



Long-term exposure to sensory feed additives during the gestational and postnatal periods impacts sows' colostrum and milk sensory profiles, piglets' growth and feed intake

Article

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1 Running head: Sensory feed additives in sows and piglets

2 **Long-term exposure to sensory feed additives during the gestational and**
3 **postnatal periods impacts sows' colostrum and milk sensory profiles,**
4 **piglets' growth and feed intake¹**

5

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20

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23

ABSTRACT

24 This study investigated the effect of feed supplementation in sows and/or their progeny with
25 two sensory feed additives (FA1: limonene and cinnamaldehyde; FA2: menthol, carvone and
26 anethole) on sows' feed intake, body weight, fat deposition, and colostrum/milk composition,
27 as well as piglets' feed intake growth and feed efficiency from birth to slaughter at postnatal
28 day 160 (PND160). During the last third of gestation and the whole of lactation, sows were
29 subjected to a control diet (C) or the same diet containing FA1 or FA2 at 0.1% of complete
30 feed content. Colostrum/milk samples were taken at day 1, 14, and 28 of lactation for gas
31 chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analyses. After weaning, the progeny was
32 subjected to a control diet (C) or experimental diets with a sweetener (0.015%) but no other
33 additive (S), or to diets with a sweetener and the additive FA1 (FA1S) or FA2 (FA2S). There
34 was no effect of dietary treatment on sows' feed intake, body weight, or adiposity ($P > 0.15$
35 for all), but the sensory characteristics of their colostrum/milk were modified by the diet and
36 diet*time interaction. Limonene concentrations were higher in FA1 samples from PND1 to
37 PND28, whereas carvone and anethole concentrations were higher in FA2 samples from
38 PND1 to PND28. The concentration of these three compounds increased with time in the
39 respective groups where they were mostly detected. Menthol concentrations were higher in
40 FA2 samples at PND14 and PND28, but there was no time effect. Overall, cinnamaldehyde
41 was always below the detection range. Piglets born from FA1 and FA2 sows had higher body
42 weight ($P = 0.034$ at PND160), average daily gain (ADG $P = 0.036$ for PND0-160), and
43 average daily feed intake (ADFI $P = 0.006$ for PND28-160) than piglets born from C sows.
44 Overall, piglets that were never exposed to FA or only after weaning had lower ADG
45 ($P = 0.030$ for PND0-160) and ADFI ($P = 0.016$ for PND28-160) than piglets that were
46 exposed to FA only *via* the maternal diet, the condition combining both pre- and post-natal
47 exposure being intermediary. In conclusion, FA1 and FA2 provided to gestating and lactating

48 sows increased the progeny's feed intake and growth, suggesting nutritional programming
49 and/or sensory conditioning during the perinatal period. Addition of FA only in the progeny's
50 diet was not beneficial.

51

52 **Keywords:** feed additives, feed transition, colostrum and milk sensory properties,
53 performance, sensory conditioning, nutritional programming, *Sus scrofa*

54

INTRODUCTION

55

56

57 In pig production, sensory feed additives are commonly used in an attempt to improve feed
58 palatability and zootechnical performance (Franz et al., 2010; Jacela et al., 2010; Windisch et
59 al., 2008), but discrepancies between studies are frequent (Clouard et al., 2012; Clouard and
60 Val-Laillet, 2014; Jugl-Chizzola et al., 2006; Michiels et al., 2012; Seabolt et al., 2010; Val-
61 Laillet et al., 2016). To improve the beneficial outcomes of feed additive exposure in piglets,
62 one strategy would be to establish a sensory continuum by extending the exposure period to
63 the perinatal environment and maternal diet during gestation and lactation, as suggested by
64 previous authors through the concept of ‘fetal or sensory learning’ (Figueroa et al., 2013;
65 Mennella et al., 2001; Oostindjer et al., 2010; Wells and Hepper, 2006).

