

## Productivity factors and gross margin in fattening pig herds

O. TEFFÈNE, J. VANDERHAEGEN

*I.T.P., Service Économie, 34, bd de la Gare, 31079 Toulouse Cedex*

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Productivity criteria concerning fattening pig herds were defined and studied with a view to estimating and determining routine farm management. Correlations are reported leading to main component analysis, regression analysis and group analysis. The economical criterion accepted is a daily margin per pig considering constant animal price : the feed price, average fattening time, and fattening weight and feed conversion ratio or consumption may account for more than 93 p. 100 of the variance. The seasonal fluctuations affect the technical criteria leading to higher summer and early autumn performances. At the medium-term and on the basis of several large samples, a nearly constant deviation between farm results and those obtained in testing stations is observed at the same time a stagnation of production performance, that must be corrected to avoid rentability lowering due to the present conjuncture.

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## Pig supply

C. BROUSSOLLE

*Station d'Économie et de Sociologie rurales,  
Centre de Recherches de Rennes, I.N.R.A.,  
65, rue de Saint-Brieuc, 35042 Rennes Cedex (France)*

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This article presents the results of a study of pig supply from different types of production units in a random environment.

It is a normative economic analysis where the irregular character of the pig flow, variable fattening lengths, economic and technical characteristics of the pig production structures as well as similar competitive more or less exchangeable productions (milk, beef, veal) are taken into account.

For each case, two supply schedules are established, one for production and one for capacities, the two being usually not identical. The gap between the two schedules expresses in particular the adaptative capacity of the production structures to the existing flows.

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