

# Pork production in Thuringia – management effects on ammonia and greenhouse gas emissions. 1. Depiction of the state in 2015

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## Summary

The formation of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and greenhouse gases (GHG) related to pork production is scrutinized in a fictitious enterprise that comprises 1,000 fattening places, the affiliated piglet and basic breeding herds as well as the herds of purebred grandparent animals. It also provides the necessary feed production as well as the provision of mineral fertilizers, lime, energy and water. Production conditions in the model reflect the situation in Thüringen (Thuringia), Germany.

The most important NH<sub>3</sub> sources are animal houses and mineral fertilizer application. GHG emissions arise mainly from feed production, in particular from the release of nitrous oxide. Within animal production itself, the majority of emissions are attributed to the fattening stage. They exceed those from piglet production. Emissions from basic breeding herds are almost negligible. However, it is inadequate to restrict estimates only to the fattening stage. Our results show clearly that potential emission reduction measures have to take the entire production chain into account.

**Key words:** *pork production, ammonia, greenhouse gases, area under cultivation, fertilizing, energy, water*

## Zusammenfassung

### Schweinefleischproduktion in Thüringen – Auswirkungen von Managementmaßnahmen auf Ammoniak- und Treibhausgasemissionen. 1. Abbildung des Zustands im Jahr 2015

Die Entstehung von Ammoniak (NH<sub>3</sub>)- und Treibhausgas (THG)-Emissionen bei der Produktion von Schweinefleisch wird am Beispiel eines fiktiven Unternehmens untersucht, das neben der Mast mit 1.000 Mastplätzen gleichzeitig eine zugehörige Ferkelproduktion einschließlich einer Basiszucht (reinerassige Großelternbestände) betreibt und den Futteranbau sicherstellt. Einbezogen sind darüber hinaus die Mineraldünger- und Kalkherstellung sowie die Bereitstellung von Energie und Wasser. Die Produktionsbedingungen entsprechen den Verhältnissen in Thüringen.

Die wesentlichen NH<sub>3</sub>-Quellen sind die Ställe und die Anwendung von Mineraldüngern. Die THG-Emissionen resultieren im Wesentlichen aus der Futtererzeugung, hier insbesondere als Lachgas-Emissionen. Die der Mast zuzuordnenden Emissionen sind deutlich größer als die aus der Ferkelproduktion, die der Basiszucht zuzuordnenden Emissionen erscheinen vernachlässigbar. Die Ergebnisse verdeutlichen, dass mögliche emissionsmindernde Maßnahmen die Betrachtung der gesamten Prozesskette erfordern. Es genügt nicht, nur die letzte Stufe der Produktion, die Mast der Endprodukte, zu bewerten.

**Schlüsselwörter:** *Schweinefleischerzeugung, Ammoniak, Treibhausgase, Anbaufläche, Düngung, Energie, Wasser*

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## 1 Introduction

More than half the meat consumed in Germany is pork. German pork and pork products are much sought-after commodities. For 2016, pork production exceeded domestic demand by 20%. The ratio of pork exports to imports is about 2.5 (VdF, 2017). An ever increasing human world population is likely to result in increased demands for pork. With limited resources, future pork production demands increased efficiency. Furthermore, progress is likely with respect to daily weight gains due to improvement of the genetic potential and its subsequent exploitation. Boar fattening is likely to replace barrow fattening to some extent. This should result in increased numbers of animals produced per place and year (Dämmgen et al., 2013).

At the same time, national and international environmental policies aim at a reduction of air and water pollution. Within the EU, Germany has committed itself to a reduction of ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) emissions of 29% as compared with 2005, after 2030 (EU, 2016). In addition, animal welfare is to be improved (BMEL, 2017a). For pork production this means more floor space per animal as well as installations to improve well-being. This will result in larger soiled areas and hence increased NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from animal houses unless measures are taken to reduce those emissions.

If a reduction of livestock numbers is to be avoided, these ambitious goals can only be achieved by introduction of greatly advanced techniques not only in animal husbandry itself, but also in feed production and the provision of water and energy.

The Thuringian State Institute for Agriculture (TLL) initiated a desk study to identify sources of NH<sub>3</sub> and greenhouse gases (GHG) in Thuringian pork production, covering the entire production chain. This paper aims to describe the

situation in 2015, for which plenty of statistical information is available.

A second paper (Dämmgen et al., 2019) deals with reduction potentials by discussing a systematic analysis, and reflects the changes anticipated for 2020 and 2025.

## 2 Material and methods

### 2.1 General approach

Calculations are made for a fictitious comprehensive enterprise – the “example enterprise” – with 1,000 places for fatteners, consisting of the farm itself, including all the animals needed for pork production (i.e. fattening, piglet production, and production and maintenance of sows and boars for breeding – basic production – named the “example herd” in the following), the land for feed production and processing, fertilizer manufacture, limestone extraction, water supply and fossil fuels used to provide heating and operate farm machinery.

In order to create a consistent data set, conditions prevailing in the German Federal State of Thuringia were used (animal weights, weight gains, number of pregnancies, animal losses, crop yields, fertilizer mix, etc.). However, as statistics were still incomplete with respect to our data requirements, a board of experts was asked for advice.<sup>1</sup>

The general procedure to identify and treat the relevant mass flows within an example herd was described in Dämmgen et al. (2016b).

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Thuringian Ministry for Infrastructure and Agriculture: Michael Mußlick.  
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**Table 1**

Animal subcategories used in fattening, piglet production and basic breeding – names, lifespans and feeding phases – on overview

| Category       | Subcategory                            | Duration of lifespan in subcategory | Feeding           |
|----------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Weaners        | weaners                                | 6 weeks                             | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
| Fattening pigs | not differentiated                     | 4 months                            | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
|                | fattening gilts                        | 4 months                            | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
|                | fattening barrows                      | 4 months                            | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
|                | fattening boars                        | 4 months                            | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
| Breeding sows  | young sows                             | 6 months                            | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
|                | breeding sows (F1 sows)                |                                     |                   |
|                | 1st litter                             | 21 weeks                            | 4 phases, 2 feeds |
|                | 2nd litter                             | 21 weeks                            | 4 phases, 2 feeds |
|                | 3rd litter                             | 21 weeks                            | 4 phases, 2 feeds |
|                | etc.                                   |                                     |                   |
| Breeding boars | young boars                            | 5.5 months                          | 3 phases, 3 feeds |
|                | boars for artificial insemination (AI) | 18 months                           | 1 phase, 1 feed   |
|                | teaser boars                           | 12 months                           | 1 phase, 1 feed   |

### 2.1.1 Animal subcategories and numbers

Table 1 lists the animal subcategories considered, the respective production times and feeding details. The latter reflect common practice.

Fattening pigs are housed conventionally in pens with fully slatted, partially slatted or solid floors with bedding (see Chapter 2.3.2). Male piglets are castrated. Gilts and barrows are transferred to pens and fattened (all in all out mode; overall losses 4%).

The herd of fatteners is maintained by weaners produced to replace 1,000 fatteners per round. These are fed and housed conventionally (flat decks; overall losses 2%).

Calculations differentiate between animals used (slaughtered and incorporated into the fattening herd, respectively) and those which perish during production (in our calculations, these are fed to a weight of 19 kg piglet<sup>-1</sup> or 75 kg fatter<sup>-1</sup>; see below).

The number of sows needed to produce the required number of piglets is calculated assuming a maximum productive lifespan of eight litters. The sperm portions needed are then used to derive the number of boars for artificial insemination (AI boars) (2.4 portions per successful insemination). An appropriate number of teaser boars is deduced (3 teaser boars per 1 AI boar).

Animal numbers for basic breeding (boars and sows) consider the usual selection procedures for both genders (10% of boars raised are used for artificial insemination; 75% of sows raised are used in piglet production).

Pure breeding comprises the production of single breed sows and boars to produce the F1 hybrids for piglet production.