66 The aim of our study was to validate and compare the use of two different feed additives (FA)
67 combining different phytochemical molecules, known to have behavioral and neurophysiological
68 effects, to compare the impact of perinatal and/or post-weaning exposure to the feed additives
69 (compared one to another and to a control feed). In mammals, flavors from the maternal diet
70 can reach the fetus before birth through the amniotic fluid (El-Haddad et al., 2005; Mennella,
71 1995; Mennella et al., 1995). To confirm that the compounds of interest in the feed additives
72 can also reach the neonate through the maternal milk (Hausner et al., 2008), solid-phase
73 microextraction (SPME) and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analyses were
74 performed on colostrum and milk samples from sows fed different diets with or without feed
75 additives. Our hypotheses, in line with the aforementioned ‘sensory learning’ concept, were
76 that the active compounds of the feed additives would reach the neonate through the
77 colostrum and milk, and that perinatal exposure might condition the piglets to develop an
78 increased acceptance for feeds containing the same additives, and consequently increase both
79 feed consumption and growth. Moreover, we hypothesized that a continuum in the sensory

80 exposure would potentiate the beneficial effects of the feed additives in terms of animal
81 performance.

82

83

MATERIALS AND METHODS

84 The experiment presented in this paper was conducted in accordance with the current ethical
85 standards of the European Community (Directive 2010/63/EU), Agreement No. A35-622, and
86 Authorization No. 35-88. The whole protocol was submitted to the French Ministry of
87 Research in December 2015. The Regional Ethics Committee in Animal Experiment of
88 Brittany (France) has validated the entire procedure described in this paper and specifically
89 approved this study (N°2015121314449323).

90 *Animals and Housing*

91 A total of 40 Large White/Landrace sows (35 multiparous and 5 primiparous) and their
92 piglets (Large White/Landrace × Pietrain), distributed in three consecutive batches (N=14 in
93 January 2016, N=13 in February 2016, and N=13 in March 2016) with homogenous body
94 weight and parity amongst treatments and batches, were used for this study and reared at the
95 experimental center of INRA (St Gilles, France). Sows were housed in individual crates.
96 Parturitions were not induced. Experimental piglets were suckled by their own mother and
97 weaned at postnatal day 28 (PND28). After weaning, 160 piglets were included in the
98 protocol, removed from the maternal crates, and housed in groups of 6-8 individuals of same
99 perinatal exposure (**Fig. 1**). The smallest piglets were excluded from the experiment during
100 this selection process. Piglets from sows that had received the same diets were mixed
101 together, but piglets from sows that had received different diets were housed in different
102 groups. All the animals were transferred to another building in groups of the same size and

103 treatment at PND70 and until slaughter (**Fig. 1B**). All the animals were slaughtered at
104 PND160 according to the usual procedure in commercial pig husbandry.

105 *Experimental Diets and Feed Additive Supplementation*

106 Six maternal feeds were used for this study, all in accordance with the nutrient and energy
107 needs of pregnant and lactating sows. They included a standard gestation feed and a standard
108 lactation feed (**Table 1**), named the control diets (C = 20 sows), as well as the same standard
109 feeds supplemented with either of two feed additives tested (named FA1 and FA2 diets, N =
110 10 sows per treatment). Groups were homogenized in terms of parity and body weight.
111 Inroads International Ltd. (Wem, Shropshire, UK) provided the feed additives: FA1 contained
112 limonene and cinnamaldehyde, whereas FA2 contained menthol, carvone and anethole. Since
113 both additives are part of a secret know-how, the exact composition cannot be divulged.
114 These compounds were chosen on the basis of their biological effects on behavioral and
115 neurophysiological functions (see discussion). Sows in gestation were fed 2.5 to 3 kg of
116 gestation feed per day. Sows in lactation were fed 3 kg (first day of lactation) to 9-11 kg (end
117 of lactation) of lactation feed per day, with a progressive increase of the daily ration
118 individually adapted to prevent excessive refusals. All the animals had free access to water
119 during the whole experiment. The feed additives were provided in the gestation and lactation
120 feeds at 0.1% of complete feed content from the last third of gestation to the end of lactation
121 (28 days after farrowing), because it is commonly accepted that mammal fetuses are able to
122 perceive flavors during the last third of gestation (Lecanuet and Schaal, 1996; Nicklaus,
123 2016a; Oostindjer et al., 2010; Schaal et al., 2000; Smotherman et al., 1991). During 10 days
124 after weaning, the piglets received a pre-starter feed and then a starter feed until PND70. A
125 three-day transition period was organized to familiarize piglets to the starter feed at the end of
126 the pre-starter period. After PND70, the animals received a growth diet until slaughter at
127 PND160 (**Table 1**). Dietary treatments per group are summarized in **Fig. 1**. Piglets born from

