differences between herds the main