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PrimeCuts

Celebrating the best of our industry



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AUTUMN

Celebrating 30 years of excellence in the South African pork industry

30
YEARS
OF INNOVATION



It is with immense pride and gratitude that Topigs Norsvin South Africa proudly celebrates an extraordinary milestone – 30 years of innovation, excellence, growth, and success.

“This year is not only a reflection of our journey, which began with the need of a group of pig farmers seeking improved health and genetics, it also stands as a testament to the unwavering commitment, resilience, and passion of the incredible people who have shaped our company.” says Andrew Reeders, general manager of Topigs Norsvin South Africa.

Topigs Norsvin South Africa was founded in 1995 by a group of progressive pig farmers who recognised the need for improved health and genetics. Since then, the company has developed into one of the largest suppliers of pig genetics across Africa, with the shared vision of Topigs Norsvin: to innovate, to lead, and to make a lasting positive impact in everything they do.

Over the past three decades, Topigs Norsvin South Africa has built a reputation for excellence in the pig industry through their commitment and innovative approaches to breeding, health, and biosecurity – always with the goal of providing the best solutions, products, and support in the market.

“None of this would have been possible without the valuable contributions of our shareholders, employees, partners, and customers. Thank you for your trust and support, which have been key to our success,” he continues.

Andrew and his team look forward to the future with excitement and determination: “The next chapter holds even greater opportunities. We remain committed to leading, adapting, innovating, and creating value for our customers, employees, and stakeholders, while making a lasting, positive impact on the future of the South African pork industry for many years to come. Here’s to the next 30 years of partnership and success.”

Solving the Danish question with balanced breeding

A more balanced production with TN70 and TN Tempo

By Karl Johan Klitt, general manager at Topigs Norsvin Denmark

Topigs Norsvin's TN70 and TN Tempo offer Danish pig farmers a solution for lower mortality and reduced labour.

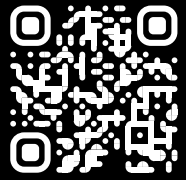


In 2020, Topigs Norsvin entered the Danish pig industry with the introduction of the TN70. Proactive farmers, seeking higher-quality piglets and sows, found exactly what they were looking for. A key concern for many was: How can we produce enough piglets when fewer piglets are born compared to the Danish sow? Over time, the answer became clear as farmers recognised the importance of balancing live-born piglets with the sow's ability to nurture them all.

It is remarkable what happens when cross-fostering is reduced, and the sow is allowed to perform her natural role. The sow and piglets establish a natural balance, where lactation follows a steady rhythm of eating, sleeping, and play for the piglets. This enables the piglets to grow rather than spending time fighting with new pen mates. Additionally, their health improves, as there is no introduction of new pathogens during lactation. As a result, the farrowing section becomes more efficient, with more and heavier piglets at weaning.

TN Tempo contributes to more robustness

In 2024, TN Tempo was launched in Denmark, delivering significant improvements to the growing period. The offspring of TN Tempo are vigorous from birth, exhibiting more robust growth. This increased vigour also stimulates the sow more than other lines, leading to greater milk production. Consequently, the piglets perform better post-weaning, thriving on plant-based feed while experiencing less diarrhoea.



Enghavegaard rediscovered the joy of pig production

Therese Bach and Henrik Larsen have seen the impact of Topigs Norsvin genetics first-hand, witnessing impressive improvements after switching to the TN70 sow and the TN Tempo terminal sire.

At the Danish Pig Congress in 2022, Therese Bach and Henrik Larsen of Enghavegaard farm had an insightful conversation with Karl Johan Klit, the general manager of Topigs Norsvin Denmark. Shortly after this conversation, they decided to purchase TN70 sows for their 750-sow farm, which is managed by Theresa.

They have no regrets about their decision. The results on the farm speak for themselves: sow mortality has decreased from 17% to 7%, and both the quality and quantity of piglets have increased significantly.

Today, Therese weans more piglets, with an average weaning weight that is 1 kg heavier than before. The key driver behind this change

is the TN70's exceptional mothering ability. As a result, Therese is now able to wean an average of two additional piglets per sow. This has made the work easier for the farm staff, as fewer piglets need to be moved between sows.

In 2024, they began inseminating with TN Tempo, and the results have been remarkable. The TN Tempo is enhancing the performance of the TN70, producing more robust piglets with a higher colostrum intake. *Escherichia coli*, which was once a challenge after weaning, is no longer an issue. Medication is no longer needed, as the piglets do not develop diarrhoea post-weaning. Additionally, the incidence of umbilical hernia has dropped from 5% to less than 1%.



Topigs Norsvin South Africa welcomes Aston Bull to the technical and customer support team



Aston began his career at Topigs Norsvin SA in April 2020 as a motivated student. In 2021, he was appointed test performance manager. Through consistent hard work and dedication, he was promoted to unit manager of the Rietfontein Nucleus in 2024. During his tenure as manager, he was responsible for overseeing all on-farm operations related to genetic performance and production.

Currently, Aston is pursuing his MSc degree in production physiology and product quality at the University of Pretoria, under the

supervision of Prof. Christine Jansen van Rensburg and Miss Rimbilana Shingange. His project is conducted in collaboration with Dr Carolina da Silva from the Global Male Reproduction Services team of Topigs Norsvin.

In January 2025, Aston took on a new role as customer support manager. "I am excited to build on existing relationships with our customers and industry stakeholders and to become actively involved in supporting them to achieve their targets," says Aston.



Willem Pelser - customer support manager



Hezekiel Mpedi - training and development manager



Lihandi van Rheede van Oudtshoorn - senior technical and breeding manager



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