128 control sows received control (C), sweetened control (S), FA1S, or FA2S diet (N=20 per
129 group). Piglets born from FA1 sows received either FA1S or S diet (N=20 per group). Piglets
130 born from FA2 sows received either FA2S or S diet (N=20 per group). The control diets (C)
131 corresponded to the standard feeds described in **Table 1** without any additive. FA1 and FA2
132 maternal diets corresponded to the gestation and lactation control feeds supplemented with
133 0.1% of feed additive 1 or 2. S piglets' diet corresponded to the pre-starter, starter, and growth
134 feeds supplemented with 0.015% of sweetener (High Intensity Sweetener, sodium-saccharin-
135 based sweetener commercialized by Inroads International, Wem, Shropshire, UK). FA1S and
136 FA2S piglets' diets corresponded to the pre-starter, starter, and growth feeds supplemented
137 with 0.015% of sweeter and 0.1% of feed additive 1 or 2. Except for one control group, the
138 sweetener was added in all piglets' diets because it was expected to potentiate the effect of the
139 other sensory feed additives. The control group without sweetener, compared to the control
140 group with sweetener alone, was aimed at discussing the specific impact of the sweetener,
141 independently from the other additives. The experimental diets were produced at the feed mill
142 of the INRA St Gilles experimental facilities.

143 *Colostrum and Milk Sampling and Analysis*

144 Colostrum or milk samples (at least 60 mL) were collected from all sows on the morning of
145 PND1 (PND0 corresponding to farrowing), PND14, and PND28, after an intramuscular
146 injection of oxytocin (1-2 mL per sow). All samples were filtered and stored in 250-mL
147 polyethylene sampling containers (Dutscher Brumath, France). The containers were stored at
148 -20°C at the INRA of St Gilles (France) before being shipped to the University of Reading
149 (UK) for GC-MS analyses. DL-Menthol (95+% purity), (R)-(+)-limonene (99+%), (E)-
150 cinnamaldehyde (98+%), (S)-(+)-carvone (96+%), (E)-anethole (99%), triacetin (99+%), and
151 2,4,6-trimethylpyridine (99%) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich.

152 *Sample preparation*

153 Appropriate mixed standard solutions (from 0.1 mg/L to 20 mg/L) of menthol, limonene,
154 cinnamaldehyde, carvone, and anethole were prepared in triacetin. A 20-mg/L solution of
155 246-trimethylpyridine (TMP) was also prepared in triacetin. These solutions were mixed in a
156 1:1 ratio to give the following set of calibration standards (each containing menthol, limonene,
157 cinnamaldehyde, carvone, and anethole, plus 10 mg/L TMP): 0.05 mg/L, 0.1 mg/L, 0.25
158 mg/L, 1 mg/L, 2.5 mg/L, and 10 mg/L. In addition, a 10 mg/L solution of TMP was prepared
159 in triacetin to be added to the tested colostrum and milk samples as an internal standard.

160 Colostrum and milk samples were removed from the freezer and allowed to reach room
161 temperature. The plastic bottles in which the colostrum and milk was stored were then shaken
162 manually for 10 seconds to mix the contents. Samples were prepared by adding 5 mL of
163 colostrum or milk along with 50 μ L of 10-mg/L TMP internal standard solution to a 20-mL
164 headspace vial with metal screw-cap and septum. In order to prepare a calibration curve for
165 quantification of the compounds of interest, 50 μ L of each standard solution were dissolved in
166 5 mL of a control sample from Batch 1 Day 1 in which none of the compounds of interest had
167 been detected. All samples were analyzed in random order in one sequence and a calibration
168 set was run both before and after the samples.

169 Three or four samples were analyzed from each diet (Control, FA1, FA2) at three collection
170 points (Day 1, Day 14, and Day 28) from each of 3 batches (1, 2, and 3), *i.e.* a total of 79
171 samples.

172 *Solid-phase Microextraction*

173 Automated solid-phase microextraction (SPME) was performed on an Agilent 5975 GC-MS
174 system with GC Sampler 120. Samples were placed in the refrigerated tray of the autosampler
175 (4 °C). When the machine was ready, the sample was transferred to an incubated agitator at

176 60 °C for 10 min, the agitator rotating at 500 rpm with an agitation cycle of 5 seconds on and
177 2 seconds off. After incubation, the headspace above the sample was extracted for 60 minutes
178 at 60 °C using an SPME syringe containing a 1-cm Stable-flex fiber coated with 50/30 µm
179 DVB/Carboxen on PDMS (Supelco Bellefonte PA). For both extraction and desorption,
180 injection needle penetration was 32 mm and fiber exposure distance was 22 mm.