For calculation details see Dämmgen et al. (2018).

### 2.1.2 Feeding, housing and manure management

Animals are fed typical diets as provided by the compound feed industry (see Tables 7 to 11 and A1 to A4 in the appendix). These reflect the requirements of metabolizable energy (ME), protein and other nutrients as a function of the state of development and performance.

### 2.1.3 Feed production, mineral fertilizer and lime application, diesel consumption of tractors

Feed is grown according to animal requirements, using standard amounts of N, P and K fertilizers, lime and pesticides. Details of these inputs are given in section 2.3.4. The amounts of diesel fuel are used as listed for ploughing, tilling and spreading and presuppose level fields, mean tillage resistance and a distance of 2 km between farm buildings and field.

Limestone to neutralize soil acidity, for calcium ammonium nitrate and as feed limestone powders is conventionally quarried and processed. N fertilizer production is based on a modified Haber Bosch process.

All slurry or farmyard manure is applied to arable crops, as pork production does not include grassland management.

## 2.2 Models

For fattening pigs, weaners and sows, models describing energy requirements, feed intake and excretion rates reflect the state of the art applied to establishing the national agricultural emission inventory (Haenel et al., 2011; Rösemann et al., 2017). Modelling of all other pig subcategories follows Dämmgen et al. (2017).

Direct and indirect emissions related to crop production, mineral fertilizer and lime production as well as the provision of water (mains) and energy (natural gas, diesel fuel, electricity) follow the international rules provided in EMEP (2016) and IPCC (2006, Volumes 2, 3 and 4), using national input data wherever possible. A detailed description is provided in Dämmgen et al. (2016a).

## 2.3 Data

### 2.3.1 Data characterizing the animal herd

Tables 2 to 6 summarize the animal performance characteristics, feed intake and loss rates. All data reflect the situation in Thuringia in 2015. For fattening (Table 2), weight gains are the dominating properties, for piglet production (Table 3) the number of piglets fed affects the energy requirements. The numbers of piglets born, fed and weaned are functions of the age of the sow (number of lactation).

A side effect of the production of breeding sows is the production of male F1 animals. While the sows are fed carefully aiming at optimum body condition, boars are castrated and fattened to produce pork (as in Table 2).

In addition to boars for sperm production (artificial insemination: AI boars), mature teaser boars are used to arouse sows and improve the insemination rate. The properties of mature boars and the other subcategories involved in the production process are listed in Table 5.

### 2.3.2 Data characterizing manure management

A variety of housing systems has to be accounted for. We differentiate between

- fully slatted floor (fsf)
- partially slatted floor (psf)
- farmyard manure systems (FYM): solid floor with bedding
- flat decks, treated as fully slatted floors
- mix: the typical mix of systems (65% fsf, 30% psf, 5% FYM) reported for Thuringian pork production (TLSt, 2011)

62% of slurry is stored in conventional tanks without cover, 38% undergoes anaerobic digestion producing methane in gas tight systems, which is used to generate electricity (frequency derived from Thuringian expert data).

Farmyard manure is stored in heaps.

18% of animal places for fattening and piglet production are equipped with air scrubbers (frequency Thuringian expert information; 80% separation efficiency for NH<sub>3</sub>, see Dämmgen et al., 2010).

The comprehensive enterprise uses all liquid and solid manure as well as the biogas slurry as organic fertilizer. As no

Table 2

Entities characterizing the fattening stage in the example herd (fattening pigs and weaners)

|   | Animal category                           | Fattening pigs |          | Fattening pigs |             | Weaners  |          |          |
|---|---|----------------|----------|----------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
|   |   | Feed           | standard |                | N P reduced |          | standard |          |
|   |   |                | finished | perished       | finished    | perished | finished | perished |
| Start weight  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 30             | 30       | 30             | 30          | 8        | 8        |          |
| Final weight  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 122            | 76       | 122            | 76          | 30       | 19       |          |
| Daily weight gain   | g animal <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup>    | 845            | 845      | 845            | 845         | 428      | 428      |          |
| ME requirements   | MJ animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 3,340          | 1,428    | 3,340          | 1,428       | 548      | 236      |          |
| Feed intake FM  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 257            | 110      | 257            | 108         | 40       | 20       |          |
| Feed intake DM  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 225            | 96       | 225            | 94          | 33       | 16       |          |
| Excretions  |   |                |          |                |             |          |          |          |
| CH <sub>4</sub> enteric *   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 0.32           | 0.14     | 0.31           | 0.13        | 0.06     | 0,03     |          |
| VS **   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 33.8           | 14.4     | 34.5           | 12.6        | 4.6      | 2,9      |          |
| N ***   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 5.45           | 2.17     | 4.91           | 2.23        | 0.54     | 0,23     |          |
| TAN ****  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 4.29           | 1.68     | 3.79           | 1.81        | 0.34     | 0,15     |          |
| Animals fed   | animal herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 2,340.9        | 97.5     | 415.3          | 15.1        | 2,868.8  | 57.4     |          |
| Manure management   |   | mix *****      | mix      | mix            | mix         | slurry   | slurry   |          |
| * methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ) from enteric fermentation                  |   |                |          |                |             |          |          |          |
| ** volatile solids (VS) components of the organic matter excreted       |   |                |          |                |             |          |          |          |
| *** total nitrogen (N) excreted in urine and faeces                     |   |                |          |                |             |          |          |          |
| **** total ammonical nitrogen (TAN) excreted in urine                   |   |                |          |                |             |          |          |          |
| ***** for details of mix of manure management systems see Chapter 2.3.2 |   |                |          |                |             |          |          |          |

Table 3

Entities characterizing piglet production stage in the example herd

| Sows in lactation no   |  | 1      | 2      | 3      | 4      | 5      | 6      | 7      | 8      |
|--|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Animal weights   |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| day 1 pp   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                    | *      | 188.8  | 215.3  | 238.0  | 254.1  | 266.4  | 274.1  | 277.1  |
| day 14 pp  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                    |        | 190.8  | 216.6  | 238.6  | 254.2  | 266.0  | 273.3  | 275.8  |
| day 49 pp  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                    | 157.7  | 191.2  | 216.8  | 238.7  | 254.2  | 266.0  | 273.1  | 275.6  |
| day 117 pp   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                    | 176.8  | 202.9  | 224.7  | 242.1  | 255.1  | 263.8  | 268.1  | 268.1  |
| day 127 pp   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                    | 227.2  | 253.9  | 275.6  | 292.1  | 303.7  | 310.1  | 311.5  | 307.9  |
| day 128 pp   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                    | 234.6  | 261.4  | 283.0  | 299.5  | 310.8  | 316.9  | 317.9  | 313.7  |
| Piglets born   | piglet litter <sup>-1</sup>                | 13.8   | 14.5   | 14.7   | 14.6   | 14.3   | 13.9   | 13.5   | 12.9   |
| Piglets fed  | piglet litter <sup>-1</sup>                | 12.2   | 13.0   | 13.3   | 13.2   | 12.9   | 12.4   | 12.0   | 11.5   |
| ME requirements  | MJ place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup> ** | 6,464  | 7,239  | 7,533  | 7,665  | 7,709  | 7,660  | 7,551  | 7,436  |
| Feed intake FM   | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>    | 522    | 583    | 606    | 617    | 621    | 617    | 608    | 599    |
| Feed intake DM   | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>    | 460    | 514    | 535    | 544    | 541    | 544    | 536    | 528    |
| Excretions   |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| CH <sub>4</sub> enteric  | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>    | 1.19   | 1.36   | 1.40   | 1.42   | 1.43   | 1.42   | 1.41   | 1.39   |
| VS   | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>    | 92.0   | 102.2  | 106.4  | 108.3  | 109.0  | 108.4  | 106.9  | 105.1  |
| N  | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>    | 7.21   | 8.49   | 9.05   | 9.44   | 9.68   | 9.81   | 9.86   | 9.84   |
| TAN  | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>    | 4.97   | 6.00   | 6.46   | 6.80   | 7.02   | 7.17   | 7.25   | 7.28   |
| Sows fed   | animal herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>  | 23.1   | 20.2   | 17.4   | 14.5   | 11.6   | 8.7    | 5.8    | 2.9    |
| Animal losses  | % of sows                                  | 0 ***  | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      |
|  | % of piglets born                          | 16     | 13     | 12     | 12     | 13     | 14     | 15     | 15     |
| Manure management  | slurry                                     | slurry | slurry | slurry | slurry | slurry | slurry | slurry | slurry |
| * For their first pregnancy, sows are inseminated at a date which corresponds to day 49 pp in subsequent lactations. |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| ** FI: farrowing interval  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| *** Losses are covered by the reduction of sow numbers from lactation to lactation.                                  |  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |

**Table 4**

Entities characterizing all other F1 animals in the example herd

|  |   | Young sows F1 |               | Young boars/barrows F1 | Weaners F1 |
|--|---|---------------|---------------|------------------------|------------|
|  |   | for breeding  | for fattening |                        |            |
| Start weight                                 | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 30            | 30            | 30                     | 8          |
| Final weight                                 | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 148           | 110           | 120                    | 30         |
| Daily weight gain                            | g animal <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup>    | 720           | 720           | 840                    | 428        |
| ME requirements                              | MJ animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 5,607         | 3,022         | 3,377                  | 548        |
| Feed intake FM                               | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 431           | 232           | 260                    | 40         |
| Feed intake DM                               | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 378           | 203           | 227                    | 33         |
| Excretions                                   |   |               |               |                        |            |
| CH <sub>4</sub> enteric                      | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 0.60          | 0.32          | 0.32                   | 0.06       |
| VS   | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 72.5          | 37.7          | 34.1                   | 4.6        |
| N  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 8.21          | 4.35          | 5.40                   | 0.54       |
| TAN  | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 5.91          | 3.14          | 4.23                   | 0.34       |
| Animals fed                                  | animal herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 55.0          | 13.8          | 68.8                   | 139.7      |
| Animal losses                                | %   | 3             | 3             | 1.5                    | 1          |
| Manure management                            |   | FYM **        | FYM           | mix *                  | FYM        |
| * Same mix as for fattening pigs (see below) |   |               |               |                        |            |
| ** FYM: farmyard manure                      |   |               |               |                        |            |

**Table 5**

Entities characterizing boars for artificial insemination (AI boars) and other animals produced and needed in this context

|                         |   | AI boars | Teaser boars | Young boars | Fattening sows | Weaners |
|-------------------------|---|----------|--------------|-------------|----------------|---------|
| Start weight            | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 150      | 150          | 30          | 30             | 8       |
| Final weight            | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 308      | 282          | 150         | 120            | 30      |
| Daily weight gain       | g animal <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup>    | 328      | 362          | 700         | 840            | 428     |
| ME requirements         | MJ animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 17,293   | 13,063       | 4,948       | 3,317          | 548     |
| Feed intake FM          | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 1,441    | 1,089        | 391         | 255            | 40      |
| Feed intake DM          | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 1,254    | 947          | 341         | 223            | 33      |
| Excretions              |   |          |              |             |                |         |
| CH <sub>4</sub> enteric | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.86     | 1.40         | 0.54        | 0.35           | 0.06    |
| VS                      | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 210      | 158          | 63          | 28             | 4.60    |
| N                       | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 32.8     | 24.5         | 5.8         | 4.3            | 0.54    |
| TAN                     | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 25.0     | 18.6         | 4.2         | 3.1            | 0.34    |
| Animals fed             | animal herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 0,17     | 0,52         | 1,80        | 1,80           | 3,50    |
| Animal losses           | %   | 2        | 2            | 2           | 2              | 2       |
| Manure management       |   | FYM      | FYM          | FYM         | mix            | FYM     |

grass is fed, the entire amount is used in crop production. Thuringian statistics suggest the following split for 2015 (in % of N handled):

- *slurry*
- broadcast on bare soil, incorporation within 1 h 2.5%
- broadcast on bare soil, incorporation within 4 h 1.9%
- broadcast on short vegetation 2.6%
- trailing hose, incorporation within 1 h 8.7%
- trailing hose, incorporation within 4 h 6.1%
- trailing hose, trailing shoe, short vegetation 25.2%
- injection (immediate incorporation) 52.5%

*farmyard manure*

- broadcast on bare soil, incorporation within 24 h 100%

### 2.3.3 Feed properties

Animal feed compositions follow those of commercially available products, containing barley (winter), wheat, wheat bran, maize, rape seed extraction meal, soya bean extraction meal (44 and 49% protein), soya oil, soya protein concentrate, sugar beet pulp, whey powder, Ca phosphate, salt, lime powder and amino acids (methionine, lysine HCl, threonine, tryptophan).

**Table 6a**

Entities characterizing pure breeding, animals except sows

|                         |   | Weaners | Young sows | Young boars<br>reproduction | Fattening sows | Fattening barrows |
|-------------------------|---|---------|------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Start weight            | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 8       | 30         | 30                          | 30             | 30                |
| Final weight            | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 30      | 158        | 150                         | 120            | 120               |
| Daily weight gain       | g animal <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup>    | 428     | 720        | 700                         | 840            | 840               |
| ME requirements         | MJ animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 548     | 5,607      | 4,948                       | 3,317          | 3,317             |
| Feed intake FM          | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 40      | 431        | 391                         | 255            | 255               |
| Feed intake DM          | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 33      | 378        | 341                         | 223            | 223               |
| Excretions              |   |         |            |                             |                |                   |
| CH <sub>4</sub> enteric | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 0.06    | 0.60       | 0.54                        | 0.35           | 0.35              |
| VS                      | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 4.6     | 72.5       | 63                          | 28             | 28                |
| N                       | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 0.54    | 8.20       | 5.80                        | 4.32           | 4.32              |
| TAN                     | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup>   | 0.34    | 5.90       | 4.20                        | 3.11           | 3.11              |
| Animals fed             | animal herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 97,4    | 44,3       | 4,4                         | 4,4            | 44,3              |
| Animal losses           | %   | *       | 2          | 2                           | 2              | 2                 |
| Manure management       |   | FYM     | FYM        | FYM                         | mix            | mix               |

\* Not taken into account

**Table 6b**

Entities characterizing pure breeding of sows in the example herd

|                         |   | Sows in lactation number |       |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------|
|                         |   | 1                        | 2     |
| Start weight            | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 158                      | 189   |
| Final weight            | kg animal <sup>-1</sup>                   | 189                      | 215   |
| Daily weight gain       | g animal <sup>-1</sup> d <sup>-1</sup>    | not relevant             |       |
| Piglets born            | piglet sow <sup>-1</sup>                  | 13.90                    | 14.70 |
| ME requirements         | MJ animal <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>  | 6,464                    | 7,239 |
| Feed intake FM          | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>  | 522                      | 583   |
| Feed intake DM          | kg animal <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>  | 460                      | 518   |
| Excretions              |   |                          |       |
| CH <sub>4</sub> enteric | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>   | 1.19                     | 1.36  |
| VS                      | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>   | 92                       | 102   |
| N                       | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>   | 7.21                     | 8.49  |
| TAN                     | kg place <sup>-1</sup> FI <sup>-1</sup>   | 4.97                     | 6.00  |
| Animals fed             | animal herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 7.2                      | 7.2   |
| Animal losses           | %   | *                        |       |
| Manure management       |   | FYM                      | FYM   |

\* Not taken into account

Feed properties are listed in Tables 7 to 11. For details of feed composition see Appendix.

