Faba beans for piglets

Meeting: NPZ/SEGES Innovation

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Teams meeting on 29 June 2026

STØTTET AF
Svineafgiftsfonden

Meeting participants

- Niels Christiansen – NPZ
- Hanna Tietgen – NPZ
- Marian Damsgaard – SEGES, Planter & Miljø
- Karoline Blaabjerg – SEGES, Gris

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Previous trial from 2010: Medd. 1002

Table 4. Mortality and number of treatment days for diarrhea per group, values given as Least Squares Means

Group	1. Control	2. Columbo	3. Fuego	4. Espresso
Deaths, %	0.9	0.5	0.3	1.0
Deaths and removals, %	4.4	3.2	4.5	3.9
Diarrhea treatments, total days	1320	1151	978	703
Diarrhea treatments/pig, days	2.74^{a}	2.27^{ab}	1.97^{ab}	1.49^{b}

a,b Means with different superscript letters are significantly different ($P < 0.05$).

Columbo – white-flowered – tannin-free
Fuego – mixed-flowered – tannin-containing
Espresso – mixed-flowered – tannin-containing

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Mechanisms?

- Tannins
  - Older varieties with high tannin content reduced feed intake
  - Fuego and Espresso – containing tannins – did not negatively affect feed intake

- Fibre
  - Interested in the different fractions of faba beans

- Analyses of the fractions – do you have these?

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New project funded by the Pig Levy Fund

- Project title: Faba beans for weaned piglets – less diarrhoea and increased productivity
- Design 2 x 2 factorial trial
- Piglets: 6-25 kg
- Measure: productivity and diarrhea

	Protein source	
	Soybean meal	**Faba beans**
No faba bean hulls	SN	HN
With faba bean hulls	SW	HW

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Fractions of faba beans

- What proportion of the seed mass is represented by the hull?

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Farba bean varieties

- Which of your varieties are expected to become dominant in the future?

- Which traits do you evaluate?
  - Yield?
  - Vicine and convicine?
  - Tannins?

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