181 *Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)*

182 After extraction, the fiber was desorbed in the injection port of the gas chromatograph at
183 250 °C for 20 minutes onto a 30 m × 0.25 mm Stabilwax DA GC column (film thickness 0.50
184 µm; Restek High Wycombe UK). The injection was splitless, the splitter opening after 0.75
185 min. Data acquisition commenced as soon as the desorption step began. The temperature of
186 the GC oven was held at 40 °C for 5 min before being raised at 4 °C/min to 260 °C where the
187 temperature was held for a further 5 min. Helium at a constant flow rate of 0.9 mL/min was
188 used as the carrier gas.

189 The mass spectrometer operated in electron impact mode with an electron energy of 70 eV
190 acquiring data in both scan and selected ion monitoring (SIM) modes simultaneously. In scan
191 mode, the mass spectrometer scanned from m/z 38 to m/z 160. SIM mode was used for
192 quantification. Four characteristic ion fragments were chosen for each compound of interest
193 and the internal standard: one quantifying ion (shown in bold) and three qualifiers. Each ion
194 was monitored for 50 ms. All six compounds measured were well separated by GC, so six
195 separate SIM windows could be prepared, one for each compound. The ions measured in
196 Window 1 (start time 0 min) were 68, 67, 121, **136** (limonene); Window 2 (20 min) were **121**,
197 120, 126, 79 (TMP); Window 3 (30 min) were **138**, 81, 71, 95 (menthol); Window 4 (33 min)
198 were **82**, 150, 54, 108 (carvone); Window 5 (35.5 min) were **148**, 147, 117, 133 (anethole);
199 and Window 6 (40 min) were 131, **132**, 103, 104 (cinnamaldehyde). Quantifying peak areas
200 of the compounds of interest were measured relative to the peak area of the quantifying ion of

201 TMP in both the samples and standards, in order to calculate the concentrations of the
202 compounds of interest in samples. Because some samples were used for method development,
203 they went missing for the analysis. As a consequence, we analyzed 79 samples in total
204 (Colostrum samples: N=9 C, N=10 FA1, N=10 FA2; Milk samples at D14 and D28: N=9 C,
205 N=8 FA1, N=8 FA2).

206 *Zootechnical Parameters*

207 Sows were weighed at the onset of dietary treatment, at the beginning, and at the end of
208 lactation. Sows' back fat thickness was measured by ultrasonography at the P2 site (Val-
209 Laillet et al., 2010) a few days before farrowing and at the end of lactation.

210 Piglets were weighed immediately at birth and then weekly until weaning and every two
211 weeks until slaughter. The average daily weight gain (ADG g/d) was calculated for the
212 suckling period (PND1 to PND28), for the post-weaning period (PND28 to PND70), for the
213 "growth" period (PND70 to PND160), from PND28 to PND160, and the whole experimental
214 period. The average daily feed intake (ADFI g/d) and average feed efficiency (G:F) were
215 calculated for the post-weaning period (PND28 to PND70), for the "growth" period (PND70
216 to PND160), and from PND28 to PND160. ADFI and G:F data were averaged per group,
217 since the feed consumption could not be measured individually.

218 *Statistical Analyses*

219 All the statistical analyses were performed with StatView (SAS Institute Inc.). To compare
220 the volatile profiles of the colostrum/milk samples, two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA)
221 with repeated measures was performed with maternal diet and batch as main factors. A first
222 ANOVA was performed including all samples (colostrum at D1, milk at D14 and D28), and a
223 second ANOVA was performed on milk samples only. Sows' feed intake, body weight, and
224 fat deposition were analyzed with a two-way ANOVA with repeated measures, with maternal

225 diet and batch as main factors, and parity as a cofactor. Piglets' body weight, average daily
226 gain (ADG), average daily feed intake (ADFI), and feed efficiency (growth:feed ratio G:F)
227 were analyzed with different complementary statistical procedures depending on the
228 question/objective:

229 - Body weight was analyzed with a two-way ANOVA with repeated measures on the
230 whole dataset (from birth to PND160) with treatment (*i.e.* the association between a
231 maternal diet and a progeny's diet: C/C, C/S, C/FA1S, C/FA2S, FA1/S, FA1/FA1S,
232 FA2/S, FA2/FA2S) and batch as main factors, and sow/litter as cofactor. The same
233 strategy was then applied on the measures performed only before (from birth to
234 PND28) and only after weaning (from PND28 to PND160).

