

# Methane in cattle husbandry: mitigation by feed(additives)



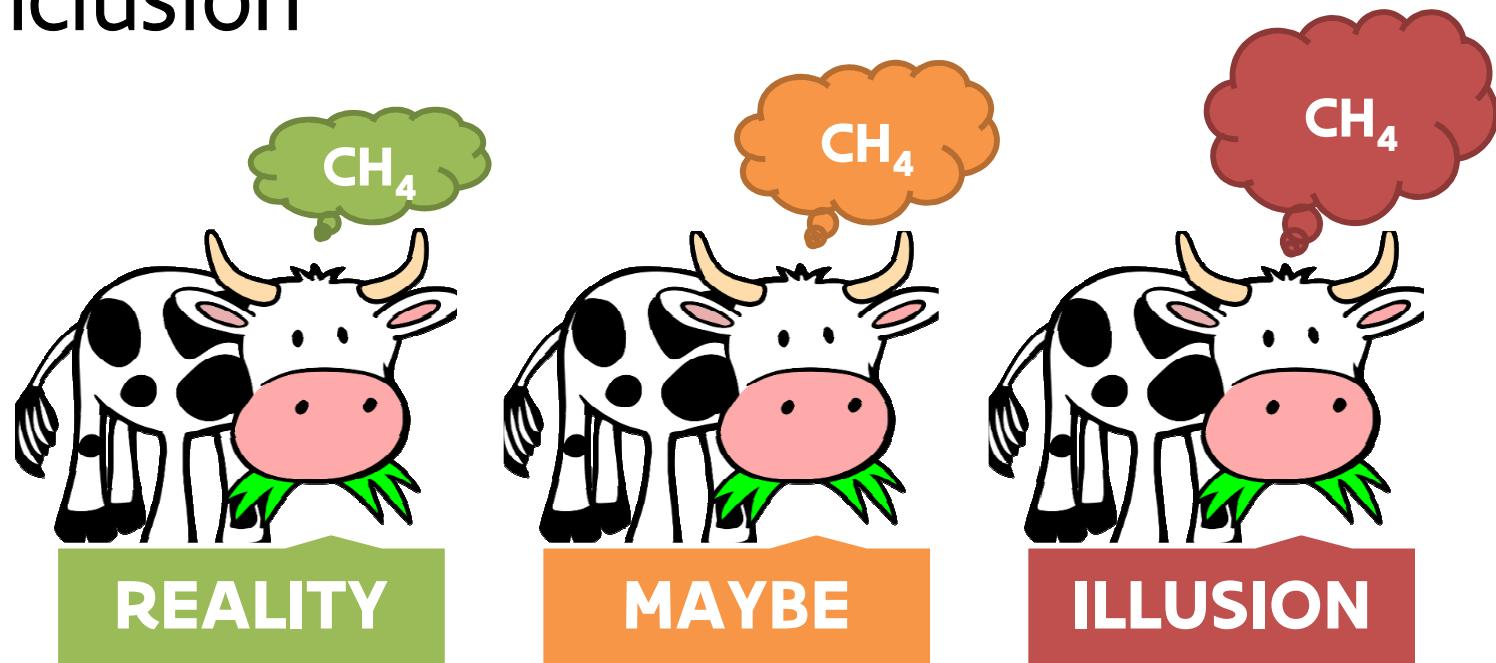
*In vivo* methane  
mitigation in the long  
term through addition  
of methane mitigating  
components in Flemish  
dairy cattle rations

Symposium VLAIO LA traject *SMART MELKEN*  
Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Melle  
Dorien Van Wesemael

# Overview

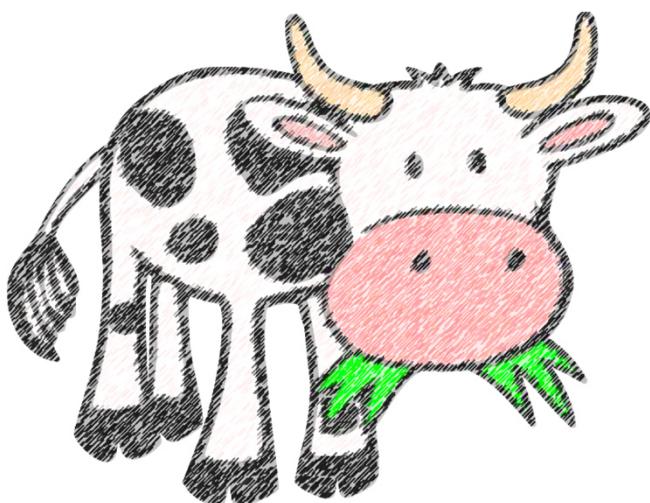


- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Material & Methods
- ✓ Results
- ✓ Conclusion

