

# **New value from calf data - How Networking and Analysis will influence Management**

Dr. Tobias Nieschulze





Which Calves do you want to raise?





# Best Practice in Calf Feeding

**First 10 hours:** Two colostrum feedings

**First 28 days:** Metabolic Imprinting

- Udder cell development
- Pasteurized whole milk (casein!)
- More than 2.6 gal (10 L) per calf per day

**After 28 days:** Slow change (*min 7 days*) to milk replacer possible

**After 70 days:** Weaned





# Single Hutch Feeding



## Needs of the FEEDING staff

- Easy work
- Assistance in ration assignment
- Easy way of documentation





# Single Hutch Feeding



## Needs of the CALF manager

- Tracking of individual calf development
- Early detection of issues in feeding process
- Control of employees





# Single Hutch Feeding



## Needs of the HERD manager

- Overview of aggregating figures
- Early detection of issues

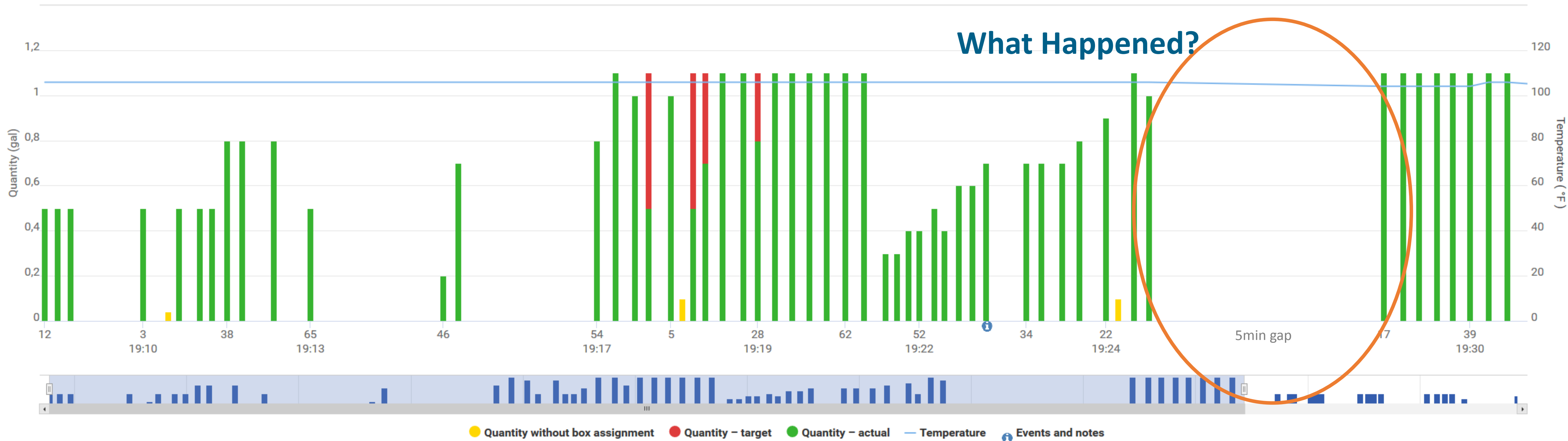




# Single Hutch Feeding - Solution

MilkTaxi's track everything that happens

- Milk temperature
- Dosing amount
- Time of each dosing



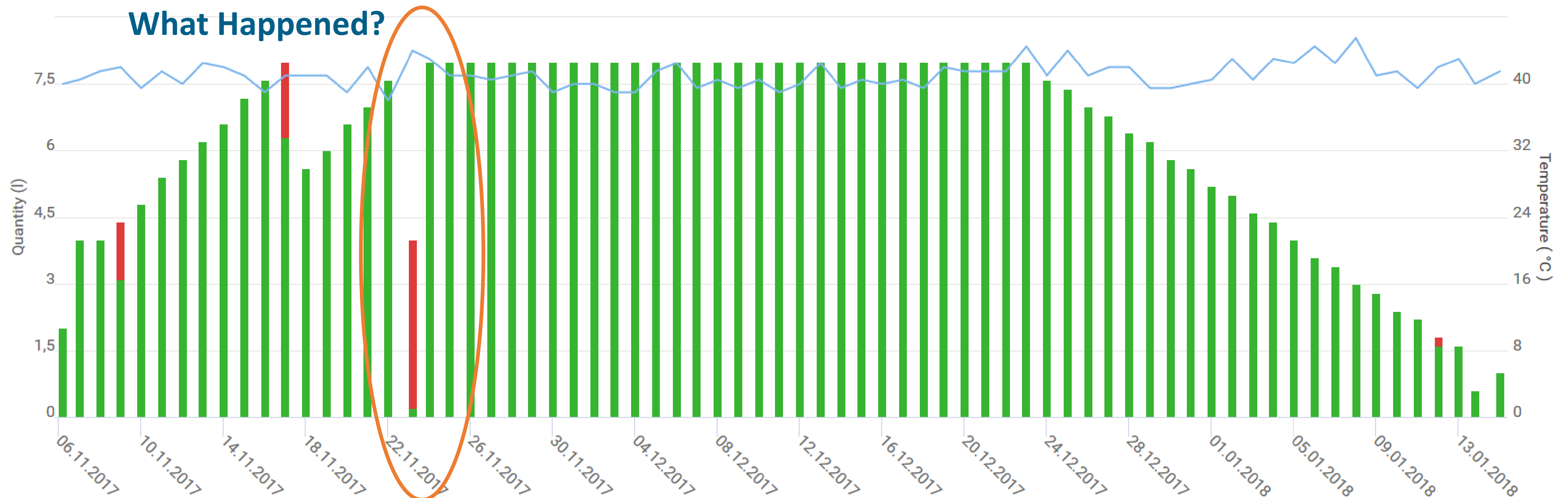
# Single Hutch Feeding - Solution

## Data analysis finds issues

- Diarrhea on tuesday – cold milk feeding on weekend
- Smaller weight gain of some calves – smaller milk quantity on the last hutches