235 - Body weight was analyzed with 2 three-way ANOVA with repeated measures (before
236 weaning and after weaning) on two different data subsets, *i.e.* FA1 or C sows x FA1S
237 or S piglets, as well as FA2 or C sows x FA2S or S piglets (3 factors and 4 groups in
238 each three-way ANOVA), with maternal diet, progeny's diet and batch as main
239 factors, and sow/litter as cofactor. These analyses allowed evaluating the interaction
240 between maternal and progeny's diets, contrary to the analyses performed on the
241 whole dataset (including all groups and treatments) for which it was not possible to
242 assess the interaction effect.

243 - Body weight at PND1 (birth), PND28 (weaning), PND70 (transfer to another
244 building) and PND160 (slaughter), as well as ADG, ADFI and G:F were analyzed for
245 each period of interest with a two-way ANOVA on the whole dataset, with maternal
246 diet and batch as main factors (three groups compared: C, FA1, FA2).

247 - Body weight at PND1, PND28, PND70 and PND160, as well as ADG, ADFI and G:F
248 were analyzed for each period of interest with a two-way ANOVA on the whole

249 dataset, with progeny's diet and batch as main factors (four groups compared: C, S,
250 FA1S, FA2S).

251 - Body weight at PND1, PND28, PND70 and PND160, as well as ADG, ADFI and G:F
252 were analyzed for each period of interest with a three-way ANOVA on two different
253 data subsets, *i.e.* FA1 or C sows x FA1S or S piglets, as well as FA2 or C sows x
254 FA2S or S piglets (3 factors and 4 groups in each three-way ANOVA), with maternal
255 diet, progeny's diet and batch as main factors, and sow/litter as cofactor. These
256 analyses allowed evaluating the interaction between maternal and progeny's diets,
257 contrary to the analyses performed on the whole dataset (including all groups and
258 treatments).

259 - Body weight at PND1, PND28, PND70 and PND160, as well as ADG, ADFI and G:F
260 were analyzed for each period of interest with a two-way ANOVA on the whole
261 dataset, with treatment and batch as main factors (4 groups: "No FA", "Addition",
262 "Removal", "Continuity"), *i.e.* groups that never encountered FA ("No FA": C/C and
263 C/S), groups with a FA only added in the progeny's diet after weaning ("Addition":
264 C/FA1S and C/FA2S), groups with a FA only added in the maternal diet ("Removal":
265 FA1/S and FA2S), and groups with a FA continuity between maternal and progeny's
266 diets ("Continuity": FA1/FA1S and FA2/FA2S).

267 Data were expressed as mean \pm standard error (SE), with a significance threshold set at
268 $P = 0.05$ and a trend considered at $P < 0.15$.

269

270

RESULTS

271 *Colostrum and Milk Analyses*

272 The concentrations of the limonene, anethole, carvone, and menthol in the 79 samples are

273 shown in **Table 2, Fig. 2**. Four of the five compounds (FA1: limonene; FA2: menthol,
274 carvone, and anethole) were present at relatively high concentrations in the colostrum/milk of
275 sows receiving the corresponding treatment, although these compounds were often present at
276 lower levels in the colostrum/milk from the two other diets. As limonene is ubiquitous, it
277 sometimes gave high values in samples where it was not expected. Cinnamaldehyde could not
278 be measured at a quantifiable level in any of the samples. Because the calibration standards
279 were from 0.05 ppm upwards, and this concentration roughly corresponded to the detection
280 limit for these four compounds, compounds present between 0.02 and 0.05 ppm were labeled
281 trace while those with values less than 0.02 ppm were labeled absent. Anethole and carvone
282 were present in at least trace levels in all FA2 samples, while limonene was present in all FA1
283 samples but only a proportion of Control and FA2 samples.

284 For the analysis including colostrum and milk samples, there was a significant interaction
285 between diet and time of collection for limonene ($P = 0.0013$), carvone ($P = 0.0395$), and
286 anethole ($P = 0.0246$), with all three compounds increasing with time (between D1, D14, and
287 D28 of lactation) in the colostrum/milk of sows that respectively received these compounds in
288 their diet. A batch*diet interaction was only detected for carvone ($P = 0.0014$). Limonene
289 ($P < 0.0001$), carvone ($P = 0.0001$), and anethole ($P = 0.0019$) were significantly affected by
290 the maternal diets; menthol did not show a significant effect (only a trend $P = 0.058$),
291 probably as a result of it being absent from a large number of samples. Time of collection
292 effect was only significant for limonene ($P = 0.0332$), while only carvone showed a batch
293 effect ($P = 0.012$).