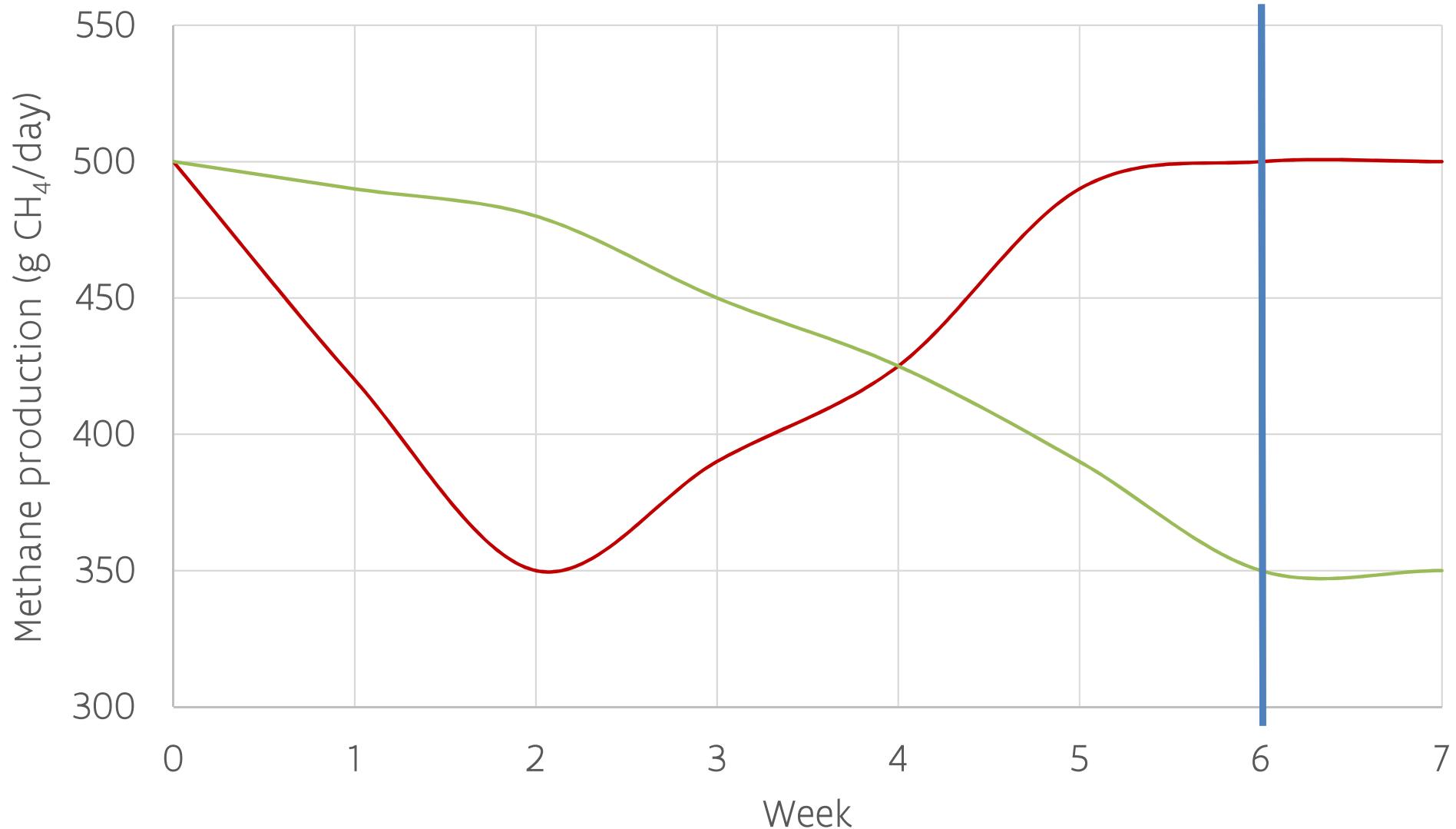


# Introduction

*In vivo* methane mitigation in the  
long term through addition of  
methane mitigating components  
in Flemish dairy cattle rations.

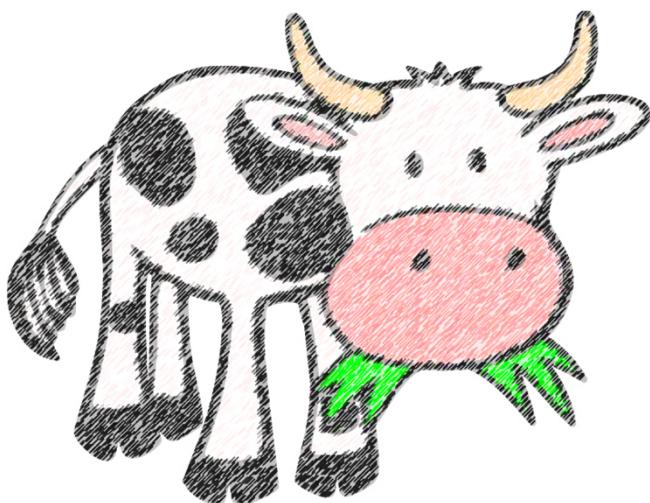


# In the long term



# Introduction

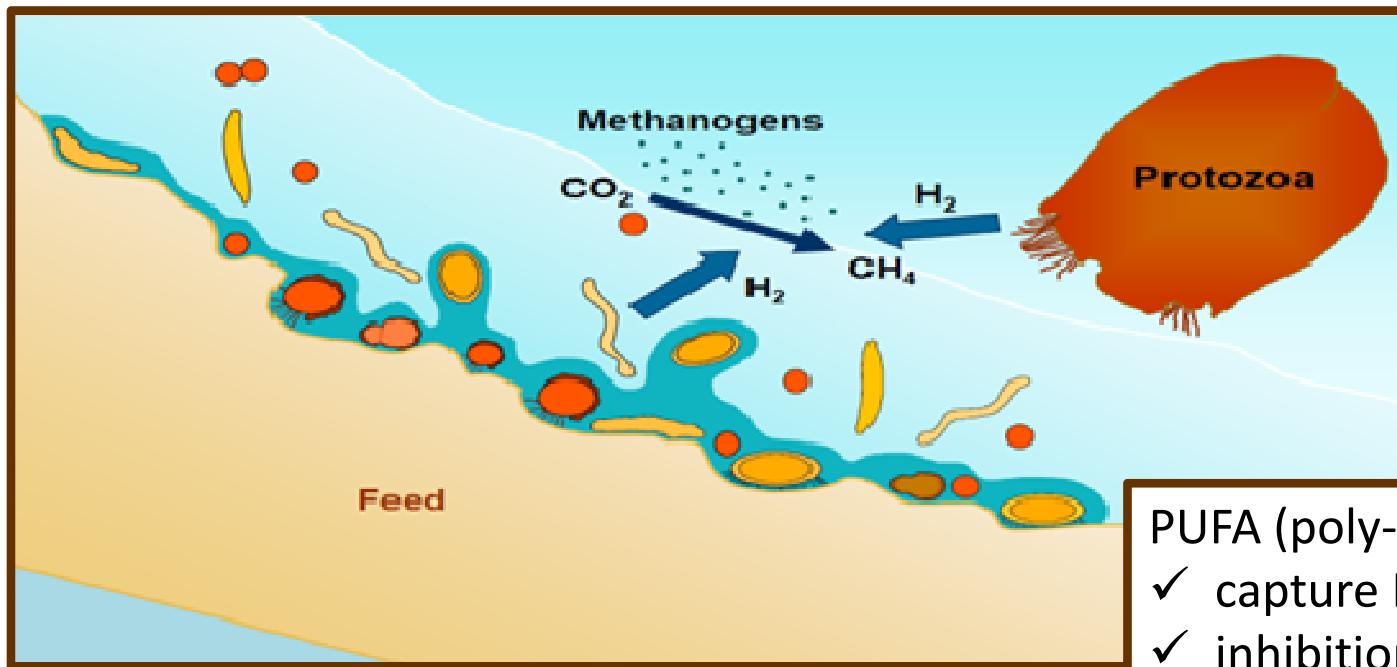
*In vivo* methane mitigation in the long term through addition of methane mitigating components in Flemish dairy cattle rations.



# Methane mitigation

- ✓ Herd management
  - Genetic selection
    - low methane production
    - high feed efficiency
  - High productive animals
    - relatively lower methane production per liter milk
- ✓ Manipulation of fermentation in the rumen
  - Feed additives

# Manipulation of fermentation in the rumen



PUFA (poly-unsaturated fatty acids):  
✓ capture  $H_2$   
✓ inhibition of microbial growth

Production of methane: microbial process to eliminate hydrogen ( $H_2$ ) in the rumen

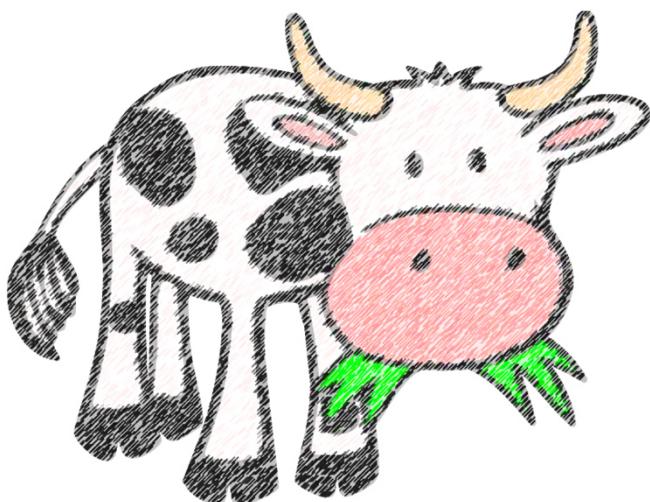
1. Less  $H_2$  production

2. Elimination of  $H_2$  in other ways

3. Elimination of methanogens (methane producing micro-organisms)

# Introduction

*In vivo* methane mitigation in the long term through addition of methane mitigating components in Flemish dairy cattle rations.



- ① com·po·nent  
1 a constituent element
- ② ad·di·tive  
1 a substance added in small amounts to something else to improve, strengthen or otherwise alter it

# Flemish dairy cattle rations

## Basal diets of the trials

% in roughage mixture (DM)	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4
<b>Maize silage</b>	25	65	50	45
<b>Grass silage</b>	65	25	40	45
<b>Pressed beet pulp</b>	10	10	10	10

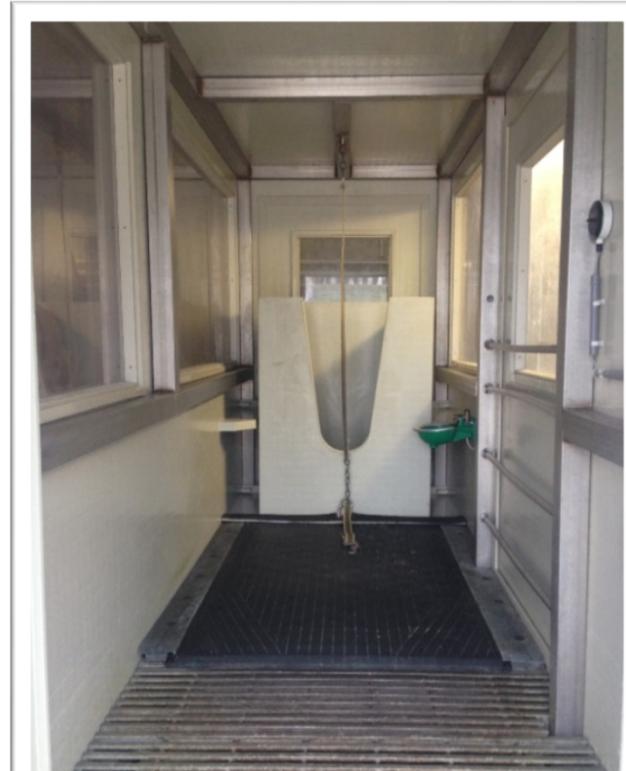
% in total diet (DM)	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4
<b>Roughage</b>	71	73	68	76
<b>Concentrate</b>	29	27	32	24

# Material & Methods

	W1 - W3	W4 - W8	W9	W10 - W14	W15
Ctr group (n=2)	Adap.	CTRL	GUK	CTRL	GUK
Trt group (n=8)	Adap.	CTRL	GUK	TRTM	GUK

Duration: 15 weeks

- > 3 weeks adaptation
- > 6 weeks control (CTRL)  
=> Open-circuit chambers
- > 6 weeks treatment (TRTM)  
=> Open-circuit chambers



Open-circuit chambers (GUK)

# Material & Methods

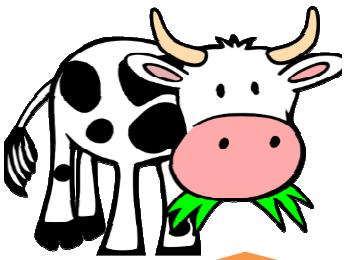
Animals: 10 high-productive cows (>30 kg milk/day)

- > 2 control cows
- > 8 treated cows (2 x 4)

BUT only 6 GUK's are available!

- GUK measurements spread over two weeks
- measure control group both weeks

	W1 - W3	W4 - W8	W9	W10	W11 - W14	W15	W16
Ctr group (2)	Adap.	CTRL	G 1	G 2	CTRL	G 1	G 2
Trt group 1 (4)	Adap.	CTRL	G 1	TRTM	TRTM	G 1	
Trt group 2 (4)		W2 – W4	W5 - W9	W10	W11 - W14	W15	W16
		Adap.	CTRL	G 2	TRTM	TRTM	G 2



MAYBE

# Important remark

- ✓ First screening of additives and components
- ✓ Not designed as milk production trial
  - Too low number of animals
  - The results of milk production and composition are only an indication
- ✓ Trials with **more cows** are needed
  - Production or zootechnic trials in dairy stables

# Results

✓ Four trials

1. AVEVE Linex (linseed)  
with ration rich in grass silage
2. AVEVE Linex (linseed)  
with ration rich in maize silage
3. DSM 3-nitrooxypropanol (3-NOP)
4. AVEVE Biochem Hopextract

# AVEVE Linex

Com·po·nent = a constituent element



3,3 - 3,5 kg Linex

- ✓ Treatment = balanced concentrate with linseed and linseed oil
- ✓ Linseed is rich in  $\alpha$ -linolenic acid (ALA – C18:3) => PUFA!
- ✓ ! Replacing balanced concentrate in control diet based on energy (VEM) values only (iso-energetic diets)
- ✓ Nutritional implications

# AVEVE Linex

(g/kg DM)	DM	CP	CFat	CF	STRCH	SU	VEM (/kg DM)	DVEo	OEBo	FOSo
Linex (10/500)	905	242	138	88	130	101	1168	109	80	463
F14-37 (Trial 1)	885	191	34	57	364	110	1149	125	22	575
F10-14 (Trial 2)	890	178	34	88	224	110	1118	120	5	654

Group		Control		Treatment		Difference	p value
Period		CTRL	TRTM	CTRL	TRTM		
Crude Fat (kg/day)	Trial 1	0,59	0,59	0,63	0,93	+0,30	< 0,001
	Trial 2	0,66	0,59	0,70	0,93	+0,23	< 0,001
Starch (kg/day)	Trial 1	3,31	3,30	3,55	2,56	-0,99	< 0,001
	Trial 2	5,21	4,58	5,29	4,35	-0,94	< 0,001

# Results AVEVE Linex grass

Group	Control cows		Treated cows		p value group*period
Period	CTRL	TRTM	CTRL	TRTM	
DMI kg/d	20,2	21,1 ↑	21,4	21,6 =	< 0,001
Milk kg/d	25,5	24,4 ↓	27,6	27,9 =	<u>0,19</u>
FPCM kg/d	27,9	26,4	30,3	29,4	0,50
Milk fat g/d	1168	1105	1284	1238	0,76
Milk protein g/d	966	900	1022	948	0,77
CH <sub>4</sub> g/d	493	460 ↓	499	442 ↓	0,50
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg DMI	24,4	21,8 ↓	23,4	20,4 ↓	0,81
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg milk	19,5	19,2 =	18,5	16,1 ↓	<u>0,12</u>
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg FPCM	18,0	17,8	16,6	15,1	0,32
CH <sub>4</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub>	0,039	0,036 ↓	0,038	0,034 ↓	0,66

=> No production trial!

# Results AVEVE Linex maize

Group	Control cows		Treated cows		p value group*period
Period	CTRL	TRTM	CTRL	TRTM	
DMI kg/d	22,4	20,8 	23,5	21,7 	0,58
Milk kg/d	27,6	28,1 	29,3	29,0 	0,60
FPCM kg/d	30,2	29,7	31,6	31,7	0,75
Milk fat g/d	1293	1268	1343	1378	0,50
Milk protein g/d	977	923	1032	982	0,96
CH <sub>4</sub> g/d	442	452 	450	420 	< 0,05
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg DMI	19,7	21,7 	19,2	19,4 	< 0,05
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg milk	16,7	16,8	15,7	15,2	0,52
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg FPCM	15,0	15,8 	14,5	13,7 	<u>0,08</u>
CH <sub>4</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub>	0,036	0,037 	0,034	0,033 	<u>0,09</u>

# DSM 3-NOP

Additive = a substance added in small amounts to something else to improve, strengthen, or otherwise alter it.

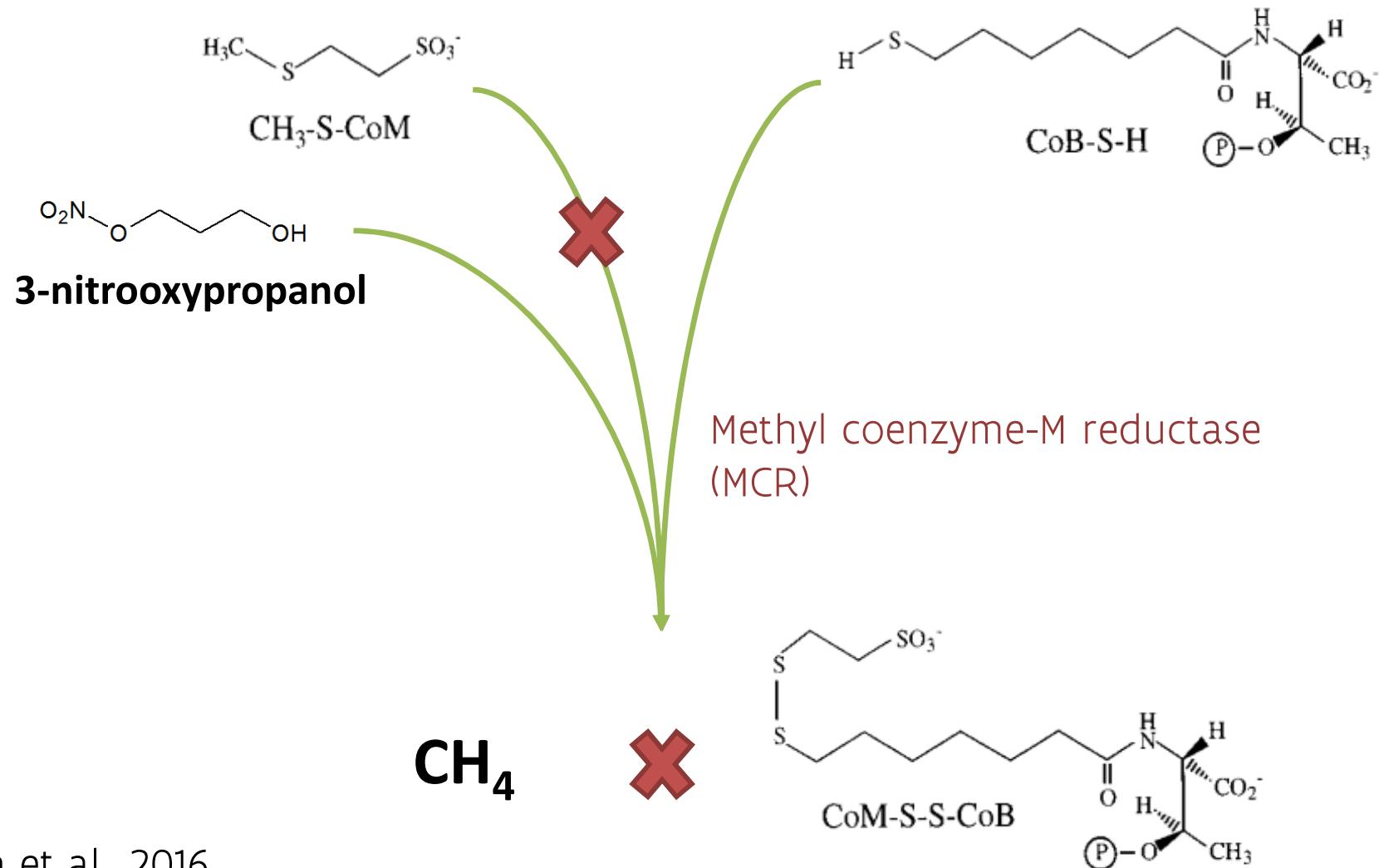


17 g/dag

- ✓ Treatment = synthetic additive
- ✓ Mixed with soybean meal and oil
- ✓ ! Control cows received placebo additive
- ✓ Mixed with soybean meal and oil
- ✓ This additive is under development

