



MIXED
EFFICIENT AND RESILIENT
MIXED FARMING & AGROFORESTRY



WILLOW IN ORGANIC FATTENING PIG PRODUCTION

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Experimental system and design

- 🌳 Willow, *Salix sp.* (2019; 6,370 trees/ha)
- 🌳 Pruned in February 2022 (approx. 15 cm)
- 🐷 Production period 21. april - 30. June, 2022
- 🐷 4 groups of low density (100 m² paddock/pig)
- 🐷 4 groups of high density (50 m² paddock/pigs)

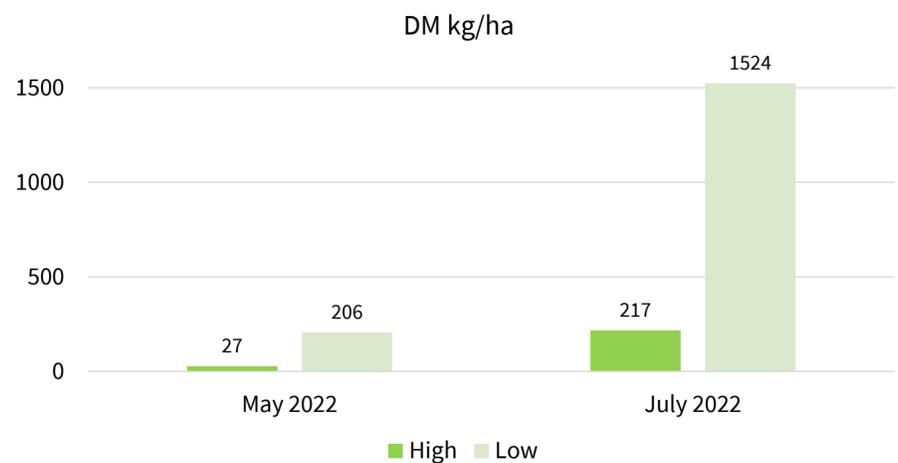


Pig performance

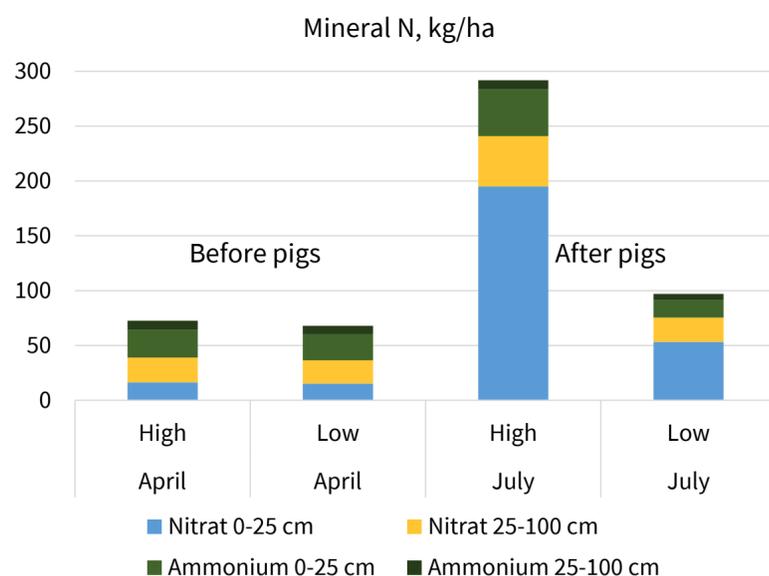
	High density	Low density	Organic pigs DK, 2021
N	24 pigs	12 pigs	28 herds*
Initial LW, kg	31	31	30
Final LW, kg	111	111**	115
Daily gain, g	1,153	1,158**	920
Meat%	62.1	62.3	61
Feed conversion F:G (compound feed), kg	2.5	2.5	2.8

* With a median of 3,379 fattening pigs/farm/year
** One pig euthanized at day 63 included

Willow regrowth



Mineral N in the soil



Key findings

- 🐷 Very high pig performance is achievable in this novel mixed farming concept.
- 🐷 Stocking density is key for the willow regrowth and for the potential risk of nitrogen losses.
- 🐷 The willow paddock supports natural behaviours such as rooting, browsing and natural shade

A mixed concept combining fattening pigs and willow during the summer supports high pig performance, animal welfare, and nutrient recycling. However, further regulations standards need to be developed to encourage implementation.