294 In the analysis including only milk samples, there was a significant interaction between diet
295 and time of collection for limonene ($P = 0.049$) and anethole ($P = 0.019$), but not for menthol
296 ($P = 0.872$) or carvone ($P = 0.833$). A batch*diet interaction was only detected for carvone
297 ($P = 0.006$). Limonene ($P < 0.0001$), carvone ($P = 0.0009$), and anethole ($P = 0.0002$) were

298 significantly affected by the maternal diets; menthol did not show a significant effect (only a
299 trend $P = 0.058$). Time of collection effect was only significant for limonene ($P = 0.038$),
300 while only carvone showed a batch effect ($P = 0.0178$).

301 Limonene, carvone, and anethole were all significantly higher in the milk of sows receiving
302 the diets to which they were added (FA1 for limonene, FA2 for carvone and anethole).

303 ***Zootechnical Parameters***

304 There was no difference between sows' groups in terms of parity (4 ± 0.3 ; $P = 0.915$) and
305 body weight (at the onset of dietary treatment: 255 ± 5 kg, $P = 0.776$; early lactation:
306 279 ± 5 kg, $P = 0.752$; end of lactation: 250 ± 5 kg, $P = 0.546$). There was an interaction
307 between parity and batch on body weight ($P = 0.035$), but no significant effect of batch
308 ($P = 0.099$) and no interaction with dietary treatment. There was no effect of group, batch, or
309 parity, and no interaction between factors on litter size at farrowing (16.0 ± 0.5 piglets,
310 $P > 0.1$), but there was an interaction between group and batch for the piglets' survival at
311 weaning (12.2 ± 0.5 piglets, $P = 0.038$), with no remaining difference after pairwise
312 comparisons. Over the 638 piglets that were born from the 40 sows of this study, there were
313 26 stillbirths and 64 additional piglets that died the day of farrowing. There was no difference
314 between groups in terms of sows' feed consumption during lactation (216 ± 4 kg, $P = 0.447$).
315 Sows' back fat deposition did not differ between groups before farrowing (16 ± 1 mm,
316 $P = 0.843$) and at the end of lactation (13 ± 1 mm, $P = 0.680$). There was a significant
317 decrease of fat deposition for all groups between the end of gestation and the end of lactation
318 ($P < 0.0001$), as well as a batch effect ($P < 0.0001$), but no group effect ($P = 0.610$) and no
319 interaction between factors.

320 The two-way ANOVAs with repeated measures performed on the whole dataset revealed an
321 overall significant increase of the progeny's body weight along time ($P < 0.0001$). After

322 weaning, there was an interaction between time and treatment ($P < 0.0004$), and between time
323 and batch ($P < 0.0001$), as well as a significant time effect after weaning ($P < 0.0001$), but no
324 significant effect before weaning ($P > 0.15$ for all). The batch effect was significant after
325 weaning ($P < 0.0001$), but not before ($P = 0.464$). Overall, body weight evolution of piglets
326 was significantly influenced by the interaction between maternal diet and time ($P = 0.0001$)
327 and by the maternal diet in itself ($P = 0.035$), but not by the piglets' diet ($P = 0.563$), nor by
328 the mother identity ($P = 0.505$). The three-way ANOVAs with repeated measures performed
329 on the two data subsets (FA1 and FA2, respectively) revealed no interaction between the
330 maternal and progeny's diets, from birth to PND160 (FA1: $P = 0.178$, FA2: $P = 0.344$), and
331 either before weaning (FA1: $P = 0.730$; FA2: $P = 0.345$) or after weaning (FA1: $P = 0.172$;
332 FA2: $P = 0.797$).