# Methane mitigation by 3-NOP

Mode of action 3-NOP:  
inhibition of the MCR enzyme → no  $\text{CH}_4$  is formed



Duin et al., 2016

# Results DSM 3-NOP

Group	Control cows		Treated cows		p value group*period
Period	CTRL	TRTM	CTRL	TRTM	
DMI kg/d	21,2	20,8 	21,1	20,0 	0,37
Milk kg/d	32,5	30,9 	30,0	27,4 	0,58
FPCM kg/d	33,0	30,2	31,6	28,6	0,91
Milk fat g/d	1377	1149	1371	1172	0,86
Milk protein g/d	973	861	924	897,4	0,88
CH <sub>4</sub> g/d	433	442 	441	369 	< 0,001
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg DMI	20.5	21.3 	20.9	18.5 	< 0,001
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg milk	13.8	14.5 	14.9	13.6 	< 0,01
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg FPCM	13.7	14.8 	14.3	13.1 	< 0,01
CH <sub>4</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub>	0.035	0.036 	0.036	0,030 	< 0,001

# AVEVE Biochem Hopextract

- ✓ Treatment = **plantextract** | (hop)
- ✓ ! Very low dose: incorporated in pelleted concentrate

Ad·di·tive = a substance added in small amounts ...

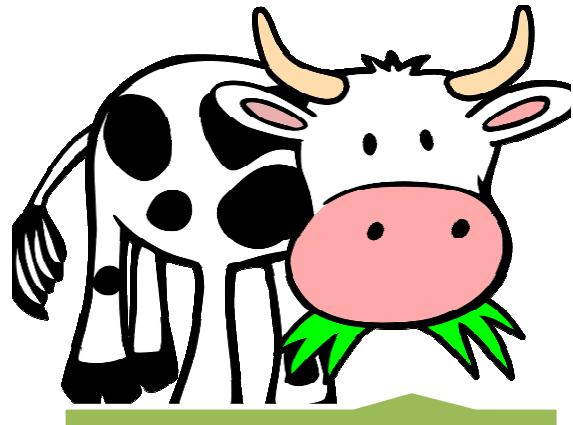
**0,4 g/dag**



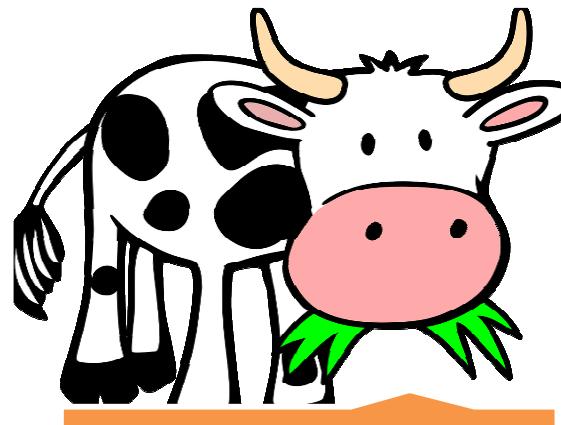
# Results AVEVE Biochem

Group	Control cows		Treated cows		p value group*period
Period	CTRL	TRTM	CTRL	TRTM	
DMI kg/d	19,9	19,2 	20,4	19,9 	0,27
Milk kg/d	29,2	26,4 	26,4	26,4 	< 0,05
FPCM kg/d	30,0	27,0 	28,1	28,8 	< 0,01
Milk fat g/d	1238	1085	1210	1223	<u>0,06</u>
Milk protein g/d	965	926	861	944	< 0,05
CH <sub>4</sub> g/d	404	408 	442	430 	0,20
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg DMI	20,3	21,3 	21,6	21,6 	<u>0,07</u>
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg milk	14,1	15,4 	17,4	16,6 	< 0,01
CH <sub>4</sub> /kg FPCM	13,4	15,0	16,5	15,2	< 0,01
CH <sub>4</sub> /CO <sub>2</sub>	0,035	0,036	0,035	0,036	0,58

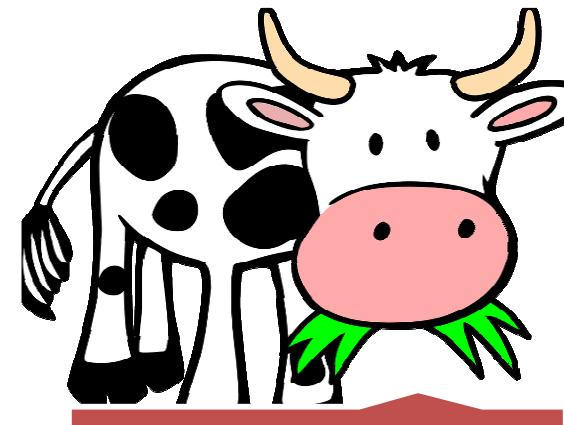
=> No production trial!



REALITY



MAYBE



ILLUSION

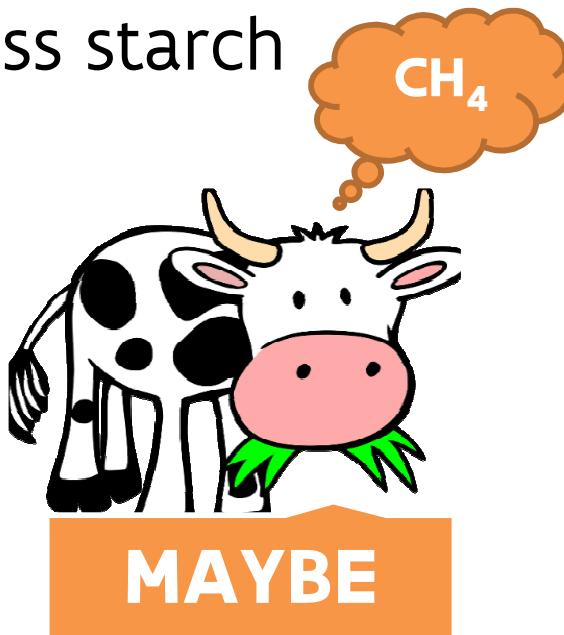
Methane mitigation with feeding strategies: reality or illusion?