### 2.3.4 Data characterizing crop production

The amounts of each single crop are calculated from the ME intake figures. From these the cropped areas are derived with

**Table 7**

Weaners' standard feed properties

| Animal subcategory                      |                     | Weaner<br>live weight kg animal <sup>-1</sup> |       |       |
|---|---------------------|---|-------|-------|
|   |                     | 8-12  | 12-20 | 20-30 |
| Dry matter (DM) content                 | %                   | 88.61   | 87.95 | 87.97 |
| ME content                              | MJ kg <sup>-1</sup> | 14.00   | 13.60 | 13.40 |
| Crude protein (CP)                      | %                   | 17.00   | 17.00 | 17.00 |
| Crude fibre (CF)                        | %                   | 2.86  | 3.50  | 4.00  |
| Ether extract (EE)                      | %                   | 5.22  | 5.12  | 5.24  |
| Crude ash (CA)                          | %                   | 5.33  | 5.61  | 5.68  |
| Bacterially fermentable substrate (BFS) | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.064   | 0.075 | 0.079 |
| Digestibility of N                      | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.758   | 0.752 | 0.747 |
| Digestibility of organic matter (OM)    | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.852   | 0.838 | 0.828 |

**Table 8a**

Fatteners' standard feed properties

| Animal subcategory                      |                     | Fattener<br>live weight kg animal <sup>-1</sup> |       |       |
|---|---------------------|---|-------|-------|
|   |                     | 30-60   | 60-90 | > 90  |
| 4,674                                   | %                   | 87.52   | 87.30 | 87.36 |
| ME content                              | MJ kg <sup>-1</sup> | 13.20   | 13.00 | 12.80 |
| Crude protein (CP)                      | %                   | 17.50   | 16.50 | 15.50 |
| Crude fibre (CF)                        | %                   | 3.79  | 3.73  | 4.27  |
| Ether extract (EE)                      | %                   | 3.05  | 1.83  | 1.79  |
| Crude ash (CA)                          | %                   | 5.10  | 4.76  | 4.41  |
| Bacterially fermentable substrate (BFS) | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.071   | 0.069 | 0.072 |
| Digestibility of N                      | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.866   | 0.861 | 0.829 |
| Digestibility of organic matter (OM)    | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.851   | 0.850 | 0.830 |

**Table 8b**

Fatteners' N P reduced feed properties

| Animal subcategory                      |                     | Fattener<br>live weight kg animal <sup>-1</sup> |       |       |
|---|---------------------|---|-------|-------|
|   |                     | 30-60   | 60-90 | > 90  |
|   |                     | Dry matter (DM) content                         | %     | 87.52 |
| ME content                              | MJ kg <sup>-1</sup> | 13.20   | 13.00 | 12.80 |
| Crude protein (CP)                      | %                   | 17.00   | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| Crude fibre (CF)                        | %                   | 3.73  | 3.60  | 4.19  |
| Ether extract (EE)                      | %                   | 2.98  | 1.76  | 1.83  |
| Crude ash (CA)                          | %                   | 5.05  | 4.61  | 4.27  |
| Bacterially fermentable substrate (BFS) | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.069   | 0.065 | 0.069 |
| Digestibility of N                      | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.865   | 0.852 | 0.817 |
| Digestibility of organic matter (OM)    | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.850   | 0.846 | 0.825 |

**Table 9**

Breeding sows' and boars' standard feed properties

| Animal subcategory                      |                     | Breeding sow |       |           | Breeding boar |
|---|---------------------|--------------|-------|-----------|---------------|
|   |                     | lactating    |       | gestating |               |
|   |                     |              |       |           |               |
| Dry matter (DM) content                 | %                   | 87.98        | 88.32 | 86.99     |               |
| ME content                              | MJ kg <sup>-1</sup> | 13.00        | 12.00 | 12.00     |               |
| Crude protein (CP)                      | %                   | 16.00        | 13.50 | 18.50     |               |
| Crude fibre (CF)                        | %                   | 4.74         | 7.00  | 5.96      |               |
| Ether extract (EE)                      | %                   | 5.16         | 4.66  | 1.91      |               |
| Crude ash (CA)                          | %                   | 5.62         | 4.96  | 5.70      |               |
| Bacterially fermentable substrate (BFS) | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.083        | 0.138 | 0.091     |               |
| Digestibility of N                      | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.826        | 0.762 | 0.824     |               |
| Digestibility of organic matter (OM)    | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.803        | 0.781 | 0.790     |               |

**Table 10**

Young sows' (F1) standard feed properties

| Animal subcategory                      |                     | Young sow (F1)          |        |       |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------|
|   |                     | 30-60                   | 60-100 | > 100 |
|   |                     | Dry matter (DM) content | %      | 87.30 |
| ME content                              | MJ kg <sup>-1</sup> | 13.00                   | 13.00  | 13.00 |
| Crude protein (CP)                      | %                   | 16.50                   | 14.50  | 14.00 |
| Crude fibre (CF)                        | %                   | 4.50                    | 5.00   | 5.50  |
| Ether extract (EE)                      | %                   | 4.25                    | 5.59   | 6.85  |
| Crude ash (CA)                          | %                   | 5.32                    | 4.94   | 4.96  |
| Bacterially fermentable substrate (BFS) | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.076                   | 0.079  | 0.080 |
| Digestibility of N                      | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.835                   | 0.802  | 0.785 |
| Digestibility of organic matter (OM)    | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.821                   | 0.799  | 0.790 |

the fertilizer needed. The crops used in this paper and selected characteristics are compiled in Table 12.

N fertilizer application follows the recommendations by BMEL (2017b), adjusted for yields reported for Thuringia. The entire manure produced is taken into account, using a mineral

**Table 11**

Young boars' standard feed properties

| Animal subcategory                      |                     | Young boar              |       |       |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
|   |                     | 30-60                   | 60-90 | > 90  |
|   |                     | Dry matter (DM) content | %     | 87.34 |
| ME content                              | MJ kg <sup>-1</sup> | 13.00                   | 12.60 | 12.60 |
| Crude protein (CP)                      | %                   | 17.00                   | 16.50 | 15.50 |
| Crude fibre (CF)                        | %                   | 4.50                    | 5.00  | 5.00  |
| Ether extract (EE)                      | %                   | 4.09                    | 3.00  | 3.21  |
| Crude ash (CA)                          | %                   | 5.34                    | 5.17  | 5.11  |
| Bacterially fermentable substrate (BFS) | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.076                   | 0.081 | 0.080 |
| Digestibility of N                      | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.840                   | 0.823 | 0.814 |
| Digestibility of organic matter (OM)    | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> | 0.822                   | 0.803 | 0.799 |

fertilizer equivalent of 0.70 kg kg<sup>-1</sup> N (BMEL, 2017b). 55% of N fertilizer is applied as calcium ammonium nitrate (CAN), 25% as urea and 20% as urea ammonium nitrate (UAN).

The amounts of PK fertilizers (18% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 10% K<sub>2</sub>O) are also taken from KTBL (2014), i.e. 0.40 Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> for all cereals, 0.36 Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> for rape and 0.60 Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> for sugar beet.

Lime is applied to the entire land at a rate of 1 Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> as standard dose. Additional lime is applied with CAN. Acidifying properties of urea have to be compensated for with extra lime.

As a rule, emissions from crop production are calculated for each single gas. Table 12 gives a combined GHG emission for soya, as details are not available at present.

### 2.3.5 Allocation of emissions from by-products

Several feed constituents are by-products of commodities sold otherwise. The emissions are then allocated according to the share of GE content of the respective product, and expressed as a fraction of the area used to grow the crop, with consequences on fertilizer use and then on emissions (calculations based on Beyer et al., 2004, Kool et al., 2012, and BioGrace, 2012). For details see Table 13.

### 2.3.6 Water and electricity

Water is required as drinking water, process water and water in plant production. Electricity has to be provided to pump this amount. In mills, no water is taken into account. Processing sugar beet is a source of water.

#### Energy requirements in the animal house

On the farm, electricity is needed for heating, lighting, cleansing and a variety of motors (e.g. for feed transport and removal of slurry or manure). KTBL (2014) recommends electricity consumption data as in Table 14 for planning purposes.

