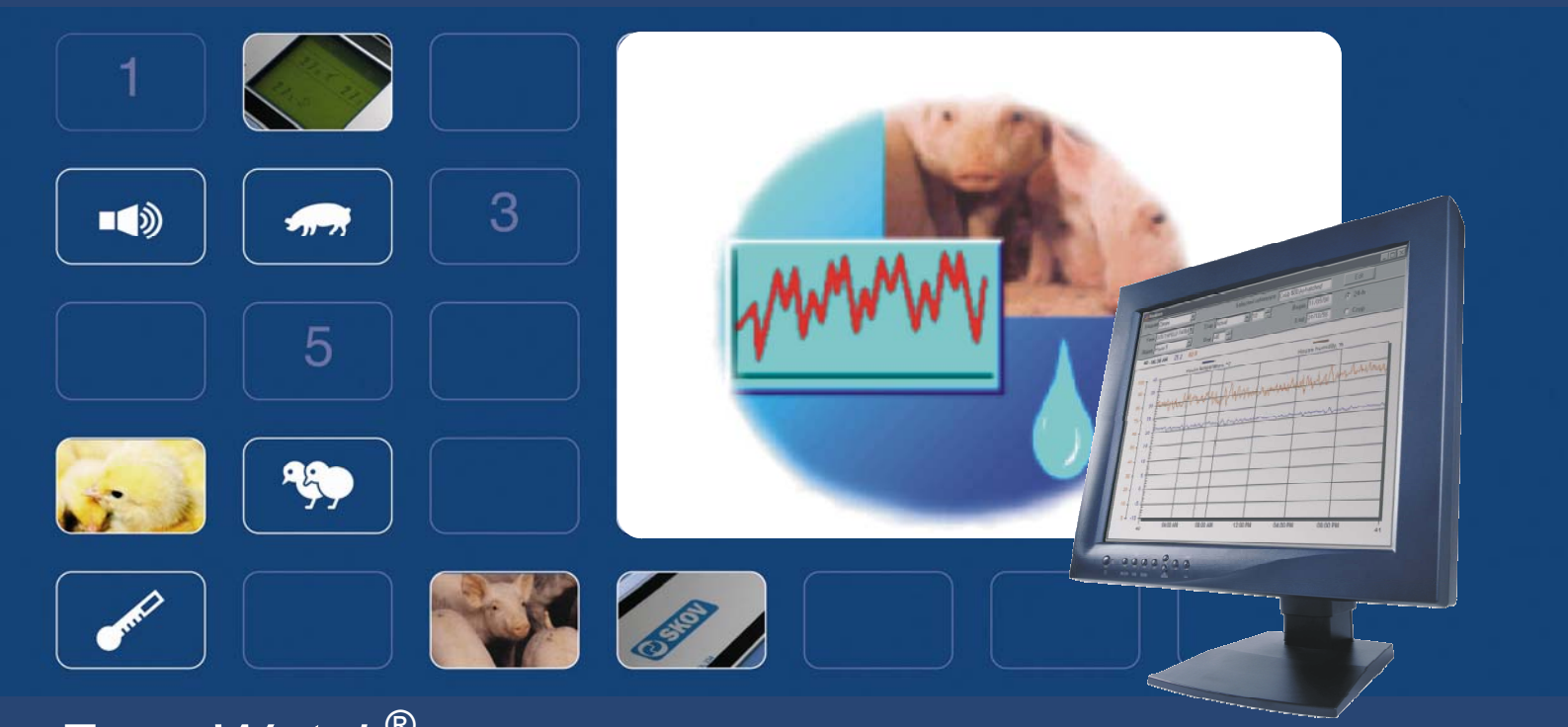


Farm*Watch*®

Monitoring of weaners and finishers in sectioned operation

SKOV
Climate for Growth

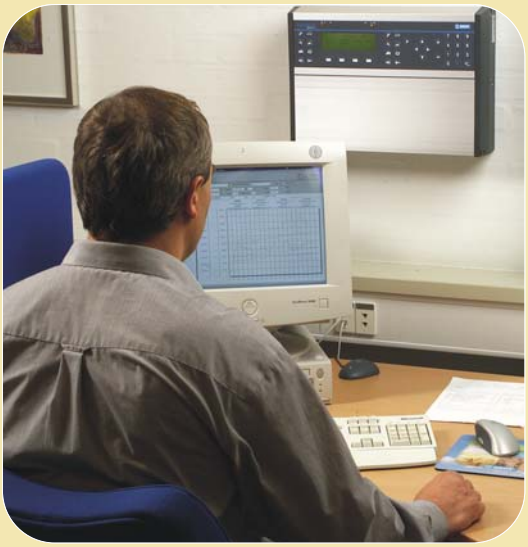
Monitoring of Weaners and Finishers in sectioned Operation

Farm*Watch*® has been developed by SKOV in cooperation with the Danish National Committee of Pig Production to monitor weaners and finishers in sectioned operation where it automatically records water consumption and temperature. Monitoring takes place at sectional level with visual warning of any changes.

Monitoring and warning through Farm*Watch*®

Farm*Watch*® works like this:

- Electronic water meters record the water consumption at sectional level;
- The drinking pattern of the pigs is analysed by means of a mathematical model and the expected water consumption is estimated every hour;
- Automatic registrations of the current water consumption per section are compared with the expected consumption;