Full history of each individual calf as base for further analysis

## INDIVIDUAL CALF DATA

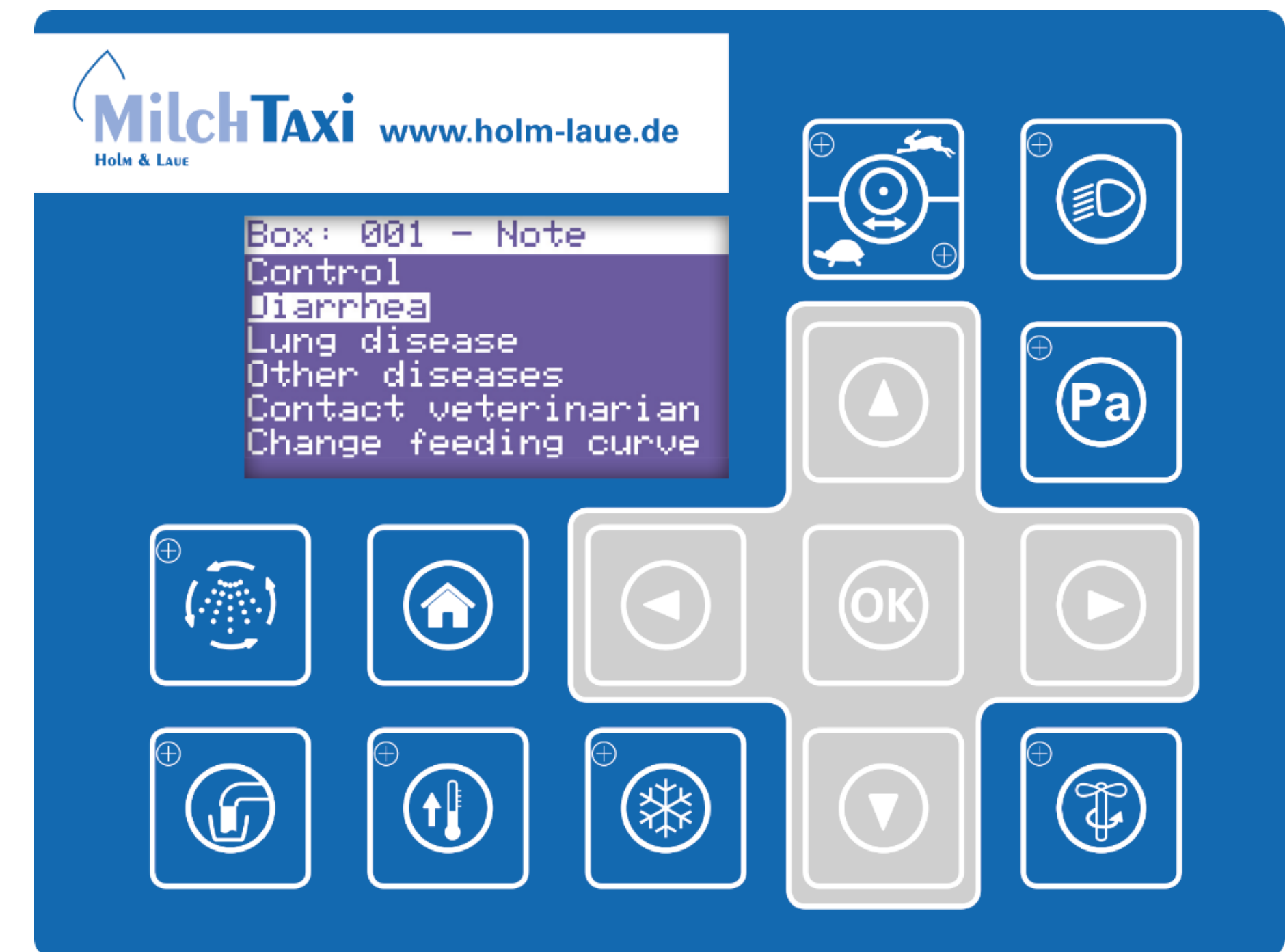




# Single Hutch Feeding - Solution

## Integrated Standard Operating Procedures

- Document individual notes immediately
- Information available in calf management software
- Reminder before next feeding of this calf





# Automated Calf Feeding

Only here highest milk amounts possible:

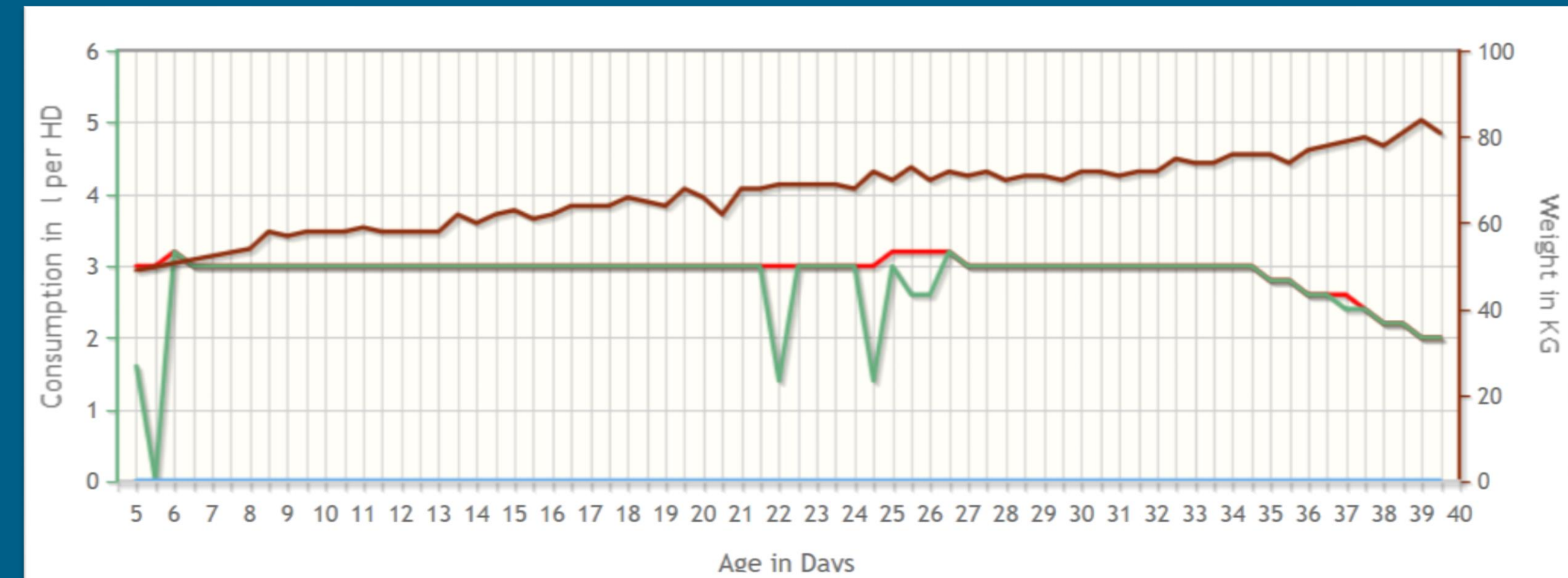
- 5 – 6 daily meals of 0.5 gal (2 L) till 0.8 gal (3 L)
- Fresh / pasteurized whole milk (with additional powder)
- Slow change to milk replacer after 28 days possible
- No higher skill level for staff needed
- Easy whole milk handling
- **Highest information level**





# Automated Calf Feeding

- Documented information
  - Daily weight gain
  - Consumed amount
  - Drinking speed
  - Activity analysis
- Full history of calf development







# Automated Calf Feeding

- Full integration of:  
**Standard Operating Procedures**
  - Documentation on feeder of diarrhea of one calf
  - Automated control task for next feeding
  - Automated documentation in calf management software and information of farm manager
- Control staff by usage documentation

Friday, 15. June

List created last: 24.11.2017 07:59:48  

To-do: Moving individual boxes

Description: Take all weaned calves to the group box.

**Boxes** [Ear tags](#)

Statistics box ^	Age	Curve	Number	Buckets	Done
				Select all boxes	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	30 Days	2	1	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	35 Days	2	1	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	11 Days	2	1	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	25 Days	2	1	1	<input type="checkbox"/>



# Data Overview

0 days



**Milk feeding period 70 days**



70 days





0 days

**Milk feeding period 70 days**

70 days



Birth



- Day of birth
- Eartag number





0 days



Birth



70 days



# CalfGuide

- Attaching earmark
- Identification by RFID reading
- Weighing
- Add birth circumstances





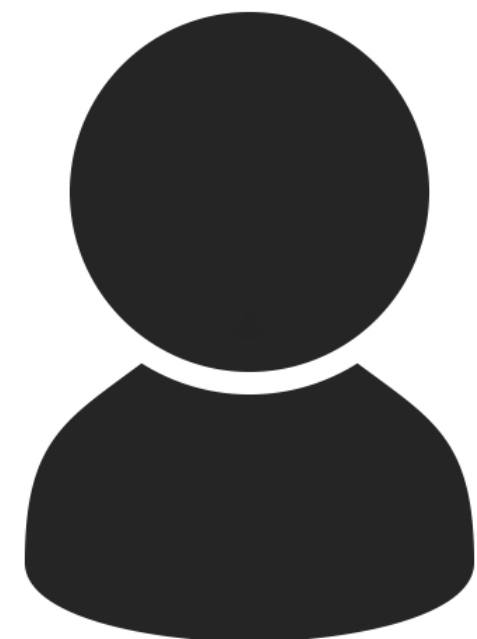
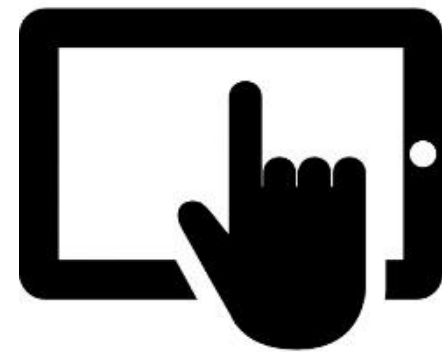
0 days



Colostrum



Birth



70 days



# CalfGuide

- Identification by RFID reading
- Document colostrum amount

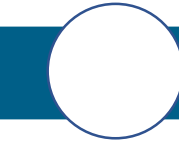




0 days



Colostrum



Birth



Hutch



70 days



# CalfGuide

- Documentation of feeding information





0 days



Colostrum



Birth

Hutch

Feeder



70 days



# CalfGuide

- Automatic feeding
- Documentation of feeding information
- Detailed health & growth information





0 days



  
Colostrum



Birth

  
Vaccination



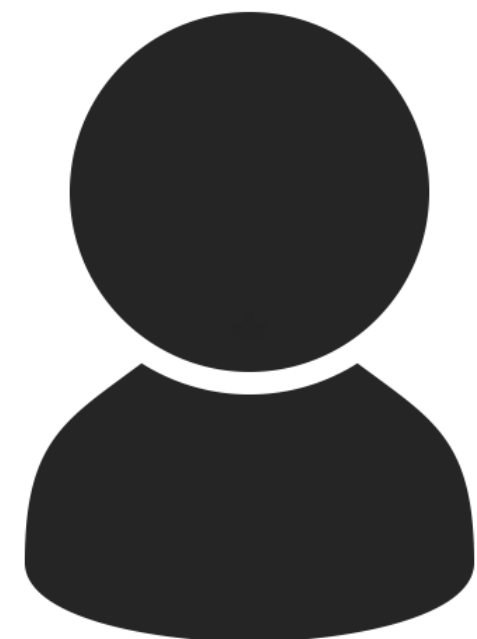
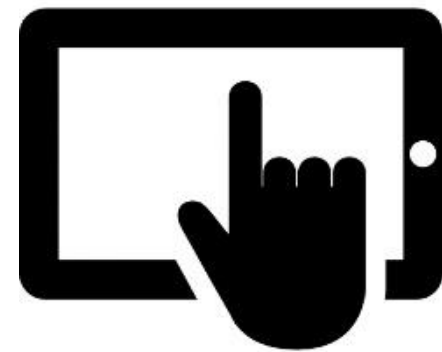
Hutch

  
Vaccination



Feeder

70 days



# CalfGuide

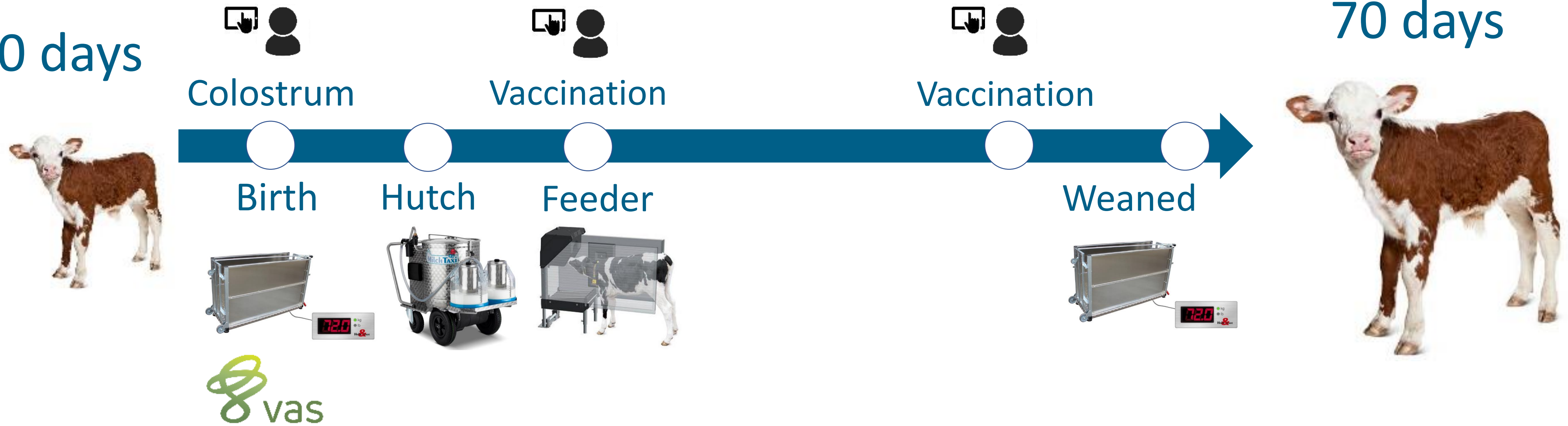
- All treatments / observation
- E.g.; documentation of vaccination





0 days

70 days



# CalfGuide

- Additional weighing after weaning





0 days



  
Colostrum

  
Vaccination

  
Vaccination

70 days



Birth

Hutch

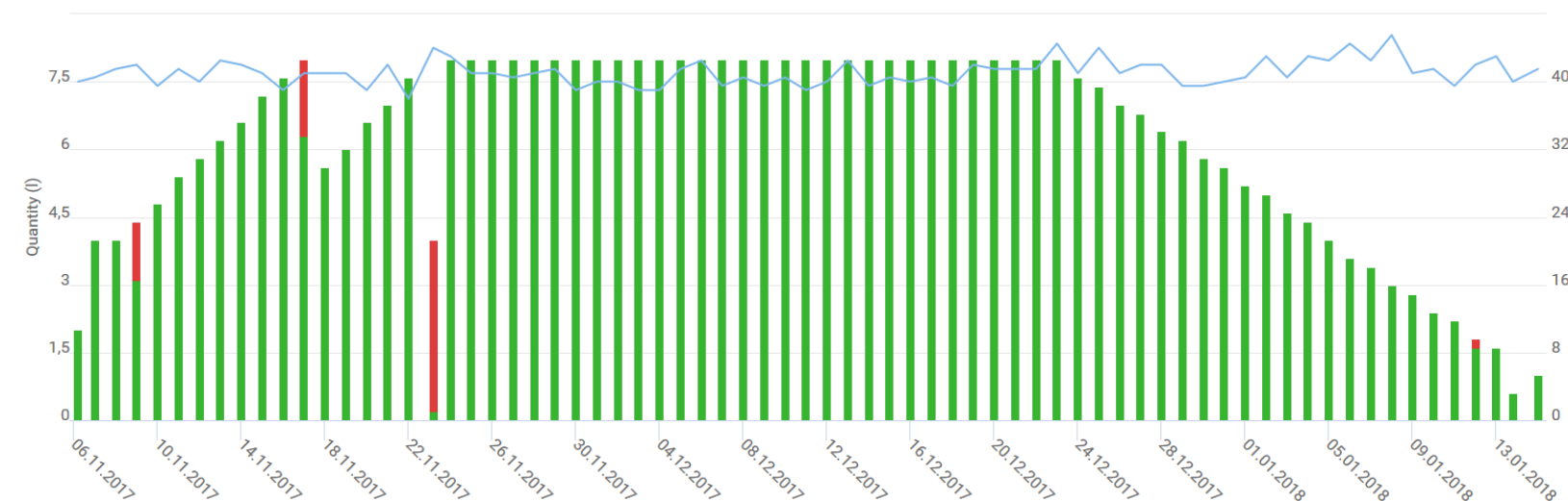
Feeder

Weaned



**CalfGuide**

Calf Management System



Herd Management System



# Using Data to Influence Management

- Create farm individual target values
  - Daily growth: 1100 gr / day
  - Solid amount first 28 days: > 30 kg
  - Drinking speed: 650 ml / min
  - Activity index: > 80 %
- Combine the deviation of the targets to a farm individual performance index

Daily growth

Solid amount

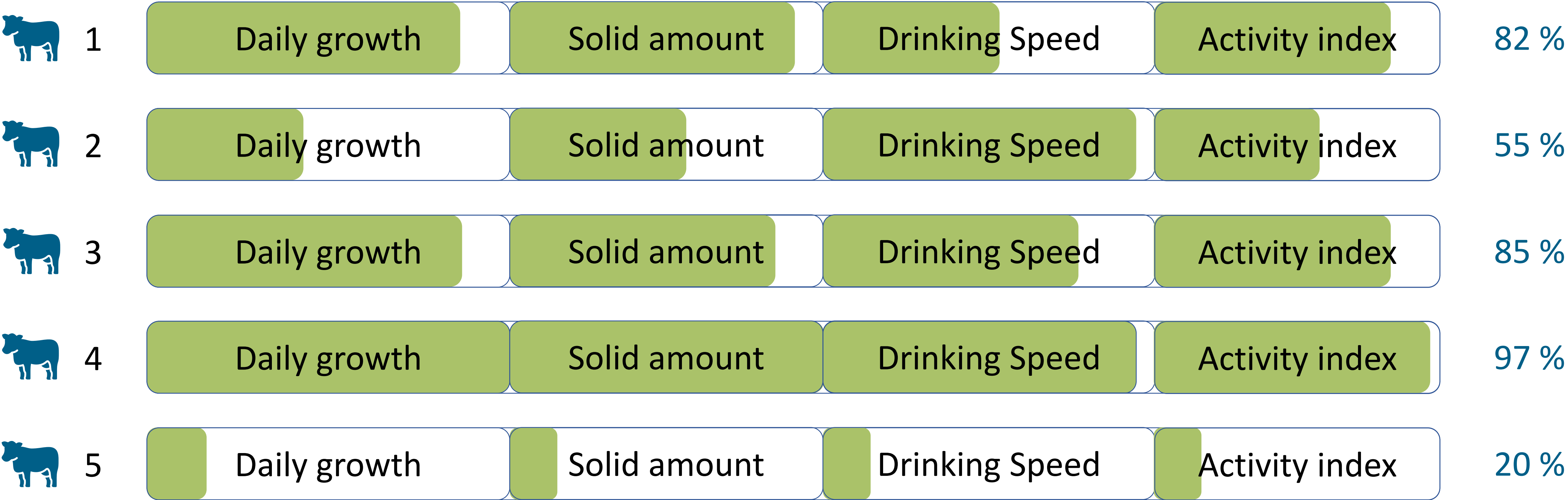
Drinking Speed

Activity index





# Using Data to Influence Management





# Performance = Genetics + Environment



## Heritability

Milk yield.....	40 %
Usage duration.....	12 %
Fertility.....	2 %
Health.....	2-10 %



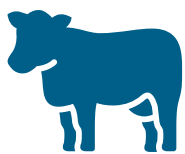
**We need to find out, how a calf performs in the given environment and combine this with the genetic potential!**



# Performance = Genetics + Environment



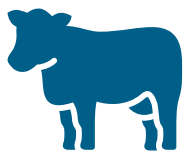
Selection order



1



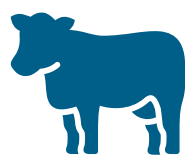
82 %



2



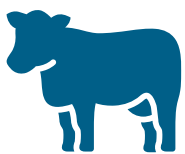
55 %



3



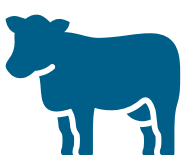
85 %



4



97 %



5



20 %



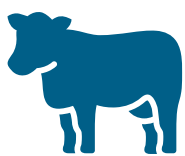


# Performance = Genetics + Environment

 vas  
Genetic

 CalfGuide  
Performance

Selection order

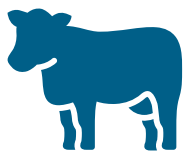


1



82 %

1

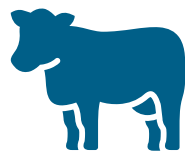


2



55 %

4

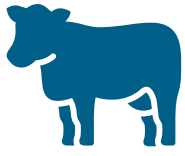


3



85 %

2

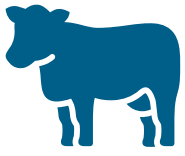


4

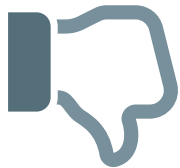


97 %

3



5



20 %

5





# Conclusion

- Technical innovation improves processes
- Integration of SOPs in product software helps to establish and use them
- Analysis of data will continue to be a major topic
- Creating aggregated figures helps to reduce and summarize the data
- Combination of environment data and genetics helps to improve selection





Which Calves do you want to raise?





**Thank you for your attention**





## POLL QUESTION

Which data in calf rearing have the greatest importance to you?

- A. Total rearing costs until wean
- B. Total consumption of dry feed
- C. Daily weight gain
- D. Total consumption mild/solids
- E. Morbidity/mortality rates
- F. Calf activity





## POLL QUESTION

Which data in calf rearing are you already recording on a regular basis?

- A. Total rearing costs until wean
- B. Total consumption of dry feed
- C. Daily weight gain
- D. Total consumption milk/solids
- E. Morbidity/mortality rates
- F. Calf activity