#### Drinking water

For all subcategories except breeding sows and boars, the amounts of drinking water are related to feed intake (fresh matter, FM). A factor of 3 l (kg FM)<sup>-1</sup> water is used. For breeding boars this ratio is of 3.5 l (kg FM)<sup>-1</sup> water (KTBL, 2014).

Table 12

Yields, N fertilizer, lime and water required in plant production

|                        | Yields<br>(Thuringia) *    | N requirements<br>according to BMEL<br>(2017b)<br>(yield in brackets) | Lime ****           | Diesel fuel ****   | Water ****         | GHG emissions                           |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|
|                        | Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> FM *** | kg ha <sup>-1</sup> N (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> )                          | Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> | l ha <sup>-1</sup> | l ha <sup>-1</sup> | kg kg <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq |
| Wheat (winter wheat)   | 7.23                       | 230 (8.0)   | 1.0                 | 83.62              | 1,200              |   |
| Barley (winter barley) | 7.00                       | 180 (7.0)   | 1.0                 | 83.62              | 1,200              |   |
| Maize                  | 9.42                       | 200 (9.0)   | 1.0                 | 83.53              | 600                |   |
| Rape                   | 3.87                       | 200 (4.0)   | 1.0                 | 84.61              | 900                |   |
| Soya **                | 3.17                       | 0 (2.8)   |                     | 58.77              | 300                | 0.3653                                  |
| Sugar beet             | 66.24                      | 170 (65)  | 1.0                 | 92.50              | 900                |   |

\* Crop yields except soy taken from StatBA (2016) for the Federal State of Thuringia  
\*\* Soya yields taken from Sojaförderrung (2013), fuel and GHG emissions for soya from BioGrace (2012). Data set incomplete, no single gas emissions available, however overall GHG emissions.  
\*\*\* Mg (Megagramme). 1 Mg = 10<sup>3</sup> kg  
\*\*\*\* The amounts of lime, diesel fuel and water are taken or derived from KTBL (2014). Energy content of diesel fuel is 35.73 MJ l<sup>-1</sup>.

Table 13

Areas describing feed constituents that are by-products, and the respective allocation factors

| Feed constituent         | Crop           | Area per<br>unit of yield<br>ha (Mg FM) <sup>-1</sup> | Allocation<br>factor<br>ha ha <sup>-1</sup> |
|--------------------------|----------------|---|---|
| Wheat bran               | wheat (winter) | 0.609   | 0.269                                       |
| Soya bean meal 44% CP    | soya           | 0.458   | 0.656                                       |
| Soya bean meal 49% CP    | soya           | 0.357   | 0.656                                       |
| Soya oil                 | soya           | 1.880   | 0.344                                       |
| Soya protein concentrate | soya           |   | 0.300 *                                     |
| Rape seed meal           | rape           | 0.470   | 0.398                                       |
| Sugar beet pulp          | sugar beet     | 0.339   | 0.242                                       |

\* Incomplete preliminary information (Sojaförderrung, 2013)

Table 14

Electricity requirements in the example farm

|                          | Unit                                    | Weaners | Fatteners | Breeding<br>sows |
|--------------------------|---|---------|-----------|------------------|
| Lighting                 | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 2.0     | 4.0       | 23.0             |
| Ventilation              | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 7.0     | 20.0      | 60.0             |
| Feeding                  | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 0.3     | 1.0       | 1.5              |
| Removal of slurry/manure | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 0.4     | 0.1       | 0.2              |
| Cleansing                | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 0.6     | 0.3       | 7.0              |
| Heating                  | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 60.0    | 45.0      | 24.0             |
| Total                    | kWh place <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | 70.3    | 70.4      | 340.0            |

For breeding sows, KTBL (2014) recommends 3 l (kg FM)<sup>-1</sup> water during gestation and 6.5 l (kg FM)<sup>-1</sup> water during lactation.

### Process water

KTBL (2014) data are used to estimate the amounts of process water:

- fatteners 140 l place<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>
- breeding sows 500 l place<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>
- weaners 68 l place<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>

Due to lack of information, the value for fatteners is also used for young sows and boars as well as breeding boars.

### Water requirements in plant production

The application of pesticides is the only process where water is needed in crop production. For the respective volumes see Table 12. For soya production in Germany a single treatment using 300 l ha<sup>-1</sup> is assumed (Gehring, 2014). In this survey, irrigation is not taken into account.

## 3 Results

### 3.1 Carcasses produced

One entity characterising pork production efficiency is the emission per unit of carcass mass<sup>2</sup>. Overall carcass production amounts to 301 Mg herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>, dominated by far by the fattening stage. However, selected young sows have to be taken into account, as have the barrows produced in this stage. In addition, the carcasses of breeding sows taken out of production will be used for pork production. Due to their boar taint, the use of carcasses of AI and teaser boars is restricted (even after castration). For details see Table 15.

### 3.2 Allocated ammonia and greenhouse gas emissions

A detailed description of the NH<sub>3</sub> and GHG emissions differentiating between the relevant gases and the four

<sup>2</sup> A uniform carcass dressing percentage of 79% is used for all animal subcategories.



**Table 15**  
 Carcass weights produced in the various production stages

|                   | Fattening sows                        | Fattening barrows | Young sows | Breeding sows | Young boars | AI and teaser boars |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                   | Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> |                   |            |               |             |                     |
| Fattening         | 132.7                                 | 132.7             |            |               |             |                     |
| Piglet production |                                       | 6.5               | 1.2        | 20.5          |             |                     |
| Basic production  | 0.2                                   |                   |            |               | 0.1         | 0.0                 |
| Pure breeding     | 0.7                                   | 4.2               | 0.4        | 1.2           |             | 0.4                 |

production stages is provided in Tables 16 to 19. The unit “herd” stands for the respective animal category within the entire example herd. The numbers illustrate where potential reduction might be most efficient. GHG emissions are given in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>-eq), reflecting the respective global warming potentials (GWP) of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O ( $GWP_{CO_2} = 1 \text{ kg kg}^{-1}$ ,  $GWP_{CH_4} = 25 \text{ kg kg}^{-1}$ ,  $GWP_{N_2O} = 298 \text{ kg kg}^{-1}$ ).

**General comments:** While the numbers presented in Tables 16 to 19 imply a high “accuracy” it has to be kept in mind that the uncertainty of each value is considerable (see Chapter 4.1).

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the digestive tract originate from feedline. CO<sub>2</sub> from respiration is not considered an emission, as it equals the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> fixed during photosynthesis.

**Table 16**  
 Emissions from the fattening of pigs (including weaners for fattening) in detail

|                                    | NH <sub>3</sub>                       | N <sub>2</sub> O                      | CH <sub>4</sub>                       | CO <sub>2</sub>                       | GHG   | Total GHG   |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
|                                    | kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq | Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq |
| Digestive tract                    |                                       |                                       | 1,082                                 | 2,837                                 |   | 29.9  |
| Manure management                  |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| animal house                       | 4,373                                 |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| storage                            | 242                                   | 15                                    | 3,517                                 |                                       |   | 92.4  |
| application                        | 1,248                                 |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| overall management                 | 5,863                                 |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| Plant production                   |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| N mineral fertilizer               | 526                                   | 146                                   |                                       |                                       |   | 43.5  |
| lime and calcium ammonium nitrate  |                                       |                                       |                                       | 15,461                                |   | 15.5  |
| plant residues                     |                                       | 139                                   |                                       |                                       |   | 41.5  |
| diesel for plant production        |                                       | 8                                     | 8                                     | 21,820                                |   | 24.5  |
| Mineral fertilizer production      |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| N fertilizers                      | 423                                   |                                       |                                       |                                       | 21.3  | 21.3  |
| P fertilizers, phosphate in feed   |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 7.3   | 7.3   |
| Lime production                    |                                       |                                       |                                       | 128                                   | 0.0   | 0.1   |
| Provision of electricity           |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| animal house, climate and lighting |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 27.1  | 27.1  |
| compound feed production           |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 2.1   | 2.1   |
| lime quarry                        |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 1.5   | 1.5   |
| provision of water                 |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 1.1   | 1.1   |
| Provision of diesel fuel           |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 3.0   | 3.0   |
| Provision of natural gas           |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       | 0.0   | 0.0   |
| Indirect emissions                 |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| from agriculture                   |                                       | 76                                    |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| from mineral fertilizer production |                                       | 5                                     |                                       |                                       |   |   |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>6,812</b>                          | <b>390</b>                            | <b>4,608</b>                          | <b>40,247</b>                         | <b>63.4</b>   | <b>334.4</b>  |

Table 17

Detailed emissions from piglet production (F1 animals)

|                                    | NH <sub>3</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | N <sub>2</sub> O<br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | CH <sub>4</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | CO <sub>2</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | GHG<br>Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq | Total GHG<br>Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Digestive tract                    |  |   | 408  | 18   |  | 10.2   |
| Manure management                  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| animal house                       | 767  |   |  |  |  |  |
| storage                            | 67   | 6   | 394  |  |  | 11.7   |
| application                        | 186  |   |  |  |  |  |
| overall management                 | 1,020  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Plant production                   |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| N mineral fertilizer               | 130  | 114   |  |  |  | 34.0   |
| lime and calcium ammonium nitrate  |  |   |  | 4,006  |  | 4.0  |
| plant residues                     |  | 31  |  |  |  | 9.3  |
| diesel for plant production        |  | 1   | 0  | 1,568  |  | 1.8  |
| Mineral fertilizer production      |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| N fertilizers                      | 163  |   |  |  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| P fertilizers, phosphate in feed   |  |   |  |  | 0.4  | 0.4  |
| Lime production                    |  | 0   | 0  | 26   |  | 0.0  |
| Provision of electricity           |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| animal house, climate and lighting |  |   |  |  | 39.7   | 39.7   |
| compound feed production           |  |   |  |  | 0.8  | 0.8  |
| lime quarry                        |  |   |  |  | 0.3  | 0.3  |
| provision of water                 |  |   |  |  | 0.3  | 0.3  |
| Provision of diesel fuel           |  |   |  |  | 0.7  | 0.7  |
| Provision of natural gas           |  |   |  |  | 2.6  | 2.6  |
| Indirect emissions                 |  |   |  |  |  | 0.0  |
| from agriculture                   |  | 13  |  |  |  | 3.9  |
| from mineral fertilizer production |  | 0   |  |  |  | 0.1  |
| Total                              | 1,312  | 166   | 802  | 5,618  | 45.9   | 120.9  |

A comparison of Tables 16 to 19 reveals that about 81 % of the NH<sub>3</sub> emissions and 66 % of the GHG emissions arise from fattening, 14 % and 27 % from piglet production, respectively. This reflects the difference in manure management. In contrast, the contributions of basic breeding to overall NH<sub>3</sub> and GHG emissions are almost negligible.

NH<sub>3</sub> emissions are dominated by emissions from animal houses (64 %); the largest proportion of GHG emissions arises from crop production (all steps, 58 %).

Emissions have to be related to the amounts of pork produced. They amount to 20 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>3</sub> and 1.63 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq GHG. (For details see Chapter 4.2.)

### 3.3 Area and water requirements

The areas needed for crop production amount to 138 ha herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>, 29 ha herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>, 0 ha herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> and 9 ha herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> for fattening, piglet production, basic breeding and pure breeding, respectively, totalling to 177 ha herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> or 0.59 ha (Mg carcass)<sup>-1</sup>.

Water consumption is governed by drinking water (3,504 m<sup>3</sup> herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>), most of which is used for fatteners

(2,524 m<sup>3</sup> herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>). Volumes of water used for cleaning and in crop production add up to 1,022 m<sup>3</sup> herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>. The entire production chain requires 4,523 m<sup>3</sup> herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> or 15.2 l (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup>.

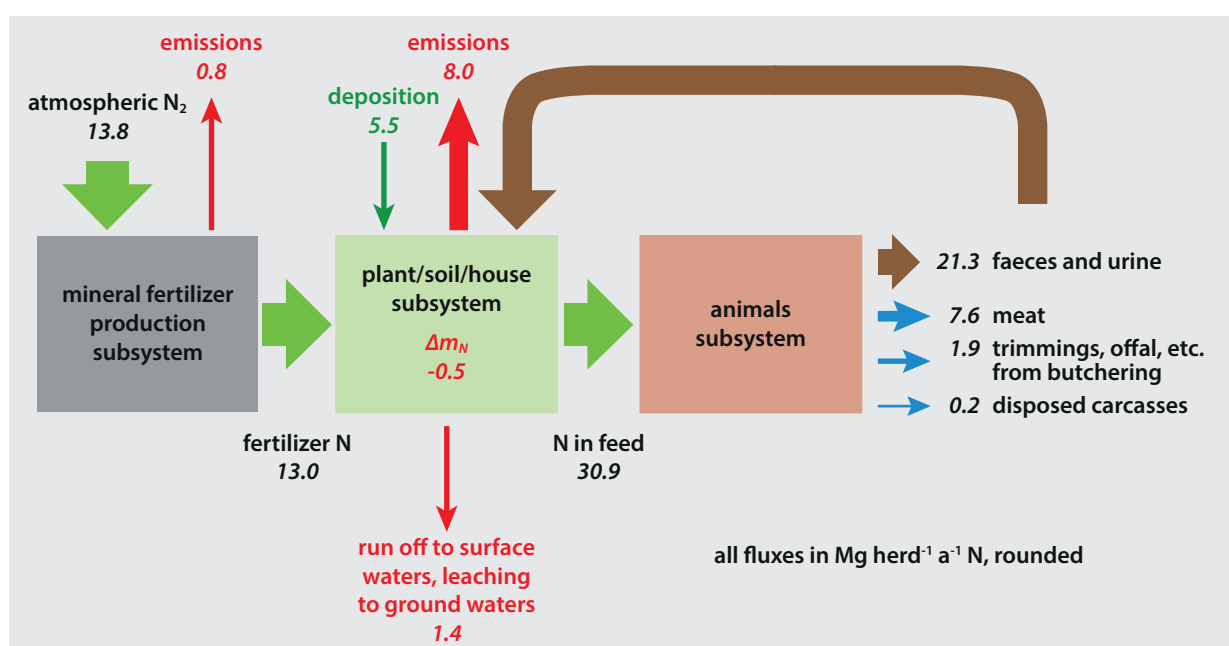
### 3.4 Nitrogen balance

All relevant fluxes of N species are compiled in Figure 1. It is obvious that the amounts in the compartment aimed at, i.e. protein in meat, are similar to the unwanted emissions of N species: more than half the amount of N fixed in the NH<sub>3</sub> synthesis (13.8 Mg herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>) is lost in emissions (8.8 Mg herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup>).

Provisionally, our calculations assume that 5 % of N from fertilizers and manures is lost with surface run off or leached to ground waters reflecting IPCC (2006, Agriculture, definition of  $Frac_{LEACH-(H)}$ ) and the results of lysimeter studies (see below). This results in an N deficit  $\Delta m_N$  of about 0.5 Mg herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> or 2.8 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> N. This (minor) deficit may be explained with the error propagation resulting from the uncertainties in the overall calculation procedures. However, this is an estimate; losses of N to surface and ground waters are likely, though smaller than the IPCC "rule of thumb". Thuringia

**Table 18**  
 Detailed emissions from the basic breeding

|                                    | NH <sub>3</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | N <sub>2</sub> O<br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | CH <sub>4</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | CO <sub>2</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | GHG<br>Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq | Total GHG<br>Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Digestive tract                    |  |   | 2  | 0  |  | 0.1  |
| Manure management                  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| animal house                       | 10   |   |  |  |  |  |
| storage                            | 4  | 0   | 2  |  |  | 0.2  |
| application                        | 2  |   |  |  |  |  |
| overall management                 | 16   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Plant production                   |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| N mineral fertilizer               | 1  | 0   |  |  |  | 0.1  |
| lime and calcium ammonium nitrate  |  |   |  | 41   |  | 0.0  |
| plant residues                     |  | 0   |  |  |  | 0.1  |
| diesel for plant production        |  | 0   | 0  | 49   |  | 0.1  |
| Mineral fertilizer production      |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| N fertilizers                      | 1  |   |  |  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| P fertilizers, phosphate in feed   |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| Lime production                    |  | 0   | 0  | 31   |  | 0.0  |
| Provision of electricity           |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| animal house, climate and lighting |  |   |  |  | 0.2  | 0.2  |
| compound feed production           |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| lime quarry                        |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| provision of water                 |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| Provision of diesel fuel           |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| Provision of natural gas           |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| Indirect emissions                 |  |   |  |  |  | 0.0  |
| from agriculture                   |  | 0   |  |  |  | 0.1  |
| from mineral fertilizer production |  | 0   |  |  |  | 0.0  |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>19</b>  | <b>1</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>121</b>   | <b>0.2</b>   | <b>0.9</b>   |



**Figure 1**  
 N fluxes in the pork production of the example enterprise (rounded values)

Table 19

Detailed emissions from the pure breeding

|                                    | NH <sub>3</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | N <sub>2</sub> O<br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | CH <sub>4</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | CO <sub>2</sub><br>kg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> | GHG<br>Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq | Total GHG<br>Mg herd <sup>-1</sup> a <sup>-1</sup> CO <sub>2</sub> -eq |
|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Digestive tract                    |  |   | 98   | 2  |  | 2.4  |
| Manure management                  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| animal house                       | 250  |   |  |  |  |  |
| storage                            | 59   | 9   | 152  |  |  | 6.6  |
| application                        | 57   |   |  |  |  |  |
| overall management                 | 366  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Plant production                   |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| N mineral fertilizer               | 38   | 13  |  |  |  | 3.8  |
| lime and calcium ammonium nitrate  |  |   |  | 1,139  |  | 1.1  |
| plant residues                     |  | 14  |  |  |  | 4.0  |
| diesel for plant production        |  | 1   | 0  | 1,411  |  | 1.6  |
| Mineral fertilizer production      |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| N fertilizers                      | 29   |   |  |  | 1.6  | 1.6  |
| P fertilizers, phosphate in feed   |  |   |  |  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| Lime production                    |  | 0   | 0  | 51   |  | 0.1  |
| Provision of electricity           |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| animal house, climate and lighting |  |   |  |  | 9.8  | 9.8  |
| compound feed production           |  |   |  |  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| lime quarry                        |  |   |  |  | 0.1  | 0.1  |
| provision of water                 |  |   |  |  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| Provision of diesel fuel           |  |   |  |  | 0.2  | 0.2  |
| Provision of natural gas           |  |   |  |  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
| Indirect emissions                 |  |   |  |  |  | 0.0  |
| from agriculture                   |  | 7.  |  |  |  | 2.0  |
| from mineral fertilizer production |  | 0.  |  |  |  | 0.1  |
| Total                              | 434  | 43  | 250  | 2,603  | 12.9   | 34.7   |

clearly has nitrate polluted drinking water (TLUG, 2015), and leaching of agricultural N is considered the reason.

In the main agricultural production areas in the Thüringer Becken, evapotranspiration almost equals precipitation (Roth et al., 2005). Long-term lysimeter experiments with arable crops showed losses with leaching of 2 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> N, equivalent to 0.35 Mg herd<sup>-1</sup> a<sup>-1</sup> N.

## 4 Discussion

### 4.1 Uncertainties

Uncertainties of the input data and the calculation procedures have to be addressed and reported in the national emission inventory. In this paper, input data are exact by definition. Uncertainties stem from the emission factors used. These vary between 40% (most emission factors for NH<sub>3</sub> and GHG) and 400% (indirectly emitted N<sub>2</sub>O). Rösemann et al. (2017) report that the German inventory's uncertainties for GHG are 38.1% (mainly due to uncertainties of N<sub>2</sub>O emissions), and about 18.5% for NH<sub>3</sub>.

### 4.2 Comparability and comparative data

#### 4.2.1 Ammonia

NH<sub>3</sub> emissions originate almost entirely from agricultural production. Beyond the farm gate no emissions occur at the slaughter house or during transport. In the example enterprise, NH<sub>3</sub> emissions related to carcass weight amount to 28 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup>.

Reckmann (2013) reports 20.7 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>3</sub>. However, the calculation procedures are not communicated in detail. We assume that carcasses other than those of fattening pigs are not included. It seems that a natural crust was assumed for slurry storage. A mineral fertilizer equivalent different from ours was used (0.75 kg kg<sup>-1</sup>).

Nguyen et al. (2011) report the acidification potential resulting from NH<sub>3</sub> emissions. This can be back calculated to an NH<sub>3</sub> emission of 30 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> which exceeds our results. Their model outline is very similar to the one described in this paper.

British investigations (BPEX, 2014) relate acidification to pork which results in carcass related NH<sub>3</sub> emissions of 77 and 69 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> in 2008 and 2012, respectively.

McAuliffe et al. (2017) provide a wide range of acidification equivalents. Values related to carcass weights are between 20 and 26 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>3</sub>.

Thuringian pork production makes use of exhaust scrubbers and biogas production which (in combination with a considerable share of low emission incorporation conditions) has a beneficial effect on emissions.

#### 4.2.2 Greenhouse gases

The GHG emissions listed in this paper reflect the entire production chain until slaughtering. They add up to 1.63 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq GHG per kg of carcass. If only carcasses of fattening pigs are considered, this value increases to 1.83 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq GHG. If, in addition, biogas plants are not taken into account, this value increases to 2.1 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq GHG. If only standard feed is used, emissions increase by further 0.2 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq GHG.

Reckmann (2013) calculated 3.2 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq, including road transport and slaughterhouse (in contrast to our calculations). The latter amount to 0.2 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. Reckmann (2013) estimated GHG emissions per kg of carcass up to slaughtering of 3.0 kg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq, still exceeding the value reported here by far. However, Reckmann (2013) presupposes daily weight gains of only 788 g animal<sup>-1</sup> d<sup>-1</sup> which is considerably less than the one listed in Table 2 (which results in higher emissions per unit of pork produced).

Danish investigations (Nguyen et al., 2011) are in line with our findings reporting 2.0 to 2.4 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq at farm level (depending on systems and modelling procedures).

A Swedish study relating GHG emissions from pork production to bone free meat can be re-calculated to carcass weights, resulting in about 2.6 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. (Sonesson et al., 2009).

The British study (BPEX, 2014) illustrates the changes of emissions with time. Carcass related GHG emissions amounted to 4.3 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq in 2008<sup>3</sup>, and were reduced to 3.2 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq in 2012 - a reduction by 26% in just four years. 2.9 g (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq are predicted for 2020.

A detailed study was published by McAuliffe et al. (2017) indicating the differences resulting from different modelling procedures (emissions related to live weight, slaughter weight, or carcass weight; farm gate or slaughterhouse gate). Results related to carcass weight and farm gate range between 2.5 and 3.5 kg (kg carcass)<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub>-eq.

By and large the product related GHG emissions quantified for the example herd are low in comparison with literature data. This is attributed to the fact that a considerable share of slurry is digested in biogas plants.

#### 4.2.3 Nitrogen balance

Comparable N balances could not be found in the national or international literature. Experimental balances in Central Germany more than a decade ago determined higher surplus

amounts (Eckert et al., 2004; 40 to 50 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> N, depending on amounts leached). Jarvis et al. (2011) describe typical pork production in Europe with results similar to those described here.

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<sup>3</sup> Using a carcass cutting yield of 0.7 kg kg<sup>-1</sup>.

## Appendix: Feed composition

**Table A1**

Weaners' standard feed composition in % FM (for properties see Table 7)

| Animal subcategory            | Weaner |       |       |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|
|                               | 8-12   | 12-20 | 20-30 |
| Barley, heat treated          | 10.00  | 10.00 |       |
| Barley, winter                | 10.00  | 17.38 | 28.16 |
| Maize                         | 13.91  | 6.10  | 1.71  |
| Whey powder                   | 5.00   |       |       |
| Rapeseed meal                 |        |       |       |
| Soya bean meal toasted 49% CP | 7.53   | 14.90 | 14.68 |
| Soya bean meal toasted 44% CP |        |       |       |
| Soya bean oil                 | 3.33   | 3.26  | 3.39  |
| Sugar beet pulp, pressed      |        |       |       |
| Wheat                         | 40.00  | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| Wheat bran                    |        | 3.00  | 7.00  |
| Soya protein concentrate      | 5.00   |       |       |
| Soybean hulls                 |        |       |       |
| Ca phosphate                  | 0.81   | 0.73  | 0.55  |
| Lime                          | 0.95   | 1.32  | 1.39  |
| Salt                          | 0.51   | 0.59  | 0.57  |
| Methionine                    | 0.28   | 0.21  | 0.18  |
| Lysine HCl                    | 0.77   | 0.64  | 0.57  |
| Threonine                     | 0.31   | 0.29  | 0.25  |
| Tryptophan                    | 0.11   | 0.08  | 0.06  |
| Premix weaners                | 1.00   | 1.00  | 1.00  |
| Premix sows                   |        |       |       |
| Premix fatteners              |        |       |       |
| Formic acid                   | 0.50   | 0.50  | 0.50  |

**Table A2**

Fatteners' standard and N P reduced feed compositions in % FM (for properties see Table 8a)

| Animal subcategory            | Fattener                            |       |       |             |       |       |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|-------|
|                               | standard                            |       |       | N P reduced |       |       |
|                               | live weight kg animal <sup>-1</sup> |       |       |             |       |       |
|                               | 30-60                               | 60-90 | > 90  | 30-60       | 60-90 | > 90  |
| Barley, heat treated          |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Barley, winter                | 20.00                               | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00       | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| Maize                         |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Whey powder                   |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Rapeseed meal                 |                                     |       | 8.00  |             | 0.94  | 8.00  |
| Soya bean meal toasted 49% CP |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Soya bean meal toasted 44% CP | 17.95                               | 14.87 | 6.08  | 16.20       | 9.06  | 0.88  |
| Soya bean oil                 | 1.35                                | 0.08  |       | 1.27        |       |       |
| Sugar beet pulp, pressed      |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Wheat                         | 57.73                               | 62.53 | 63.15 | 59.43       | 67.18 | 66.80 |
| Wheat bran                    |                                     |       | 0.77  |             |       | 2.06  |
| Soya protein concentrate      |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Soybean hulls                 |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Ca phosphate                  | 0.57                                | 0.36  |       | 0.59        | 0.41  |       |
| Lime                          | 0.93                                | 0.90  | 0.85  | 0.93        | 0.90  | 0.87  |
| Salt                          | 0.32                                | 0.32  | 0.27  | 0.32        | 0.32  | 0.27  |
| Methionine                    | 0.07                                | 0.02  |       | 0.08        | 0.04  | 0.01  |
| Lysine HCl                    | 0.46                                | 0.30  | 0.29  | 0.52        | 0.47  | 0.46  |
| Threonine                     | 0.09                                | 0.10  | 0.09  | 0.11        | 0.17  | 0.15  |
| Tryptophan                    | 0.03                                | 0.01  |       | 0.04        | 0.03  | 0.01  |
| Premix weaners                |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Premix sows                   |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |
| Premix fatteners              | 0.50                                | 0.50  | 0.50  | 0.50        | 0.50  | 0.50  |
| Formic acid                   |                                     |       |       |             |       |       |

**Table A3**

Breeding sow's and boar's standard feed composition in % FM (for properties see Table 9)

| Animal subcategory            | Breeding sow |           | Breeding boar |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|
|                               | lactating    | gestating |               |
| Barley, heat treated          |              |           |               |
| Barley, winter                | 20.00        | 20.00     | 44.07         |
| Maize                         |              |           |               |
| Whey powder                   |              |           |               |
| Rapeseed meal                 | 8.00         | 12.00     | 10.00         |
| Soya bean meal toasted 49% CP |              |           |               |
| Soya bean meal toasted 44% CP | 10.18        | 0.58      | 14.94         |
| Soya bean oil                 | 3.89         | 2.45      |               |
| Sugar beet pulp, pressed      |              | 12.20     |               |
| Wheat                         | 45.45        | 42.10     | 23.10         |
| Wheat bran                    | 9.38         | 9.26      | 5.45          |
| Soya protein concentrate      |              |           |               |
| Soybean hulls                 |              |           |               |
| Ca phosphate                  | 0.28         |           |               |
| Lime                          | 1.35         | 0.80      | 1.15          |
| Salt                          | 0.58         |           | 0.54          |
| Methionine                    | 0.01         |           | 0.02          |
| Lysine HCl                    | 0.30         | 0.10      | 0.19          |
| Threonine                     | 0.08         |           | 0.04          |
| Tryptophan                    | 0.01         |           |               |
| Premix weaners                |              |           |               |
| Premix sows                   | 0.50         | 0.50      | 0.50          |
| Premix fatteners              |              |           |               |
| Formic acid                   |              |           |               |



**Table A4**

Young sows' and boars' standard feed compositions in % FM (for properties see Tables 10 and 11)

| Animal subcategory            | Young sows (F1) |        |   | Young boars |       |       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---|-------------|-------|-------|
|                               | 30-60           | 60-100 | live weight in kg animal <sup>-1</sup><br>> 180 | 30-60       | 60-90 | > 90  |
| Barley, heat treated          |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Barley, winter                | 20.00           | 20.00  | 20.00   | 20.00       | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| Maize                         |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Whey powder                   |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Rapeseed meal                 | 4.23            | 10.00  | 8.00  | 8.00        | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Soya bean meal toasted 49% CP |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Soya bean meal toasted 44% CP | 12.35           | 2.76   | 0.96  | 10.74       | 6.61  | 3.66  |
| Soya bean oil                 | 1.41            | 2.49   | 4.09  | 2.33        | 1.10  | 1.28  |
| Sugar beet pulp, pressed      |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Wheat                         | 58.75           | 58.94  | 51.02   | 53.02       | 51.54 | 53.02 |
| Wheat bran                    |                 | 3.46   | 13.33   | 2.60        | 7.66  | 9.00  |
| Soya protein concentrate      |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Soybean hulls                 |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Ca phosphate                  | 0.51            | 0.08   |   | 0.31        |       |       |
| Lime                          | 1.18            | 1.06   | 1.37  | 1.21        | 1.19  | 1.20  |
| Salt                          | 0.45            | 0.45   | 0.44  | 0.45        | 0.45  | 0.45  |
| Methionine                    | 0.25            |        |   | 0.18        | 0.19  | 0.18  |
| Lysine HCl                    | 0.28            | 0.23   | 0.24  | 0.45        | 0.53  | 0.51  |
| Threonine                     | 0.08            | 0.03   | 0.05  | 0.16        | 0.19  | 0.17  |
| Tryptophan                    |                 |        |   | 0.03        | 0.04  | 0.04  |
| Premix weaners                |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Premix sows                   | 0.50            | 0.50   | 0.50  | 0.50        | 0.50  | 0.50  |
| Premix fatteners              |                 |        |   |             |       |       |
| Formic acid                   |                 |        |   |             |       |       |

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