- Farm*Watch*® warns of deviations between current and expected consumption of drinking water;
- Automatic SMS warning to cell-phone in case of an alarm;
- Monitoring and warning through PC or PDA.



The sensitivity to deviations in drinking water consumption can be adjusted to the individual farm to obtain a reliable warning.

New principles for production monitoring with Farm*Watch*®

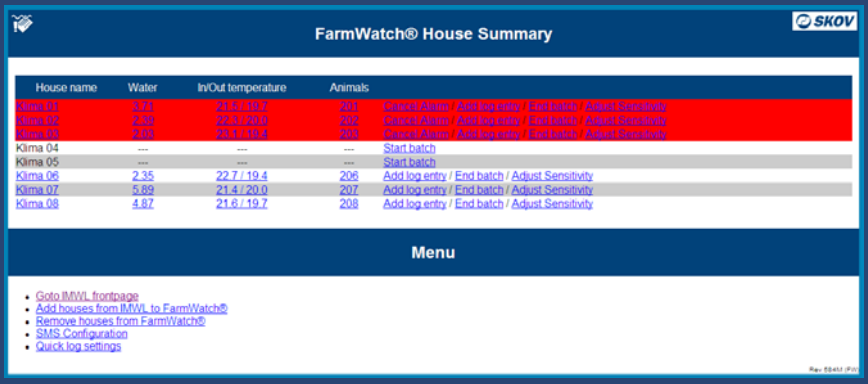
Farm*Watch*® differs from other programs for monitoring of drinking water by warning of changes in drinking water consumption every hour. Likewise, the warning is based on a mathematical model - on the basis of data from a given herd.

This means that warning takes place at an earlier stage compared to 24-hour warning. Besides, the sensitivity to changes in water consumption is much higher.

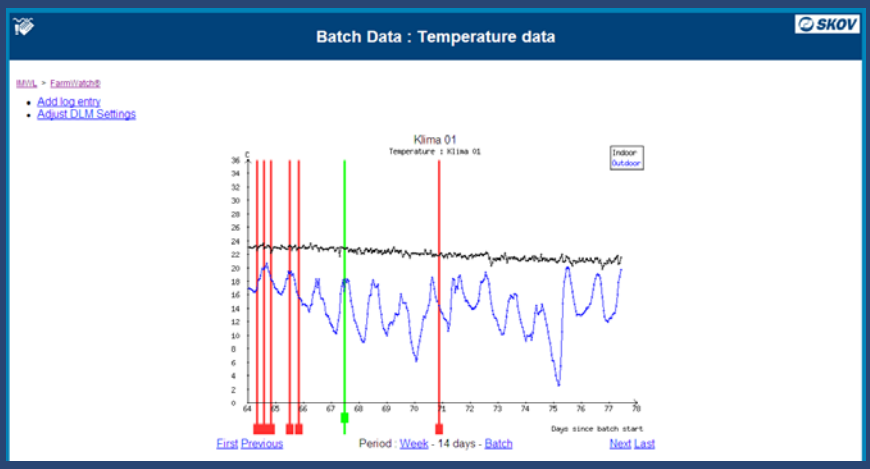
Results show that for instance an outbreak of diarrhoea in weaners is detected by the computer 12-24 hours before the symptoms are visible.

Farm*Watch*® differs from other similar systems for monitoring of drinking water in the following respects:

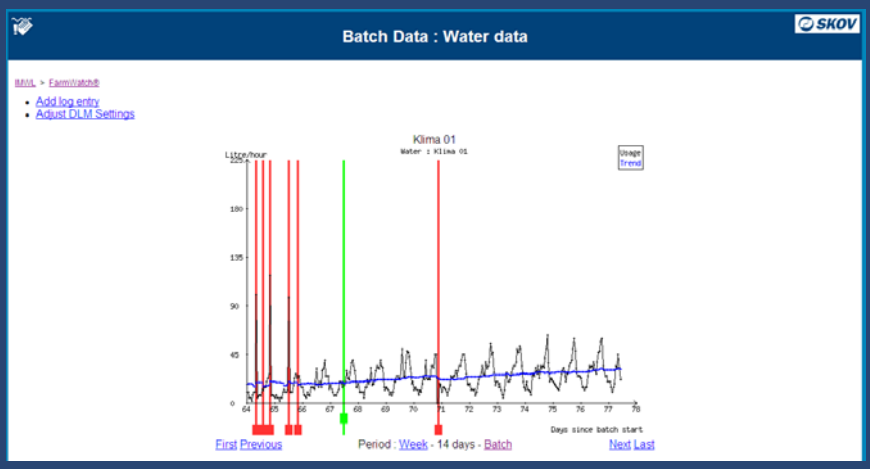
- Hourly registration of drinking water;
- Quicker warning of changes in drinking water consumption;
- Increased sensitivity to variations in the drinking water pattern of the pigs;
- Continuing adaptation to variations in water consumption;
- Automatic adaptation to the individual sections regardless of feeding principle and time;



Monitoring and warning of production deviations at sectional level



Water uptake at sectional level and recordings of events



Inside and outside temperature and recordings of events

- Application of well-founded mathematical models;
- Higher degree of dynamic production monitoring.

Farm*Watch*® as a management tool

The quick warning by Farm*Watch*® means that measures can be taken against problems observed in the individual sections at an earlier stage.

Instant measures against problems will result in less effort required to solve them. In case of diarrhoea this means:

- Reduced use of medications;
- Improved daily gain;
- Lower mortality rate.

Quick warning combined with the easy-to-grasp structure of Farm*Watch*® makes it easier to monitor the individual batches and make use of experiences from former batches.

The graphs facilitate access to data and registrations and if water consumption is compared to the registrations in the electronic log file and the automatic temperature recordings, it will often be possible to explain changes in water consumption that are not caused by disease.

Besides warning facilities, Farm*Watch*® holds a wide range of tools for monitoring of previous and current batches, e.g.;

- Monitoring at sectional level;
- Electronic log file for registration of events;
- Automatic monitoring of temperature;
- Graphic illustration of water consumption.

Internet based Communication

Data through an Internet browser

Farm*Watch*® utilizes the water and temperature data transferred from the SKOV climate computer to the WebLink farm controller to calculate the drinking pattern of the pigs.

Warning

The warning element of the Farm*Watch*® software is pre-installed in the WebLink unit meaning that the data is accessible through a PC with a commercially available browser. Thus the producer can retrieve data on all Internet connected PCs – no need for PC software in order to have warnings about abnormal water consumption.

If also a wireless network has been established on the farm, it is possible to have data displayed on a PDA.

Historical analysis

Analysis of historical data is performed by software installed a PC.

SMS warning

The WebLink unit also incorporates a dial-up module, which makes it possible to receive an alarm as an SMS on your cellphone in case of irregular water consumption.

SKOV supply climate and production management systems for animal production the world over. Our solutions are technologically advanced, user friendly and individually adapted to meet the needs of our customers.

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