## FIRST CONCLUSIONS *IN VIVO* TRIALS

# Reality or illusion?

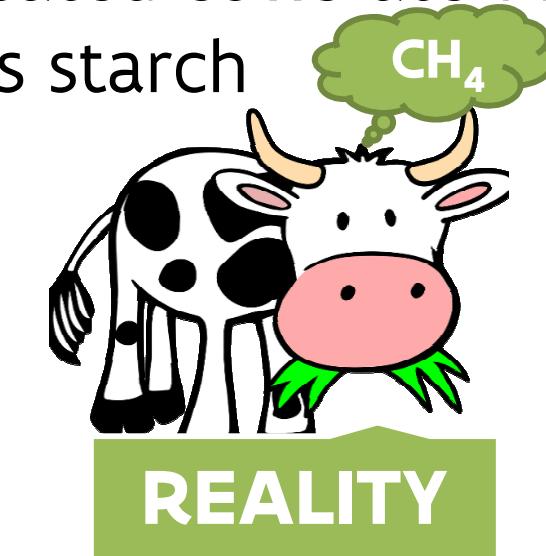
## AVEVE Linex grass

- ✓ Trend for lower methane emissions per kg milk
  - No production trial
- ✓ Treated cows ate 1 kg less starch



## AVEVE Linex maize

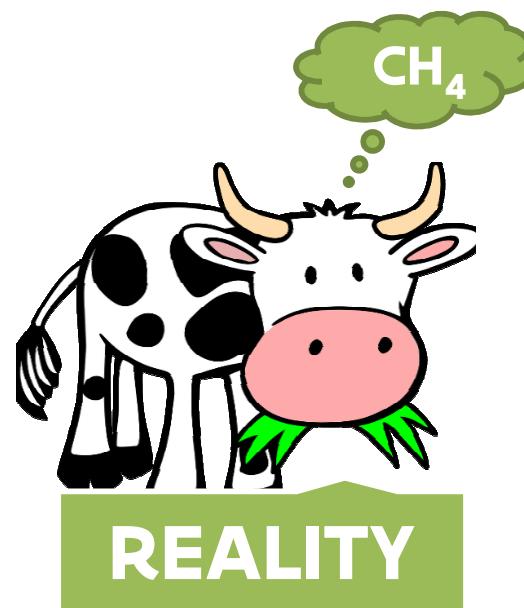
- ✓ 9% lower methane emissions
  - g  $\text{CH}_4$ /day
  - g  $\text{CH}_4$ /kg DMI
- ✓ Treated cows ate 1 kg less starch



# Reality or illusion?

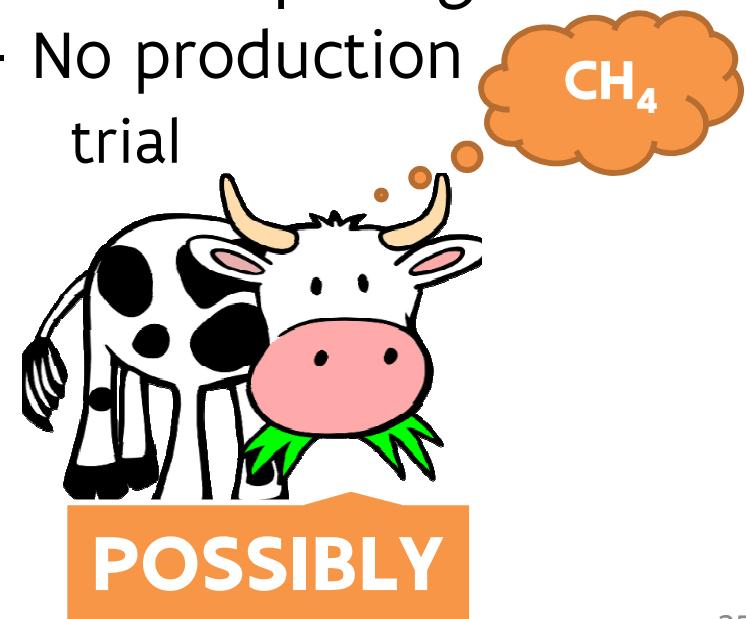
## DSM 3-nitrooxypropanol

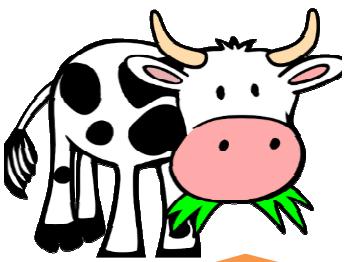
- ✓ 14 – 15% lower methane emissions
  - all CH<sub>4</sub>-parameters!



## AVEVE Biochem Hopextract

- ✓ Trend for lower methane emissions per kg DMI
- ✓ 14% lower methane emissions per kg milk
  - No production trial





MAYBE

# Important remark

- ✓ First screening of additives and components
- ✓ Not designed as milk production trial
  - Too low number of animals
  - The results of milk production and composition are only an indication
- ✓ Trials with **more cows** are needed
  - Production or zootechnic trials in dairy stables
  - Is there also methane mitigation in real practice?

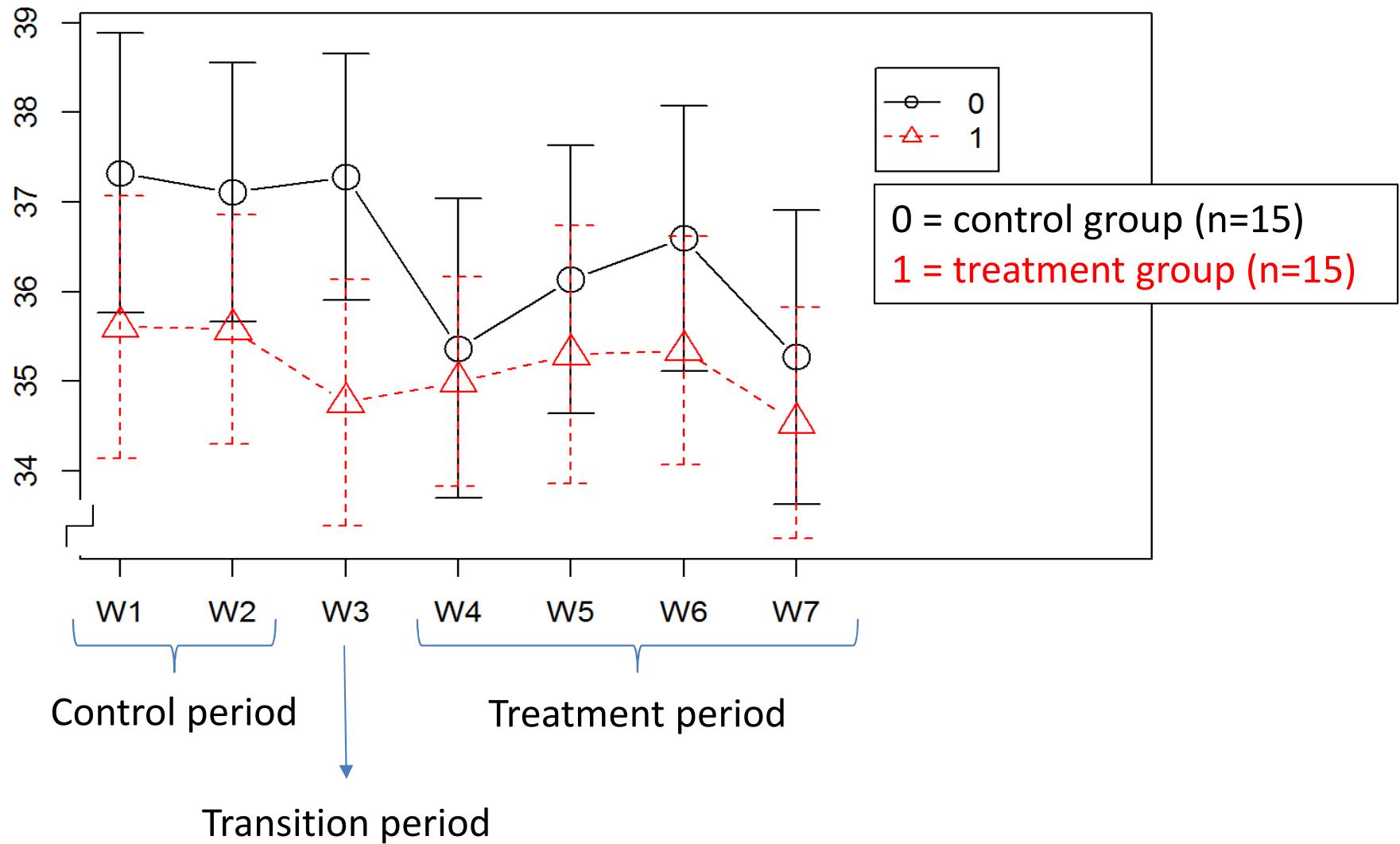
# Trial LV Den Hamer

- ✓ Spring 2016
- ✓ AVEVE Linex with ration rich in maize silage on a commercial dairy farm
- ✓ 30 animals in 2 groups

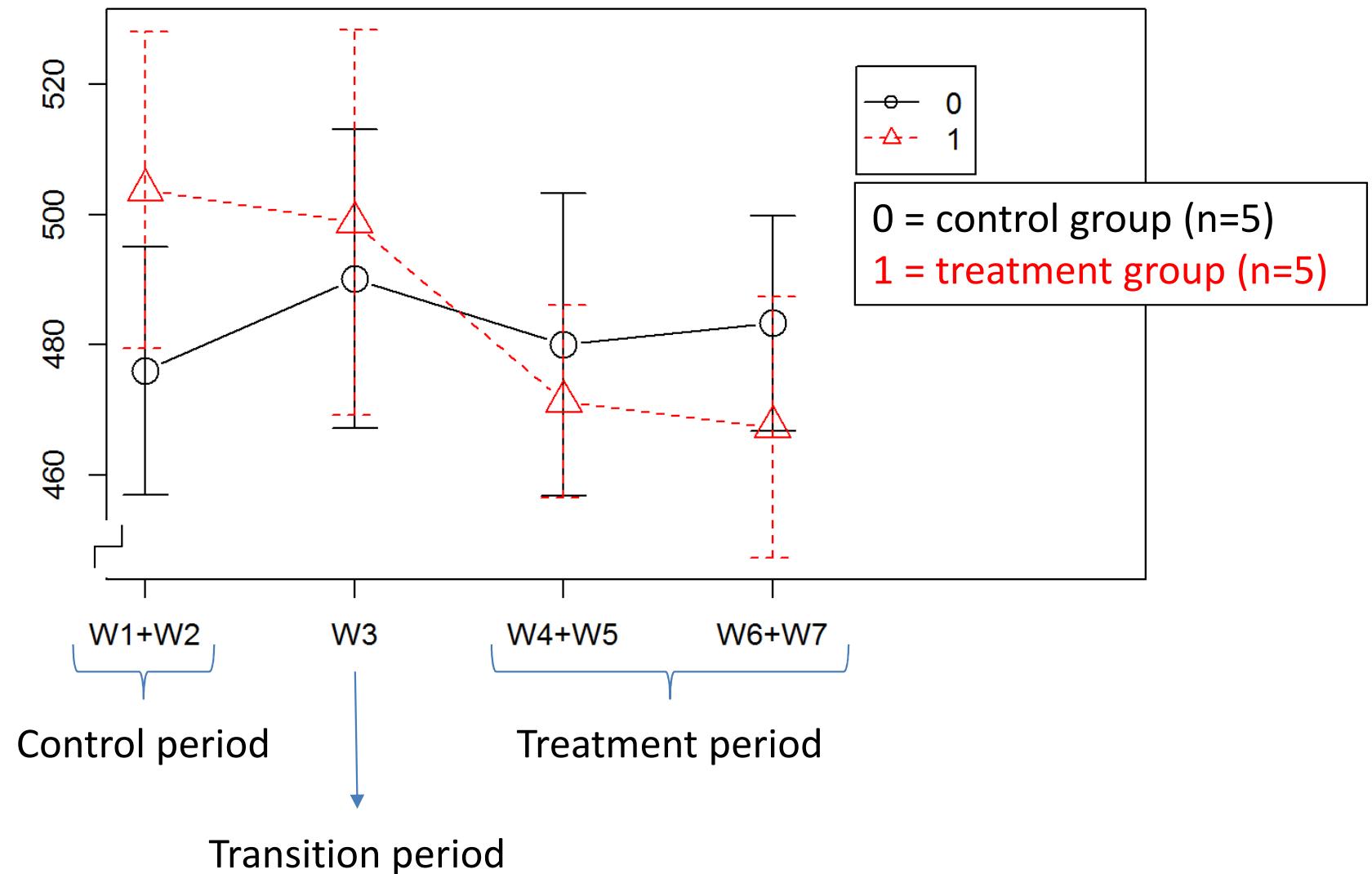
% in roughage mixture (DM)	Trial LV Den Hamer	AVEVE Linex maize
<b>Maize silage</b>	62	65
<b>Grass silage</b>	32	25
<b>Beet pulp or Chicory pulp</b>	6	10

Week	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ADAP	ADAP	ADAP	CTRL	CTRL	TRANS	TRTM	TRTM	TRTM	TRTM

# Milk production (kg milk/day)



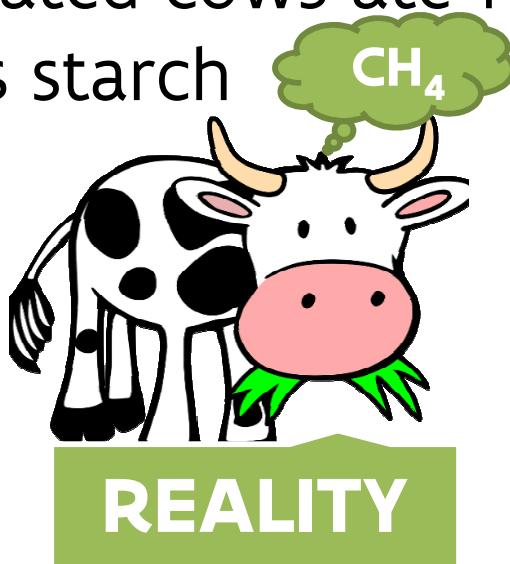
# Methane emissions (g CH<sub>4</sub>/day)



# Reality or illusion?

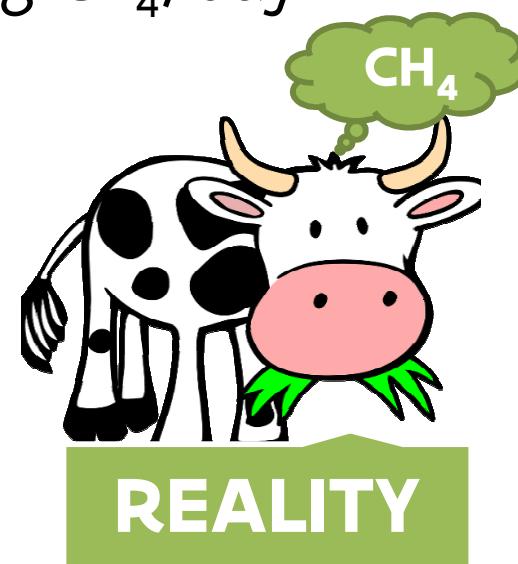
## *In vivo* trial

- ✓ 9% lower methane emissions
  - g CH<sub>4</sub>/day
  - g CH<sub>4</sub>/kg DMI
- ✓ Treated cows ate 1 kg less starch



## Practice

- ✓ Lower ( $p=0,03$ ) methane emissions per kg milk
- ✓ Trend ( $p=0,07$ ) for lower methane emissions
  - g CH<sub>4</sub>/day



# Zootechnic trial 3-NOP ILVO

✓ Three groups:

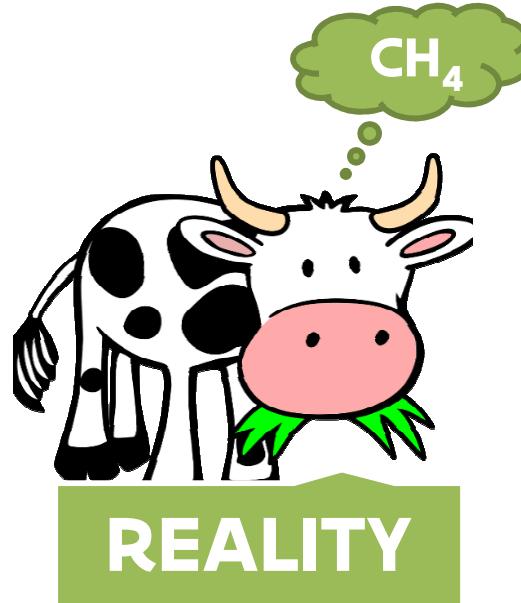
1. Control group (n=10)
2. 3-NOP in roughage mixture (n=10)
3. 3-NOP in pelleted concentrate (n=10)



# Reality or illusion?

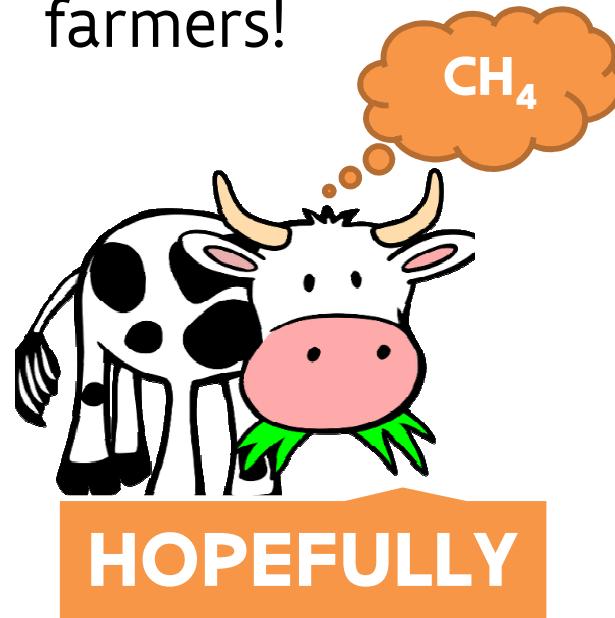
## *In vivo* trial

- ✓ 14 – 15% lower methane emissions
  - all CH<sub>4</sub>-parameters!



## Practice

- ✓ No data yet!
- ✓ This additive is still under development!
  - Not yet available for farmers!



# Thank you



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