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Põllumajandusfond:  
Euroopa investeeringud  
maapiirkondadesse



# SARA Sub-acute Ruminant Acidosis- or/ and SALGA Sub-acute Lower Gut Acidosis

ZCH TSM Ruminant

# SARA prevalence

## Animals on high concentrated diet



Early lactation cows 11–29%  
Mid-lactation cows 18–26%  
(Kleen,2004, Tajik et al.,2009)

Netherlands > 35%  
Italy > 30%  
Germany > 20%

(Kleen et al 2013)



# SARA the most economically important disease in dairy industry

Lost income cow/year calculated \$400 - \$475

(Stone 1999)

Visible :

- Reduced milk 2.7 kg/day,
- milk fat 0.3% pts & milk protein 0.12% pts

(Stone ,1999).

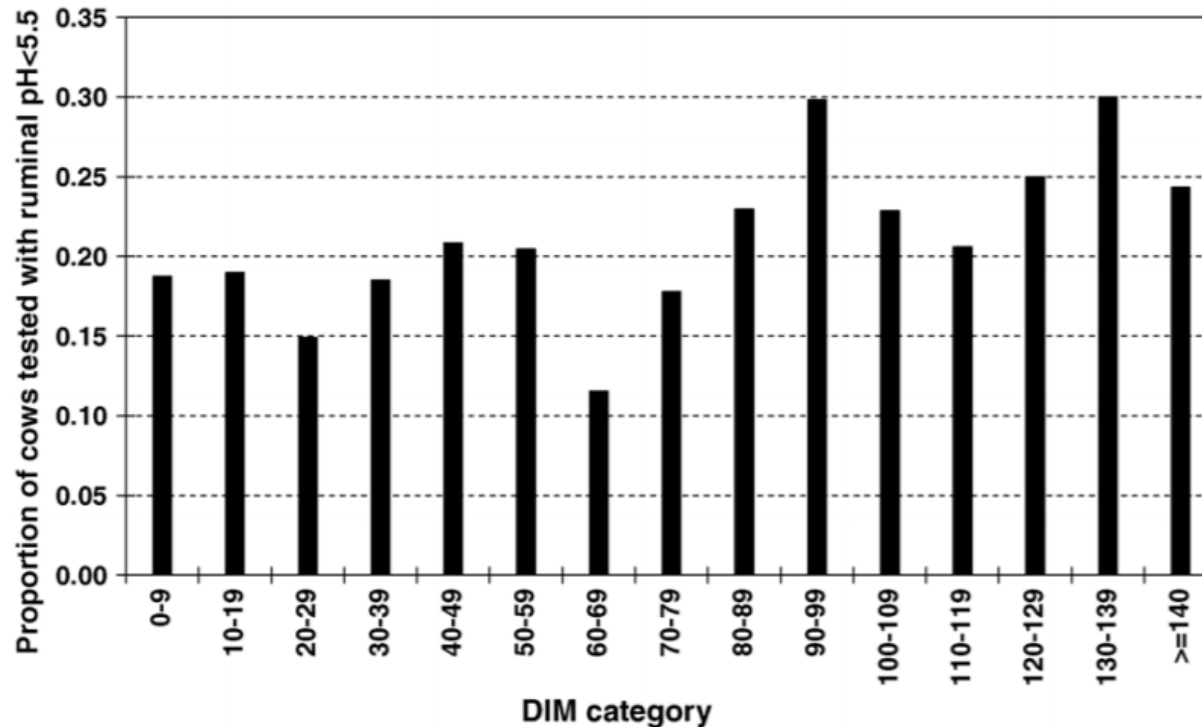
Not always visible :

- Irregular feed intake
- Feed intake depression
- Reduced in digestibility
- Gastrointestinal disruption
- Systemic inflammation
- Abscess in the liver
- Laminitis



# SARA Prevalence MP / Cows

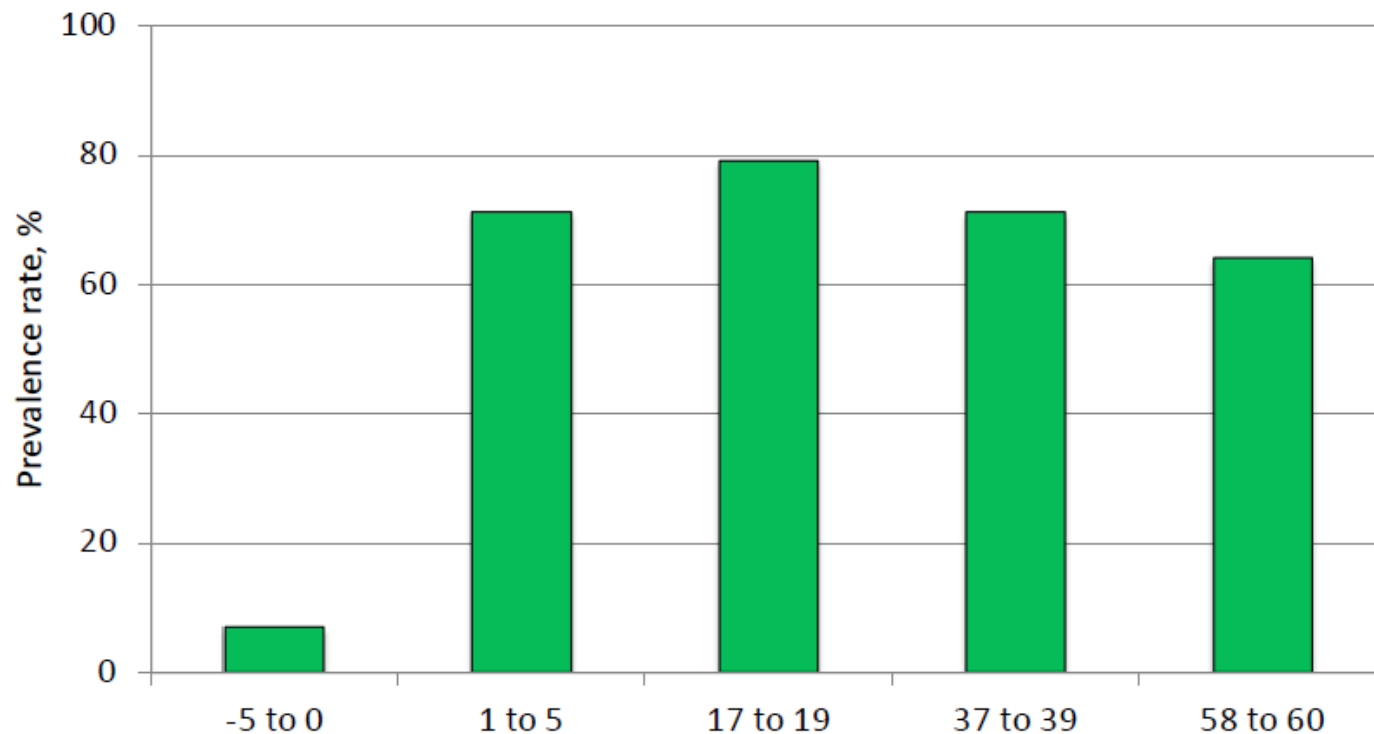
K.M. Krause, G.R. Oetzel / Animal Feed Science and Technology 126 (2006) 215–236



Risk of low ruminal pH (<5.5) by DIM from 662 cows from 55 herds. Samples were collected by Rumenocentesis 6-10 h post feeding in commercial dairy herds Wisconsin 2003-2006.