333 Piglets' birth body weight significantly differed between groups of maternal diet (C:
334 1.48 ± 0.02 kg; FA1: 1.62 ± 0.03 kg; FA2: 1.56 ± 0.03 kg; $P = 0.002$), with a significant
335 difference after pairwise comparisons between C and FA1 ($P = 0.005$), a trend between C and
336 FA2 ($P = 0.059$), and no difference between FA1 and FA2 ($P = 0.186$) (**Fig. 3A**). These
337 differences disappeared at weaning (9.26 ± 0.09 kg; $P = 0.623$). The ratio between piglets'
338 birth weight and weight at weaning significantly differed between groups (C: 6.37 ± 0.09 kg;
339 FA1: 5.96 ± 0.13 kg; FA2: 6.19 ± 0.14 kg; $P = 0.027$), with a lower ratio in FA1 compared to
340 C ($P = 0.008$), FA2 being intermediary. There was no difference between groups in terms of
341 body weight at PND70, but a significant effect of maternal diet was observed at PND160 with
342 piglets born from FA1 (118.5 ± 1.6 kg; $P = 0.034$) and FA2 (118.6 ± 1.7 kg; $P = 0.034$) sows
343 being heavier than piglets born from C sows (113.7 ± 1.3 kg) (**Fig. 3A**). The three-way
344 ANOVAs performed on the two data subsets (FA1 and FA2, respectively) at critical stages
345 revealed a significant effect of FA1 maternal diet at birth ($P = 0.0013$) as well as a trend at
346 slaughter (PND160, $P = 0.080$); it also revealed a significant effect of FA2 maternal diet at

347 birth ($P = 0.016$), PND70 ($P = 0.020$) and at slaughter (PND160, $P = 0.022$), but only a trend
348 at weaning (PND28, $P = 0.088$).

349 Overall at the group level, there was no significant effect of maternal diet, piglets' diet, and
350 crossed dietary treatments on piglets' feed consumption for the different periods or the whole
351 duration of the experiment ($P > 0.15$ for all comparisons). There was no effect either on the
352 feed intake during the first two weeks of access to solid feed, or during the three days of
353 transition between the pre-starter and starter diet ($P > 0.015$). However, feed consumption
354 was significantly different between batches ($P < 0.001$ for all comparisons), with decreased
355 overall group consumption along repetitions (Batch 1 > Batch 2 > Batch 3).

356 The comparison between both control groups (C/C vs. C/S) revealed no difference in terms of
357 piglets' growth ($P = 0.777$ at PND160). Merging data from both feed additives and
358 investigating the impact of no FA/addition/removal/continuity in terms of feed additive
359 exposure between the pre-weaning and post-weaning periods, significant differences appeared
360 between situations for body weight at PND160 ($P = 0.026$), with piglets subjected to FA only
361 before weaning having a higher body weight than piglets exposed to the FA only after
362 weaning (PND160: $P = 0.054$) or not exposed to FA at all (PND160: $P = 0.003$). There was
363 also a trend for piglets exposed to FA before and after weaning to have a higher body weight
364 than piglets that were not exposed to FA at all ($P = 0.067$). These differences already existed
365 for the birth body weight ($P = 0.003$), *i.e.* before the onset of post-weaning dietary treatment
366 (**Fig. 3A**).

367 Overall, there was an effect of the maternal diet and transition condition between the pre- and
368 post-weaning periods on ADG and ADFI, but not on G:F, whereas no effect of the piglets'
369 diet was observed on these variables (**Table 3**). The cofactor 'mother identity' had no
370 significant effect on these variables ($P > 0.15$ for all). A significant effect of maternal diet for
371 both ADG and ADFI was observed for PND70-160, PND28-160, and PND0-160 periods,

372 with piglets born from C sows having lower ADG and ADFI in comparison to piglets born
373 from FA1 and FA2 sows (**Fig. 3BC**). ANOVAs performed on the FA1 and FA2 data subsets
374 revealed no interaction between the maternal diet and progeny's diet ($P > 0.15$ for all). A
375 significant effect of transition condition between the pre- and post-weaning periods for both
376 ADG and ADFI was observed for PND70-160, PND28-160, and PND0-160 periods. Pigs
377 exposed to FA before weaning, with or without post-weaning exposure, had higher body
378 weight at birth and PND160 than pigs with no exposure at all (**Fig. 4A**). Pigs exposed to FA
379 before weaning only had higher ADG than piglets exposed to no FA at all for PND70-160,
380 PND28-160, and PND0-160 (**Fig. 4B**). Piglets exposed to FA before and after weaning had
381 higher ADG than piglets exposed to no FA at all for PND70-160. Piglets exposed to FA
382 before weaning only had higher ADFI than piglets exposed to FA after weaning only, or no
383 FA at all (for PND70-160 and PND28-160) (**Fig. 4C**). Moreover piglets exposed to FA before
384 and after weaning had higher ADFI than piglets exposed to no FA at all for PND28-160.

