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TITLE

EVOLUTION OF REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE IN SPANISH FARMS IN THE LAST 10 YEARS.
IMPACT OF FARMS' SIZE

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CONTENT

Background and Objectives

The objective of this study was to describe the evolution during the last 10 years for the reproductive KPIs including: farrowing rate (FR), adjusted farrowing rate (AFR) and number of repeat services (RS), including big and small farms because of its possible impact on the competitiveness.

Materials & methods

Data from 260 farms and a total of 255,386 sows were used obtained from the PigCHAMP Pro Europa SL database in the interval 2009-2018. Time series analysis was performed by decomposing into components for three types of patterns, trends, seasonality and cycles in R software. Data were distributed in groups depending on the number of sows: G1 (all the farms), G2 (farms > 1500 sows) and G3 (farms < 500 sows).

Results

In G1, FR began having marks between 82.1% to end up in the last years with an increase of 84.9%, AFR began in 86.2% to end up with 89.0%, and RS began with 11.3% to end up with a dropping of 8.6%. A seasonal effect was showed since FR and AFR showed lower values in winter while RS was worse in autumn than in the rest of the seasons.

In December 2013 there was a significant deviation in which FR (81.1%) and AFR (85.3%) dropped up to 4% instead of growing up like in previous years. Also, in October 2013 there was a significant deviation in RS (11.0%), something not showed in the following years. We hypothesize if this could be related with the adaptation works to group sows because of welfare regulation that was performed in around that period despite it is not possible to confirm it.

Discussion & Conclusions

Reproductive data improved overall in the last decade in Spanish farms being bigger in big farms.