# SARA Prevalence PP / First calving heifers

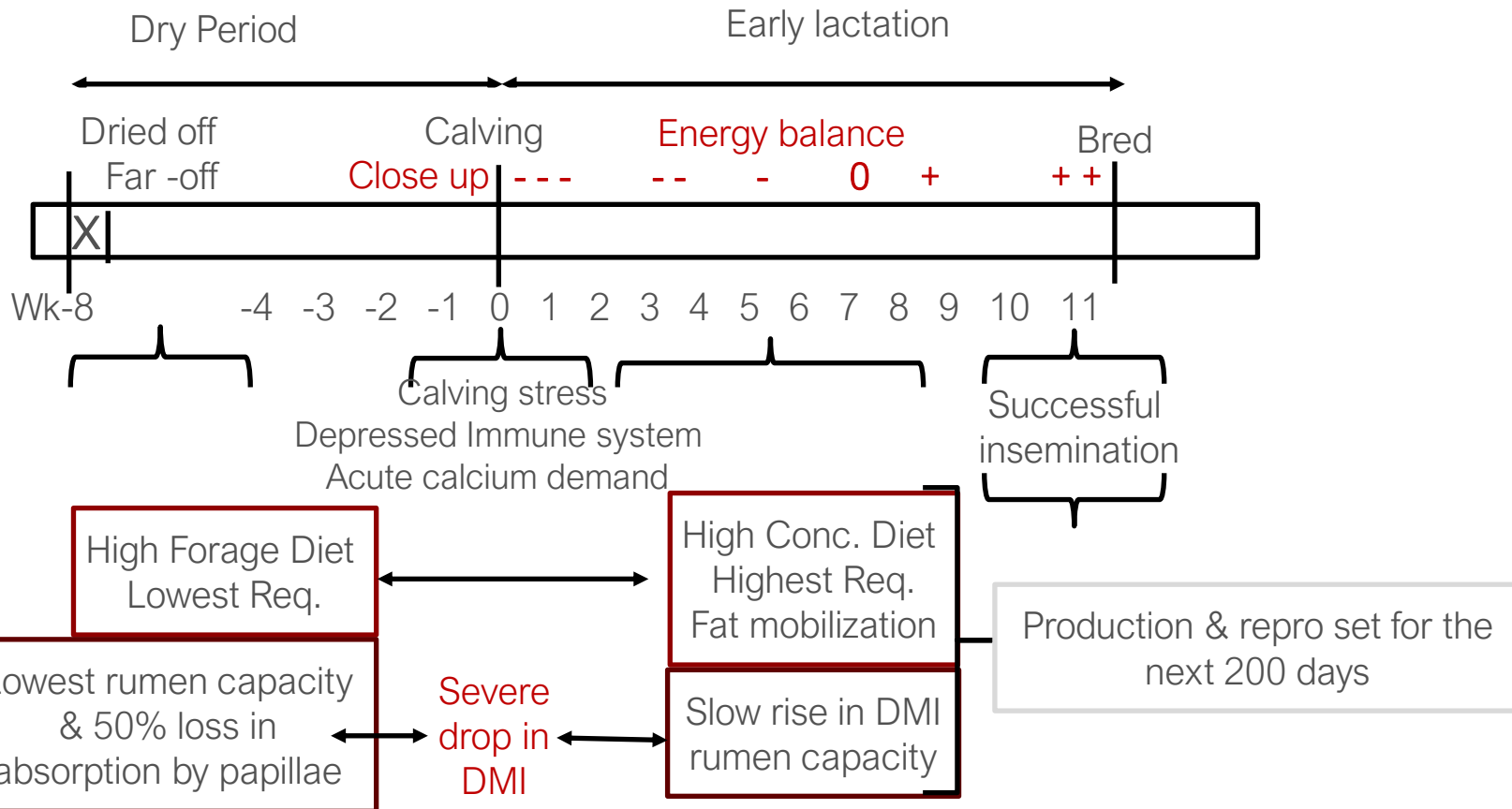
Low rumen absorptive capacity/ adaptation to HC diet



Adapted from Penner et al., 2007; JDS

# Managing Cow in Critical Days

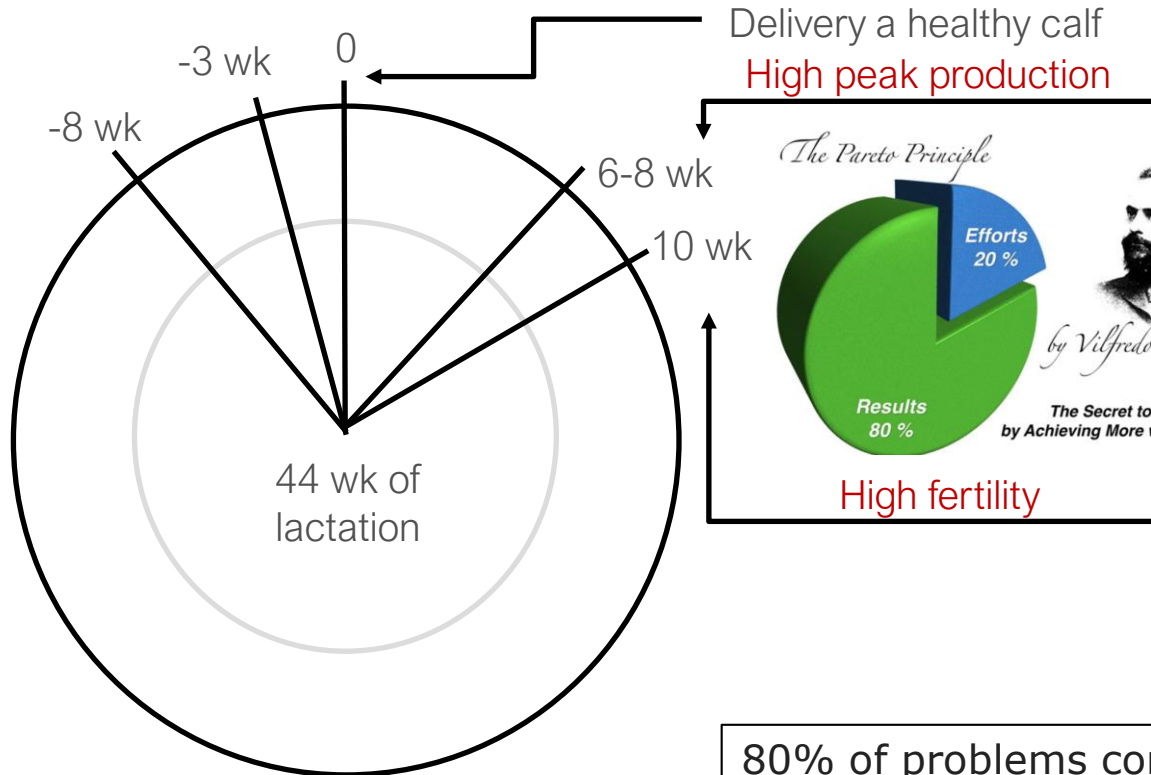
Transition



# The Pareto Principle

44 + 10 = 54 calving interval

3 + 10 = 13 crucial weeks



No milk fever  
No retained placenta  
Increase DMI  
Limited BCS loss

No mastitis  
No ketosis  
No fatty liver  
No DA

No metritis

80% of problems come from 20% of causes  
80% results come from 20% of your effort





# SARA

## The effect of abrupt diet change

Often Pointed

1. Excessive intake of rapidly fermentable carbohydrates
2. Inadequate ruminal adaptation to a highly fermentable diet;
3. Inadequate ruminal buffering inadequate physical fiber...

When we look closer

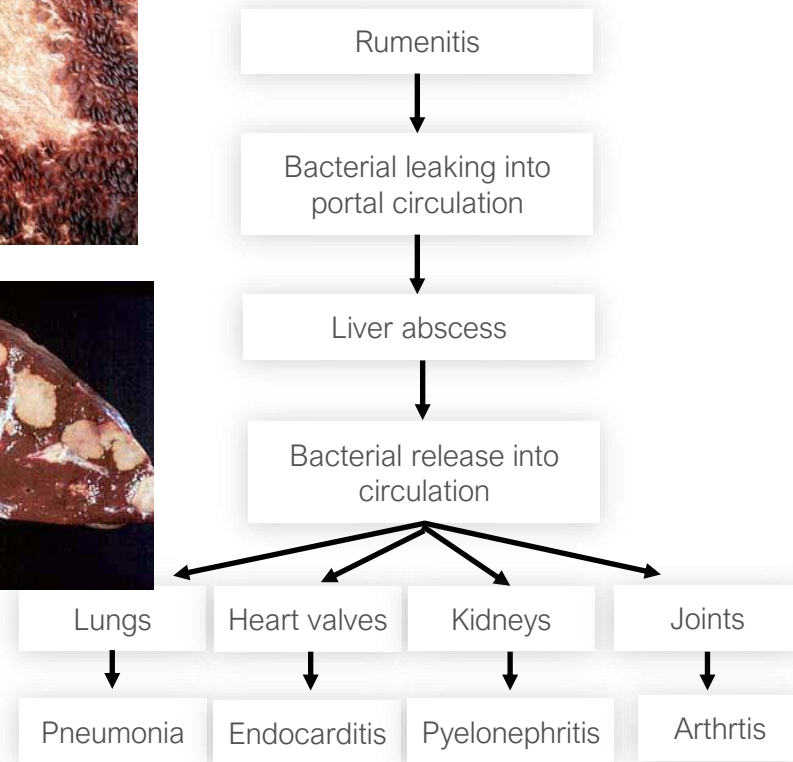
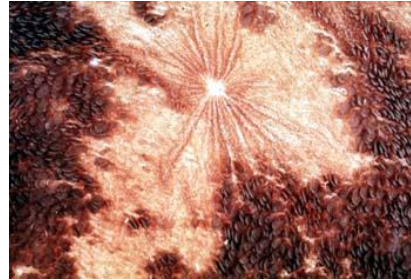
1. Overcrowding
2. Stress heifers with cows
3. Sorting
4. Grain processing
5. TMR mixing mistakes
6. Empty table syndrome
7. Feeding station problems





# Post mortem findings in SARA

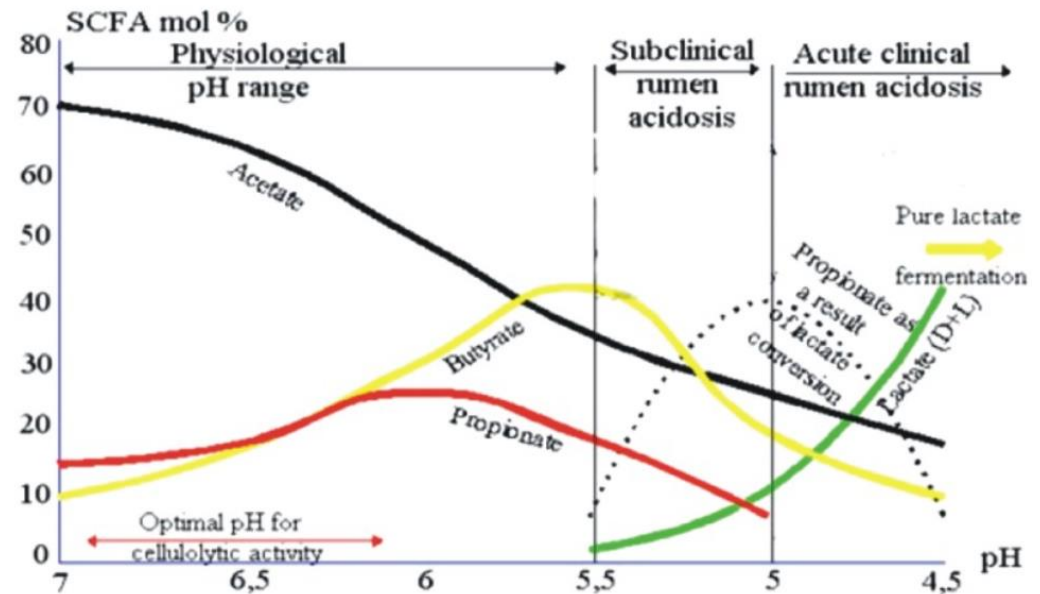
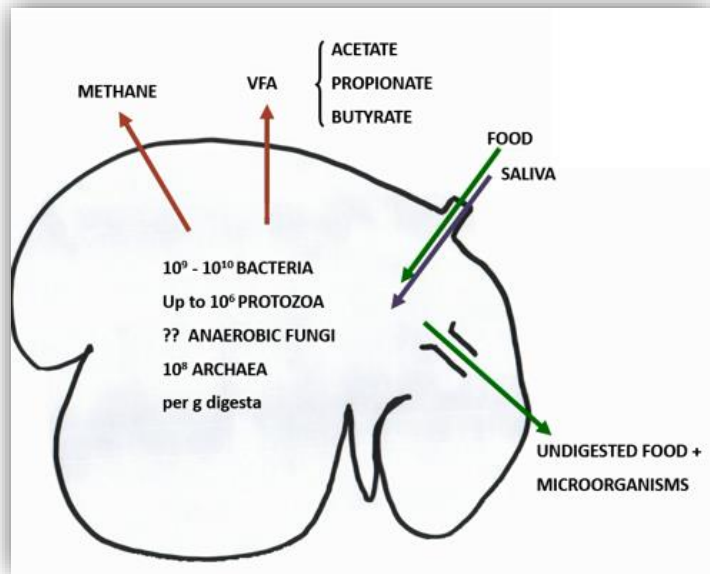
- Rumen papilla damage
- Rumen wall inflammation
- Rumen parakeratosis
  
- Multiple liver abscesses
- Gut damaged
  
- Unexpected deaths



(Oetzel, 2007)

# Rumen microbial population convert consumed feed into VFA & METHANE

Acidity coming from VFA accumulation over rumen buffer capacity /saliva, water and absorption/



Fermentation pattern and rumen environment in relation to pH (Dirksen 1984, Prosanth 2016)

# Daily rumen pH pattern with proper rumen buffering system

The threshold value by Penner

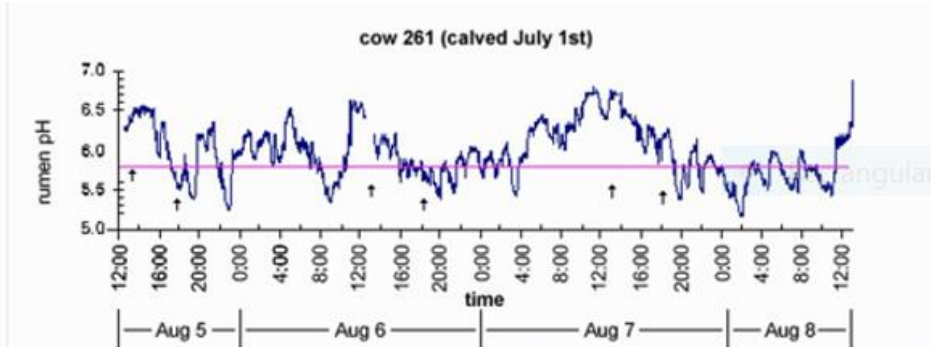
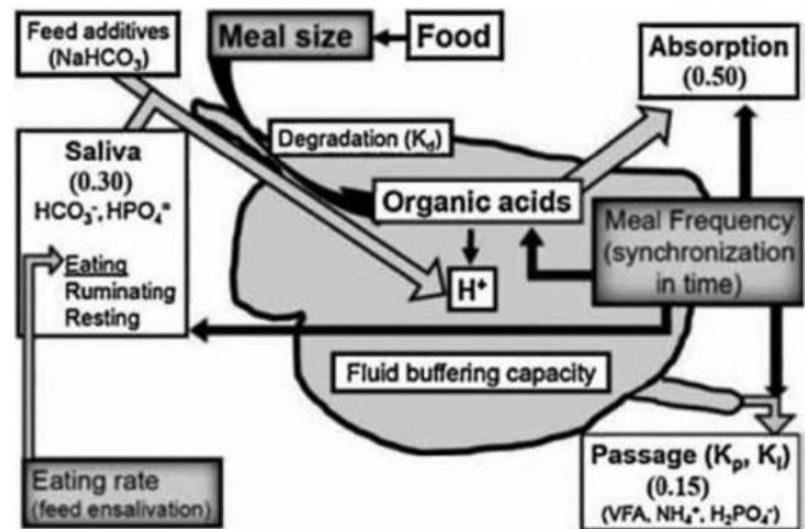


Fig. 1. Ruminal pH measured in a dairy cow over a 72-h period. Arrows show feeding times at 1330 and 1600 h; the solid line indicates the ruminal acidosis threshold of pH 5.8.

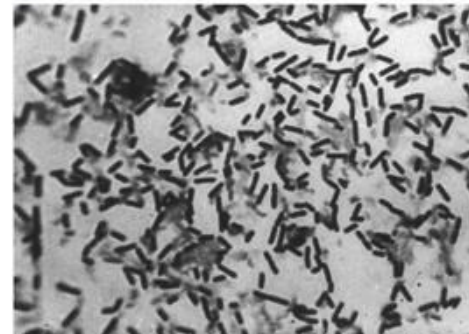
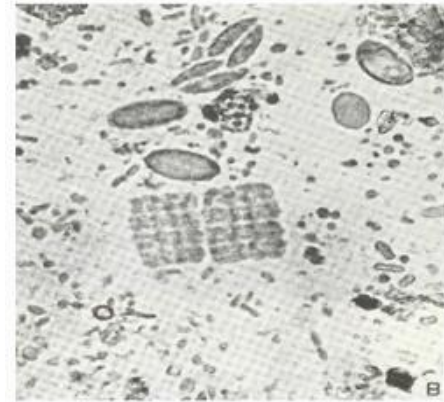
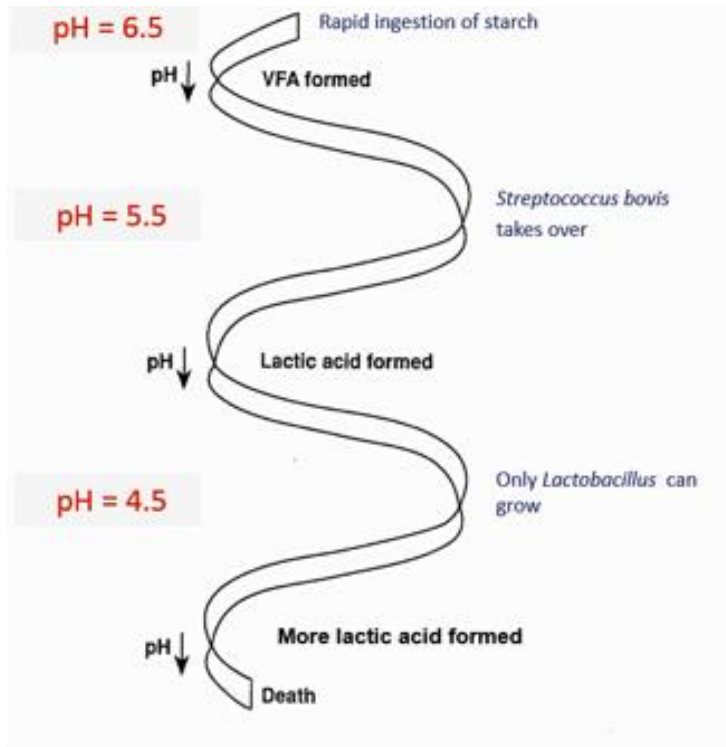
Penner et al.(2006) J Dairy Sci 89, 2132



Gonzalez et al. 2012).

# By rapidly ingested high amount of starch buffering system can easily get over the control

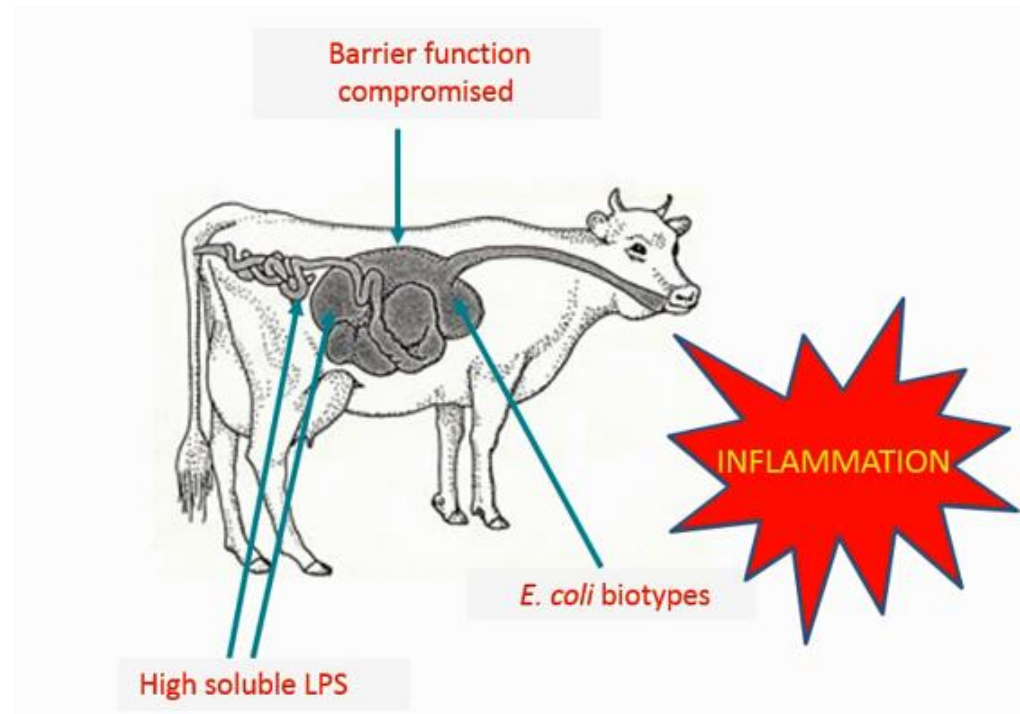
Lactic acidosis spiral



# Drop of the rumen pH cause LPS toxins released

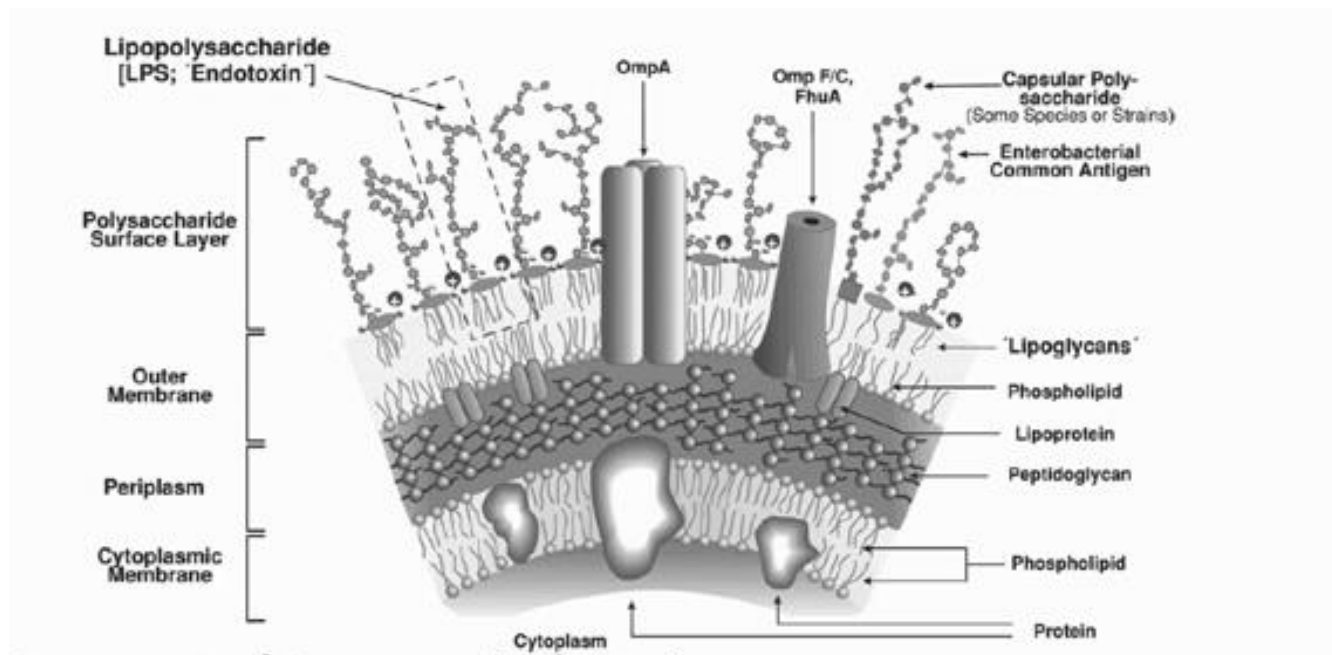
1/3 animals show post mortem rumen wall pathology \_ necrotic inflammation

Loss of barrier function \_ laminitis , liver abscesses



# What is LPS (Lipopolysaccharide)

Component of gram negative bacteria released when cell lyse

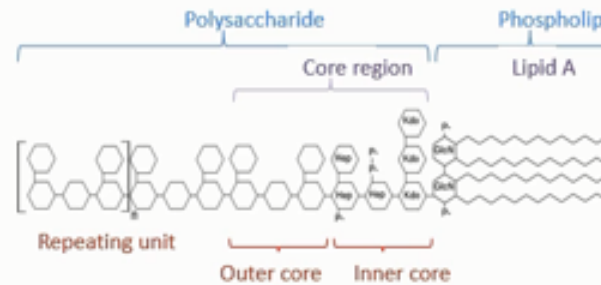
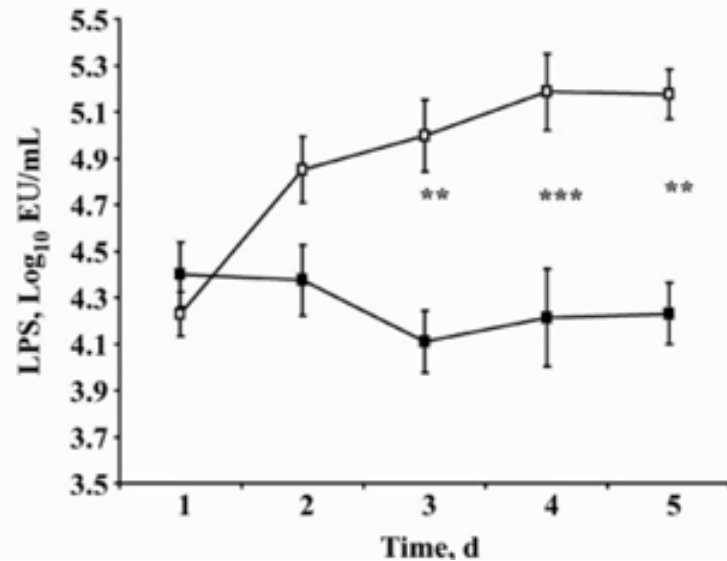


Plaizier et al. 2012 Anim. Feed Sci. Tech. 172-9-21



# Barley grain feeding

Soluble LPS concentration in the rumen of SARA induced cattle, causing inflammation increased significantly

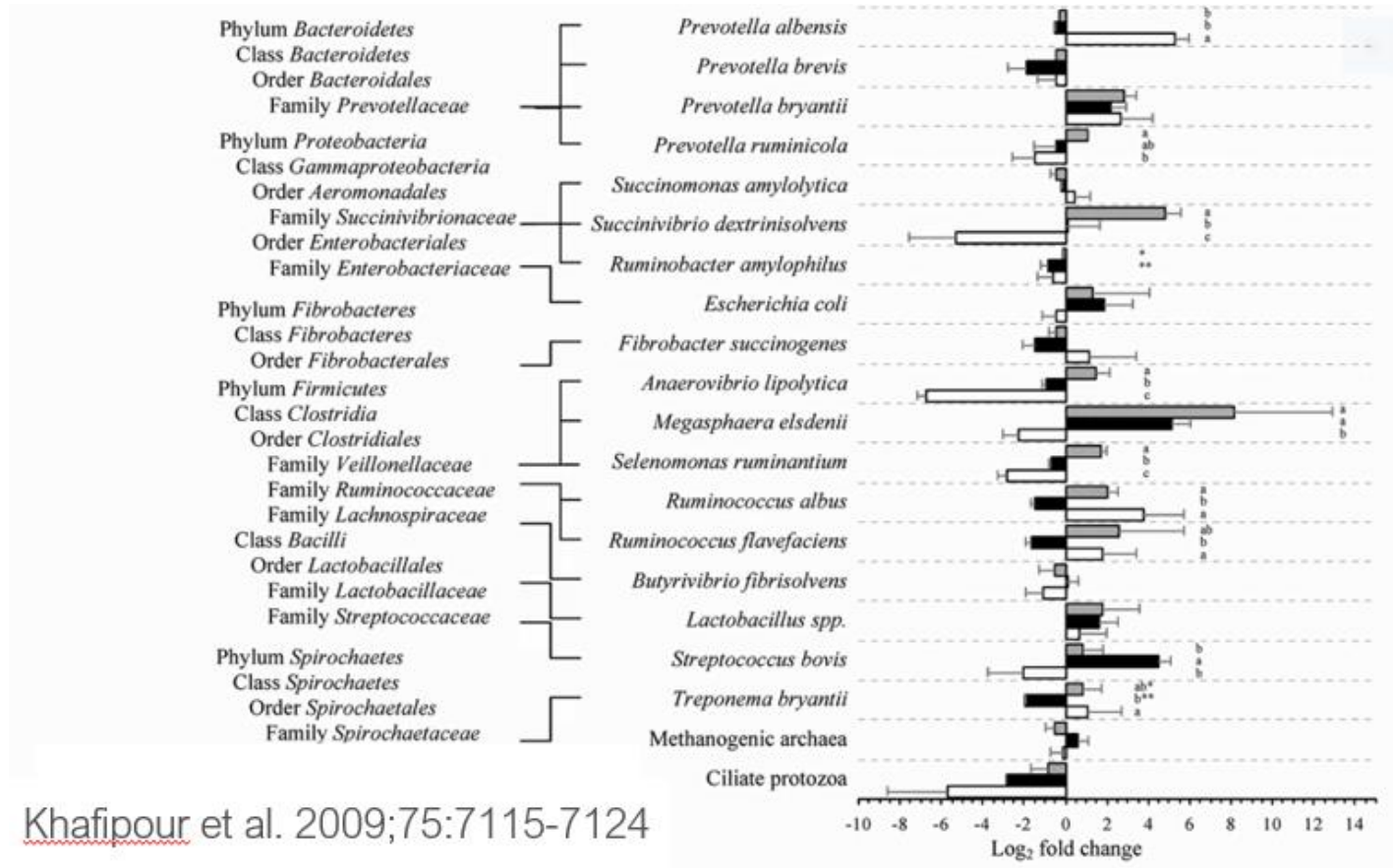


LPS = lipopolysaccharide  
= endotoxin

Gozho et al. J Dairy Sci. 2007, 90

# The rumen microbiome shift with SARA induced diet

Grey – middle / Black – severe/ White –alfalfa induced SARA

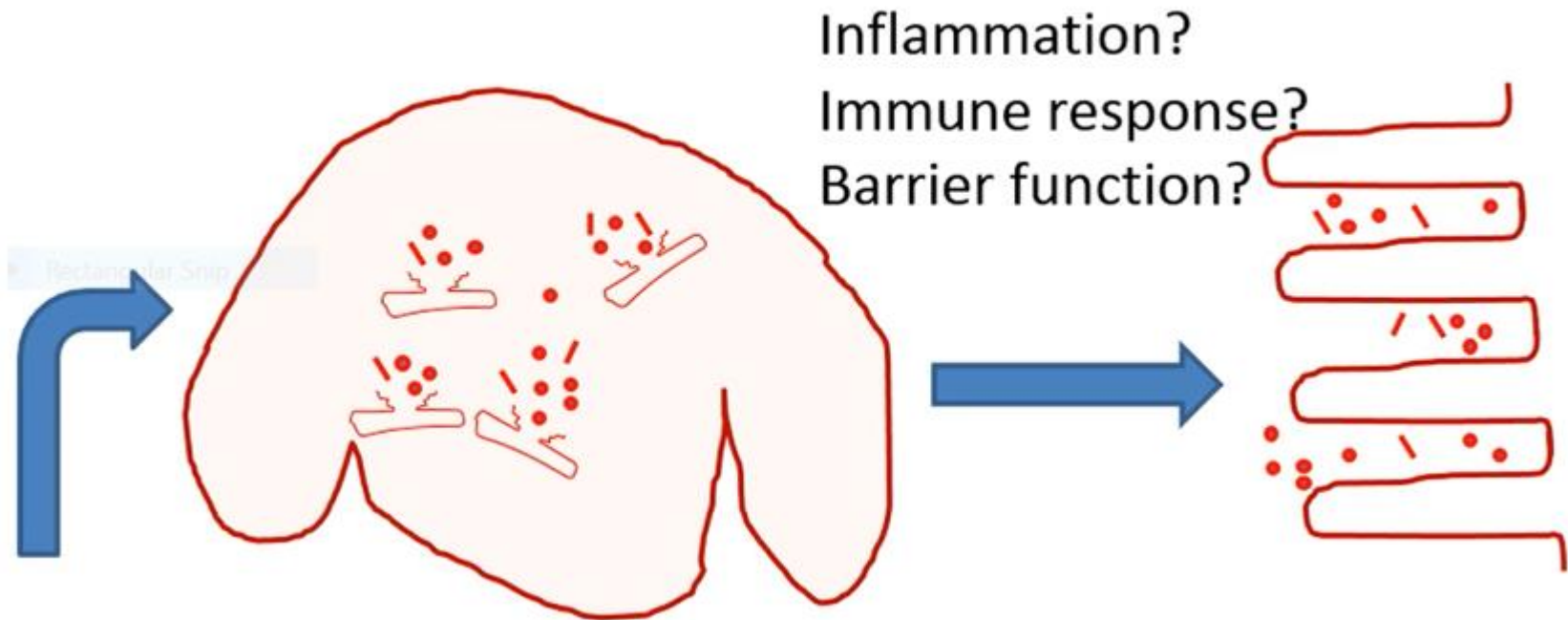


# The rumen wall barrier function gets damage / SARA Trial UK 2012-2015

Rumen damage scours,

Animal and Feed Management and particle size

ON-FARM measurements  
Feed characteristics?  
Microbiology?  
Inflammatory markers?  
Immune response?



C.A. McCartney, R.C. Cernat (2015)

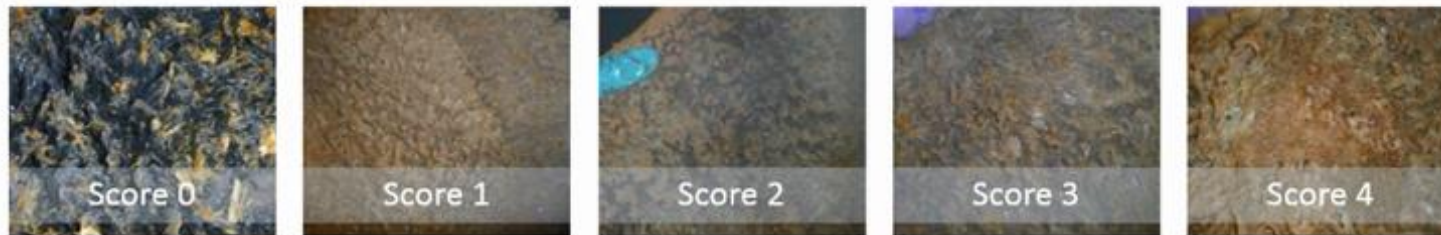
# Post mortem rumen wall evaluation inflammation papilla shape – scouring

## Post-cooking appearance



0 = No blackened areas, 1 = very small blackened areas, 2 = small blackened areas, 3 = moderate blackened areas, 4 = large blackened areas

## Papillae integrity



0 = No damage, 1 = small areas bare, 2 = larger areas bare, 3 = moderate areas of damage, 4 = large areas of damage.

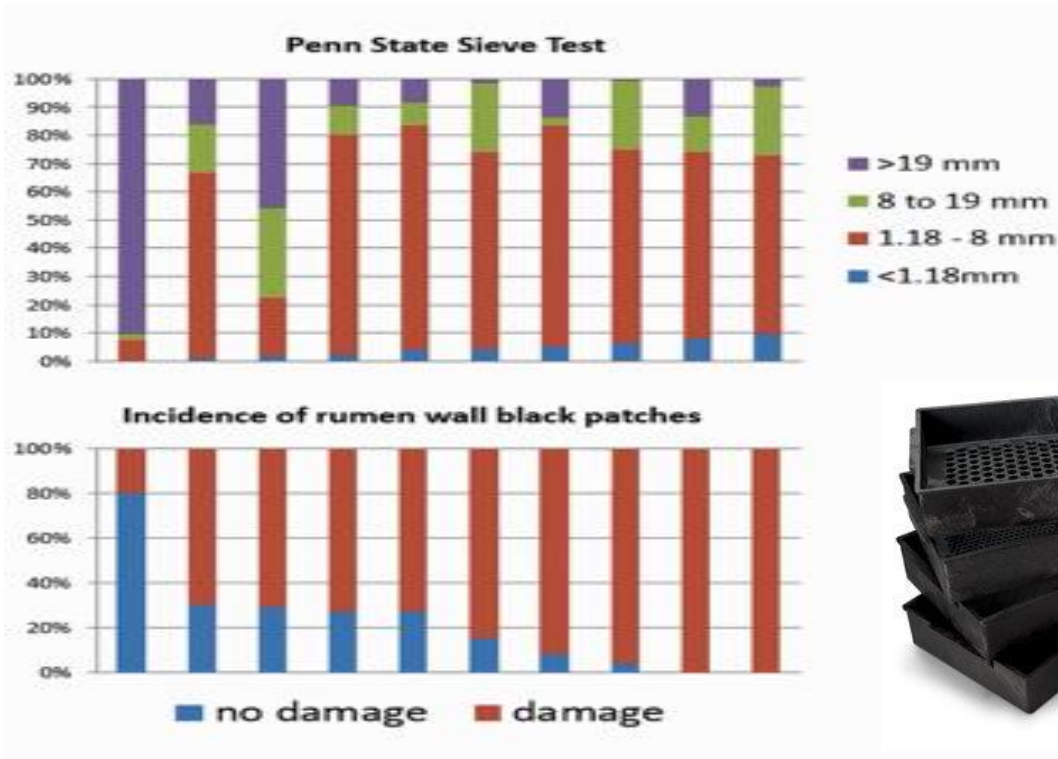
C.A. McCartney, R.C. Cernat, H.H.C. Koh-Tan, H. Ferguson, E.M. Strachan, W. Thomson, T.J. Snelling, C.D. Harvey, I. Andonovic, C. Michie, N.N. Jonsson, G. W. Horgan, R.J. Wallace



# Relation between particle size and incidence of black rumens SARA

7 different farms /diets \_134 animals

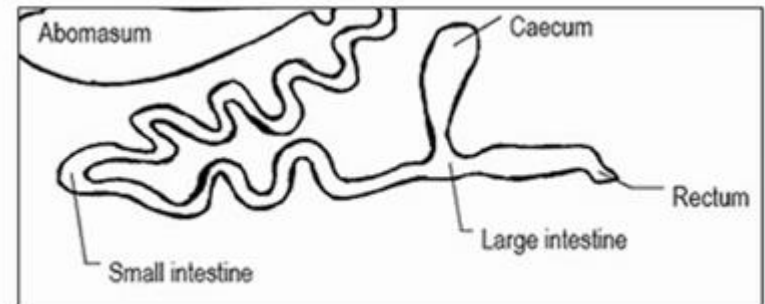
Findings : Particles below <8 mm causing rumen wall damage



# LPS concentration in caecum was 10x higher than in the Rumen

Different farms

	Farm						
LPS ( $10^6$ EU/mL)	BH1	BH6	BH7	BL2	BL6	s.e.d.	Sig.
Rumen	0.068	0.136	0.056	0.116	0.072	0.024	0.003
Caecum	0.624	0.125	0.879	0.537	1.976	0.208	<0.001



The hindgut is less capable than rumen of maintaining digesta pH during times of increased VFA production .

Gressley et al., 2011

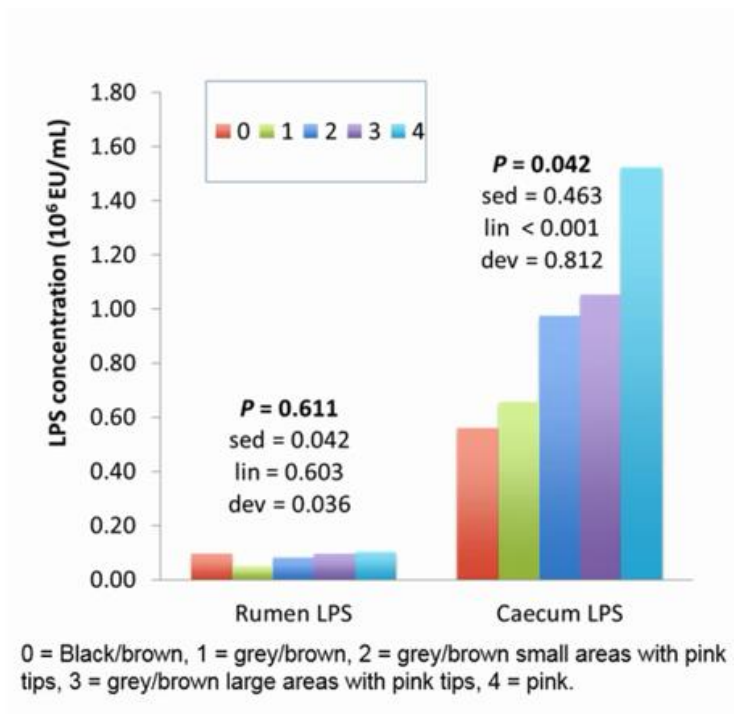
The caecum wall is much thinner than the rumen wall.

Gressley et al. 2011 / J.Anim. Sci. 89 :1120-1130



# Strong relation between hindgut LPS concentration and papillae damage in the rumen

Significant linear relation between LPS caeca and papillae damage in the rumen

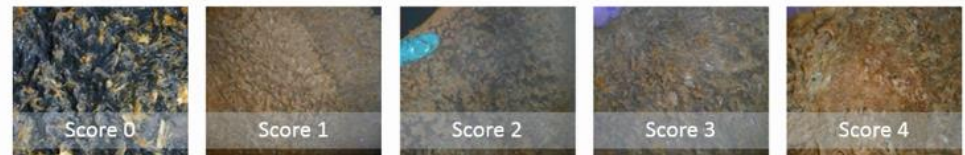


## Post-cooking appearance



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## Papillae integrity



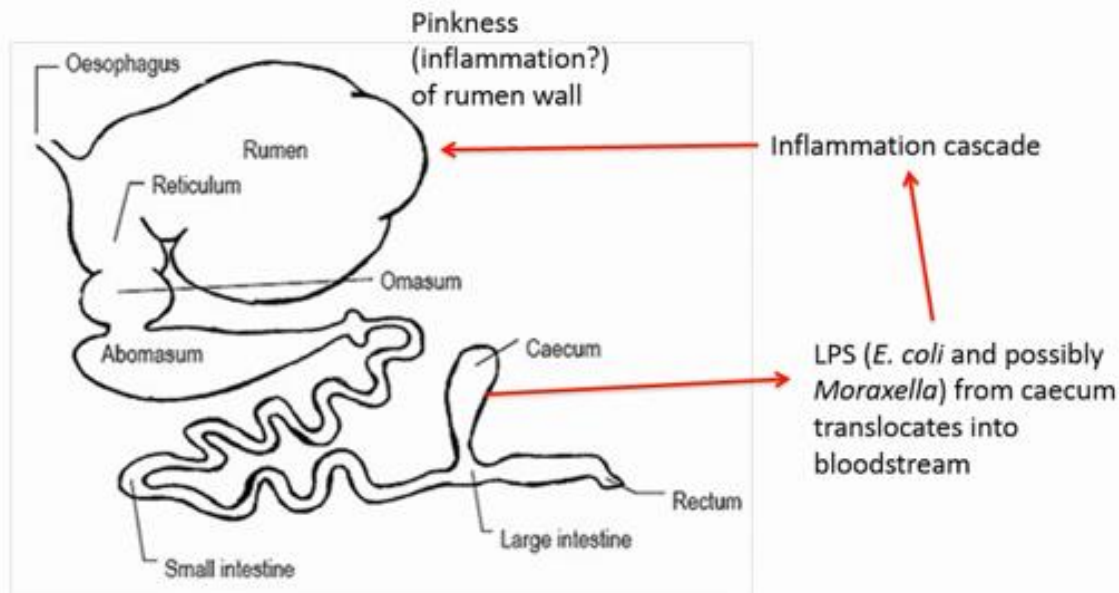
0 = No damage, 1 = small areas bare, 2 = larger areas bare, 3 = moderate areas of damage, 4 = large areas of damage.

# Findings:

With excessive hindgut fermentation, toxins translocate into bloodstream and cause rumen wall inflammation

Translocation of LPS from hindgut can cause rumen inflammation

Moraxella LPS is 7x more lethal than E. coli LPS

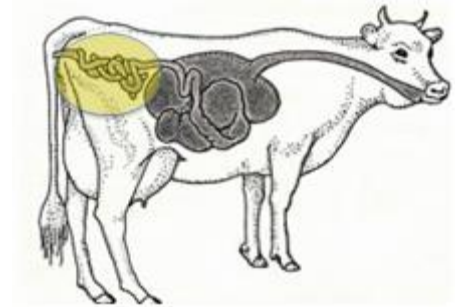


- "The hindgut is less capable (than the rumen) of maintaining digesta pH during times of increased VFA production" (Gressley et al., 2011)
- The caecum wall is much thinner than the rumen wall

Gressley et al.2011

# Conclusion 1

There is a relation between Rumen inflammation and Lower Gut inflammation



Lower gut LPS is much higher than rumen LPS

Lower gut LPS is correlated with visible inflammation of the rumen wall

Lower gut microbiome differs from the rumen

**SARA may originate in both the lower gut and the rumen**

# Critical

## a. undigested grain in faeces

- Intermittent diarrhoea
- Undigested material
- Fibrin casts
- Excessive faecal soiling (tail, udder, rump) / tail swishing



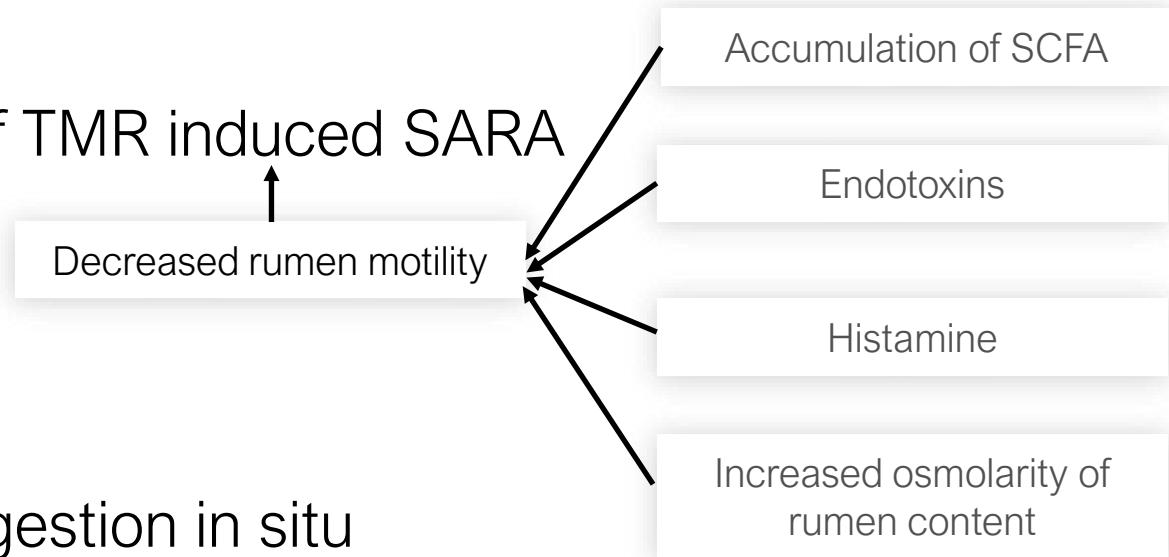
Faecal sieving. (above) Short fibre length and the absence of grains indicate good rumen function. (below) Long fibre length and the presence of undigested grains and fibrin casts (arrow) are common findings in cows suffering from SARA



Grove-White 2004

## b. Increase of left over/ residuals on feeding table in the morning

- 25% decrease of TMR induced SARA



- Impaired fiber digestion in situ

Krajcarski-Hunt et al. 2002

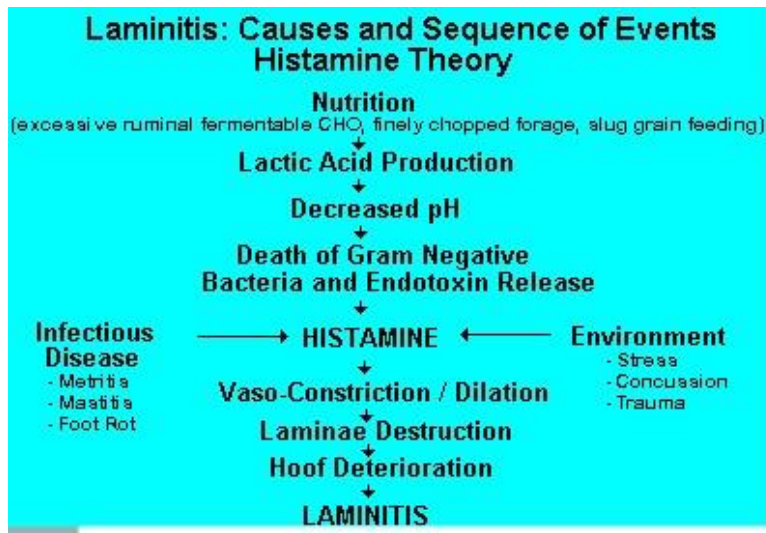


# Redness in the interdigital space

## Cow how can not walk will not eat



- Prevalence of more than 10% (Nordlund et al., 1995)

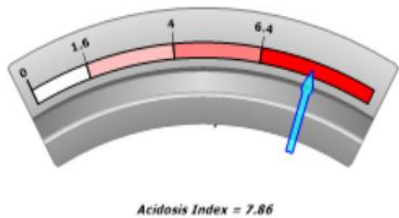


Noceck J.E. – The link between nutrition, acidosis, laminitis and environment



# d. adoption to new /high-grain diet

Animals on HC diet , Transition animals,  
Grazing or fed with fresh grass

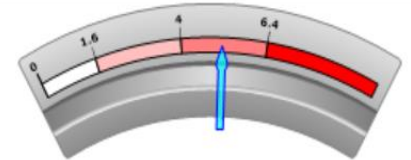


Acidosis Index = 7.86

Effective fiber

NDF > 30%

ef. NDF > 22%



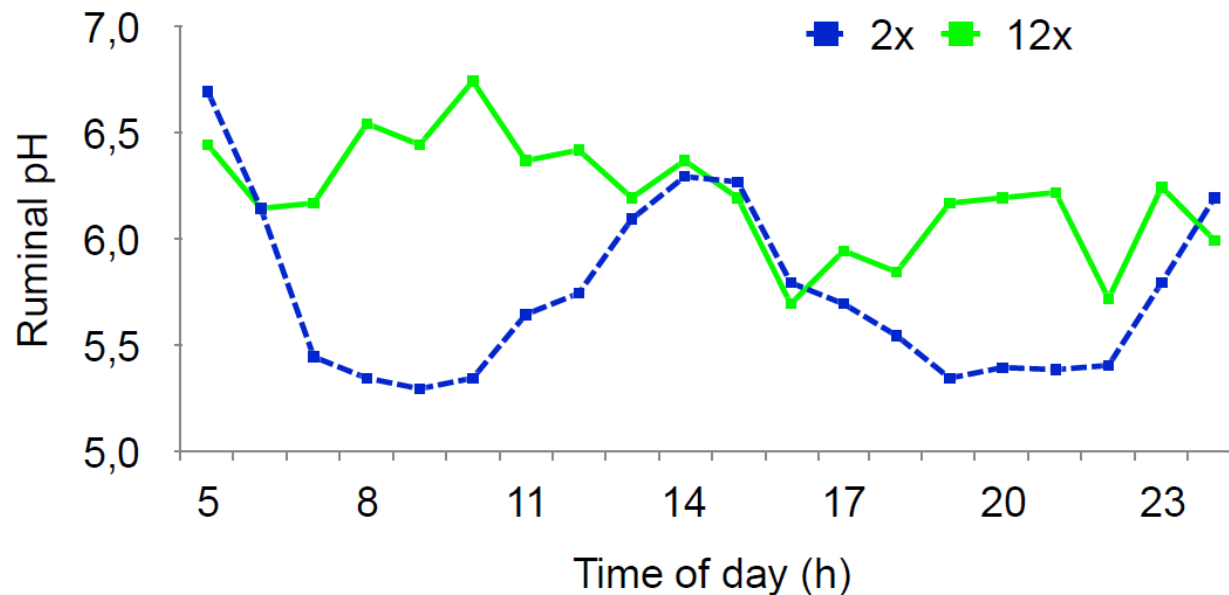
Acidosis Index = 5.15

No risk Low risk Moderate risk High risk

No risk Low risk Moderate risk High risk

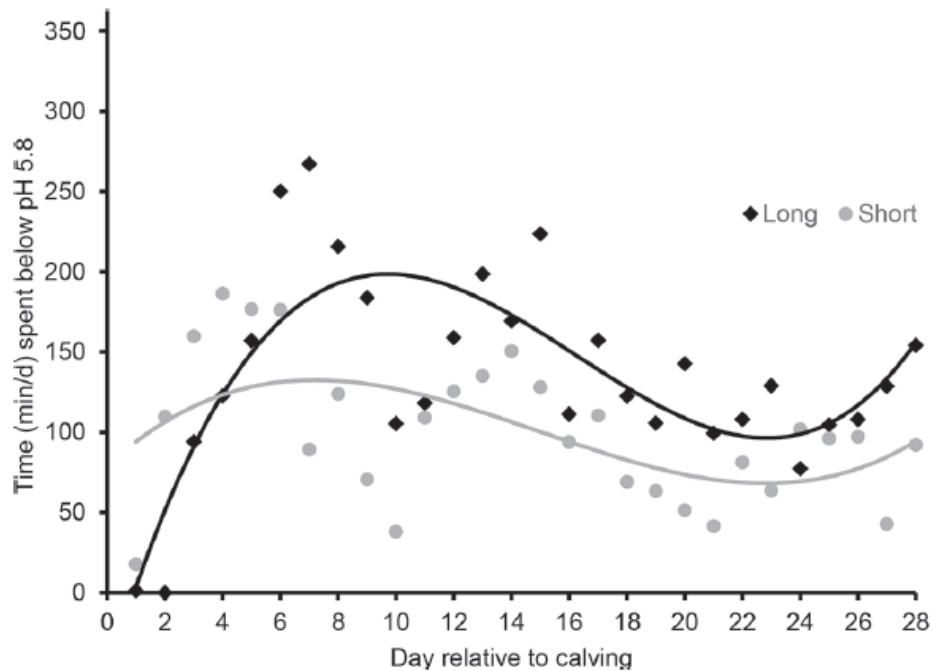


c. Proper diet formulation, proper mixing,  
excellent feed bank management  
Frequent feed delivery/pushing up



French and Kennelly, 1990

## e. Sorting strategy, with short cut straw 2.5 cm The same with grass silage



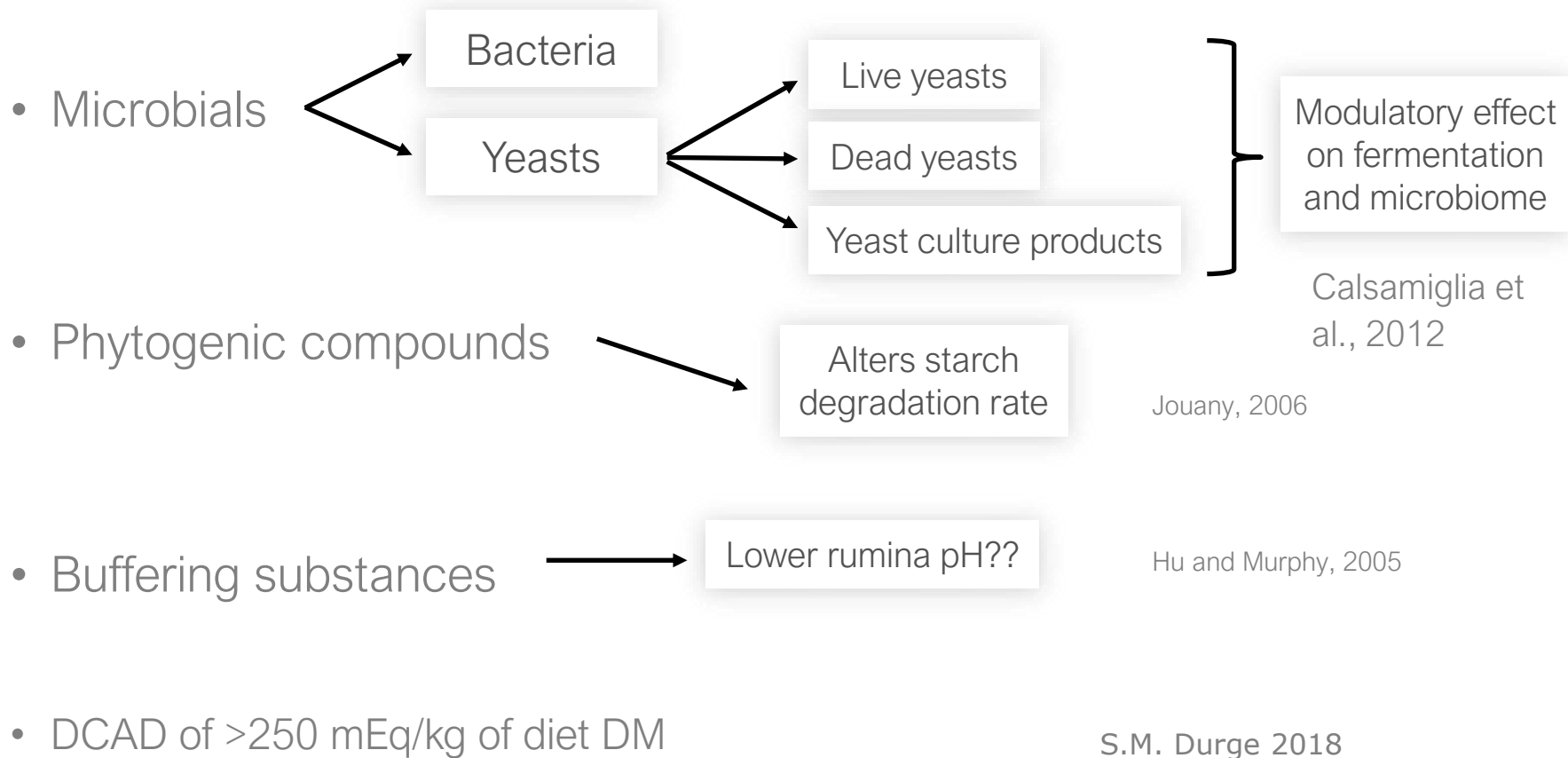
9% of straw in the diet:

- Long = 5 cm
- Short = 2,5 cm

Cows on short treatment tended (P=0.1) to produce 76 kg more milk over the first 28 DIM

Coon et al., 2018

# f. feed additives and buffers



# g. Farm management

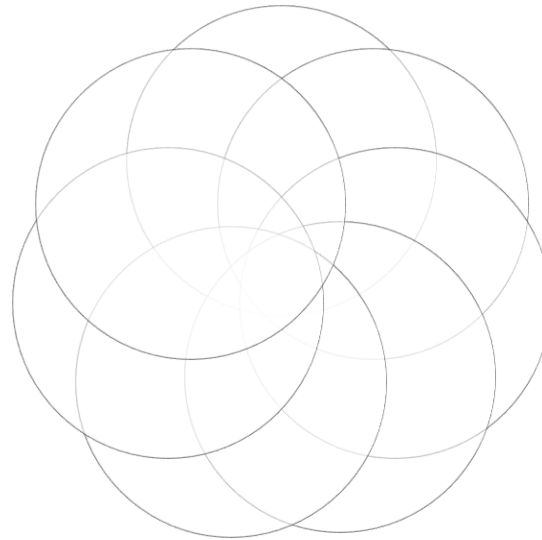


Feed sorting

Lack of coarse fiber & excess concentrates in the diet,

Feed & water access

Empty bunk syndrome  
Feed delivery



Rapid diet changes

Regrouping\_ overcrowding

Heat Stress