385

386

DISCUSSION

387

388 According to our data, feed supplementation with FA1 or FA2 in the sows' diet during the
389 last third of gestation and the whole lactation period improved the daily feed intake and
390 growth of the progeny from weaning to slaughter at PND160. The sensory properties of the
391 sows' colostrum and milk were modified by their diet, since chemical compounds of the FA
392 were transferred into the colostrum and milk; the nature and the amount of these compounds
393 depended on the FA formulation but also on the lactation stage and type of sample (colostrum
394 or milk). There was no significant effect of the progeny's diet on their feed intake and growth,
395 and no interaction between the maternal and progeny's diets contrary to our initial hypothesis

396 speculating a positive impact of a sensory continuum between the pre- and post-weaning
397 periods in the progeny. As a consequence, the higher growth and feed intake of piglets/pigs
398 exposed to the FA during the gestation, lactation, and post-weaning periods is likely due to
399 the pre-weaning than the post-weaning exposure to FA. Moreover, the group that better
400 responded was that exposed to the FA through the maternal diet only. This highlights the
401 importance of the maternal diet for programming further feed intake and growth in the
402 progeny, even in the absence of body weight and adiposity differences between sows. The
403 batch effect (*i.e.* three repetitions of the paradigm in January, February and March 2016)
404 observed for feed consumption was probably related to increasing temperature, leading to a
405 slight decrease in feed intake and weight gain. Though, this had no major effect on the
406 colostrum and milk sensory profiles.

407 Even though our results did not support our initial hypothesis of a favorable sensory
408 continuum, they are quite in line with several studies (Blavi et al., 2016; Langendijk et al.,
409 2007; Oostindjer et al., 2011; Oostindjer et al., 2009; Oostindjer et al., 2010) demonstrating
410 that prenatal exposure to some flavors affects eating behavior and growth of piglets and
411 growing pigs. Similarly to Oostindjer et al. (Oostindjer et al., 2011; Oostindjer et al., 2009;
412 Oostindjer et al., 2010), we showed that postnatal exposure only did not enhance feed intake
413 after weaning and that prenatal exposure in combination with postnatal exposure during the
414 lactation period had beneficial effects. We did not specifically investigate health and welfare
415 criteria in our study, and cannot tell whether the differences observed in terms of feed intake
416 and daily weight gain were accompanied by other behavioral or physiological effects.
417 Interestingly, the group that better performed was that exposed to the FA during gestation and
418 lactation, but not after weaning. This suggests that the increased growth and feed intake
419 observed were not induced by some kind of habituation or facilitation process regarding the
420 sensory characteristics of piglets' feed in comparison to what was showed in previous studies

421 (Langendijk et al., 2007; Oostindjer et al., 2011; Oostindjer et al., 2009; Oostindjer et al.,
422 2010). On the contrary, the beneficial effects observed in our piglets exposed to FA during
423 gestation and lactation were independent to the perception of these specific flavors later on,
424 which is partly in line with a recent study published by Blavi et al. (2016). They demonstrated
425 that the positive reward associated with the flavor included in the sows' diet was stronger
426 when piglets were offered a nonflavored creep feed, suggesting that early exposure of pigs'
427 fetuses to maternal dietary clues at the end of gestation might allow for conditioning pigs after
428 weaning. Though, contrary to our own results, they also showed that supplementing the
429 prestarter and starter diets with the flavor increased feed intake early after weaning.

430 Different hypotheses can be advanced to explain the beneficial effects of FA exposure
431 through the maternal diet. First, FA exposure in sows might have induced metabolic effects
432 that we did not assess in this study and that could have provided their progeny with an
433 adaptive advantage from birth, leading to better growth and/or appetite. Second, the
434 growth/appetite advantage of piglets born from FA sows might be directly related to what
435 they were exposed to during gestation and lactation. Limonene, cinnamaldehyde, menthol,
436 carvone, and anethole are the active compounds used as additives in this study. They are
437 extracted from fruits, spices, and other aromatic plants for use in aromatherapy and alternative
438 medicine, and have various functional effects that are unequally documented in the scientific
439 literature, as described below.

440 Citrus aromas or extracts such as limonene can reduce heart rate, arterial pressure, and
441 cortisol (Chang and Shen, 2011; Goes et al., 2012; Jafarzadeh et al., 2013; Lehrner et al.,
442 2000), as well as anxiety symptoms (Faturi et al., 2010; