

***Salmonella* contamination of slaughter pigs in farm and control options in France : From where do we start ? Where shall we go ?**

SALVAT G.¹, DENIS M. ¹

**AFSSA-LERAPP ¹Unité HQPAP,
B.P. 53 22440 PLOUFRAGAN, France.**



Reported salmonellosis cases in humans 2003-2007¹, and notification rate in 2007

EFSA 2009

| Country | 2007 | | | | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
|---------|--------------------------|-------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Report Type ² | Cases | Confirmed Cases | Cases/ 100,000 | Confirmed cases | | Cases | |
| France | C | 5,510 | 5,510 | 8.7 | 6,008 | 5,877 | 6,352 | 6,199 |

No source attribution : role of pork meat unknow

Salmonella prevalence in France (Europe) in pig productions (EFSA, 2008 ; AFSSA, 2009)

| | <i>Salmonella</i> spp. | S. Typhimurium | S. Derby |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Lymph nodes | 18.1 % (10.3 %) | 7.1 % (4.7 %) | 6.5 % (2.1 %) |
| Carcasses | 17.6 % (8.3%) | 7.0 % (3.9 %) | 5.9 % (2.6 %) |
| Serology | 9.9 %*(NA) | / | / |
| Breeders | 50,66% of farms 11,80% of samples | | |
| Fattening pigs | 38,97% of farms 9,89% of samples | | |

Study of raw meat juices for a threshold value of 40%

NA: Not Available, measurements are not comparable between various Member States.


/: Not documented



Objectives of a control plan for Salmonella in pigs in France

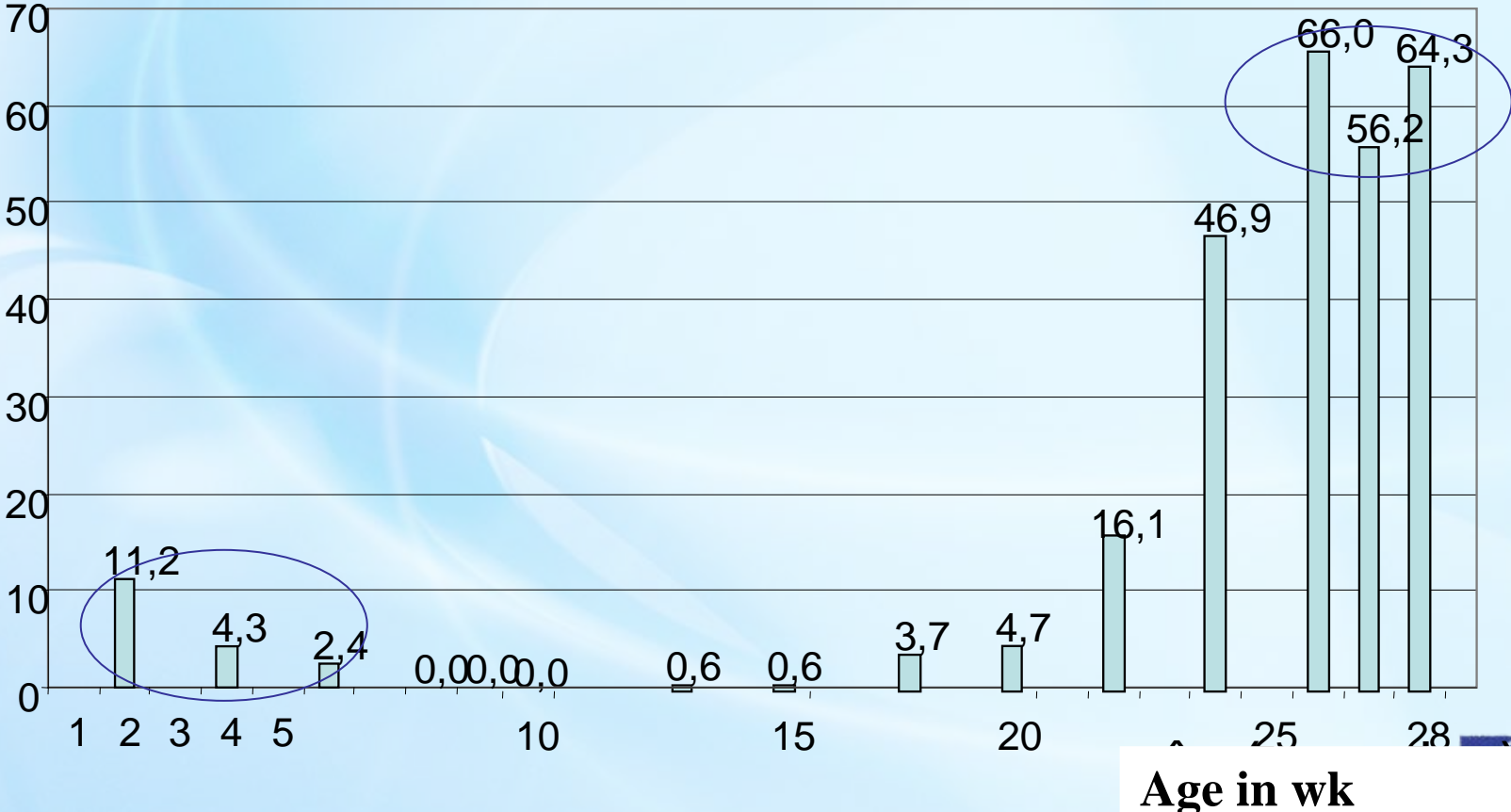
- Considering the high prevalence, aiming eradication is not realistic
- Reducing the risk for the consumer is of great concern

Points to be stressed to reduce the risk of *Salmonella* in pigs

- High prevalence in breeders :
 - Positive sows : continuous source for the weaning/fattening production farms
 - The role of the sow in primary contamination of piglets is well known :
 - contamination during milking and reexcretion at the end of fattening 

Serological response of a positive herd

% of seropositive pigs

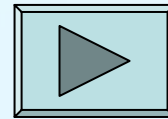


Beloil et al., 2002



Points to be stressed to reduce the risk of *Salmonella* in pigs

- High prevalence in breeders :
 - The essential role of biosecurity and general hygiene has been proved



Risk factors for *Salmonella* excretion in fattening pigs (Beloeil et al., 2004)

| Factors | % S+ | RR (CI 90%) |
|--|--------|---------------|
| Emptying of container under slotted floors after removal of the sows | | |
| Yes | 24.3 % | 1 |
| No | 42.6 % | 1.9 (1.1-3.7) |
| Frequency of removal of manure under the sows during lactation | | |
| Twice per day or more | 26.9 % | 1 |
| Once per day or less | 45.3 % | 2 (1.2-3.1) |
| Positive feed yard before loading of the batch followed | | |
| Yes | 51.4 % | 2 (1.2-3.2) |
| No | 28.6 % | 1 |
| Fattening food type | | |
| Soup | 26.1 % | 1 |
| Dry | 52.5 % | 2 (1.2-3.2) |
| Seroconversion to <i>Lawsonia intracellularis</i> during second half of fattening | | |
| Yes | 48.4 % | 2 (1.2-3.3) |
| No | 31.1 % | 1 |
| PRRS seropositivity at end of fattening period | | |
| Yes | 47.9 % | 2 (1.2-3.4) |
| No | 26.3 % | 1 |



Reducing healthy carriage in breeder herds :

- Reinforced biosecurity
- Strict implementation of GHP
- Health status of the herd
- ⚠ Use of antimicrobial therapy during fattening enhanced the risk of seropositivity (Beloeil, 2007) : RR: 2,4

Reducing the risk for the consumer :

- Reducing the number of *Salmonella* on the carcasses at the end of slaughtering :
 - Improving lairage hygiene
 - Improving evisceration
 - Promote double flaming of carcasses
 - Implementation of HACCP & GHP at the slaughterhouse

Monitoring the overall efficiency of the control plan : at the farm level

- Reinforced monitoring of breeder farms aiming performance objectives to be defined
- Monitoring of the mandatory implementation of a GHP guide in breeder herds (validated by the authority)
- Implementation of a GHP guide in production herds, transportation, feed plants.
- No way to classified production herds at present

Monitoring the overall efficiency of the control plan : at the slaughterhouse level

- Monitoring the reduction of *Salmonella* on carcasses :
 - Surface sampling by swabbing
 - Both detection and numeration (Fravallo, 2003) of *Salmonella* on carcasses
 - Use of *Salmonella* counts as an hygiene criteria
 - Performance objectives to be defined for the overall french production

Near future : SalmOK

Rapid detection of
Salmonella by
immunostaining

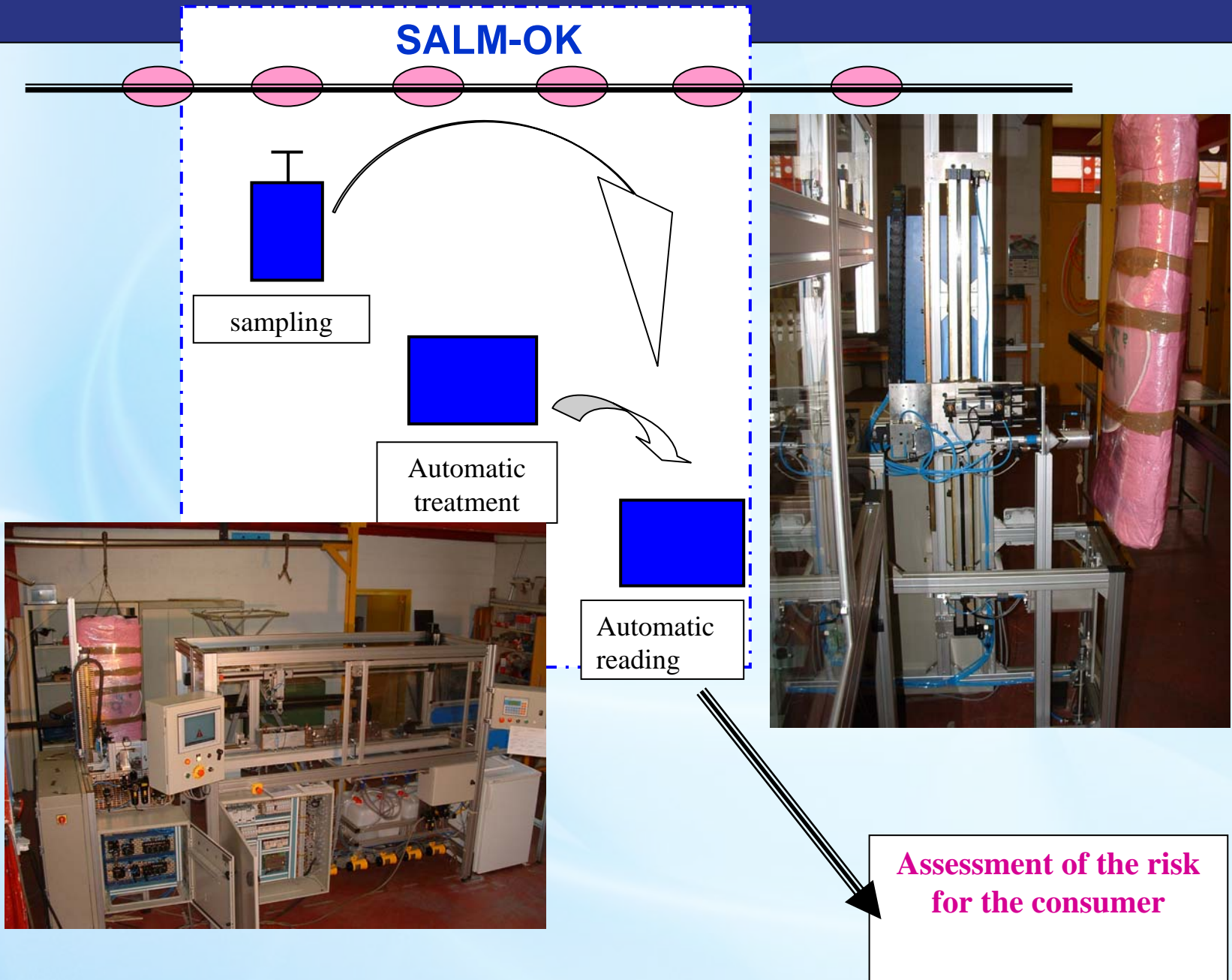


Automatic sampling by
impaction of carcasses with
stainless steel blades



Results available in less than 4
hours (during chilling)

SALM-OK



**Assessment of the risk
for the consumer**

Conclusion

- Control plan will have to be focused on two main points :
 - Reducing the primary source of contamination of the herds
 - Reducing the amount of *Salmonella* addressed to the consumer

Final objective is to reduce the foodborne diseases attributed to pork meat consumption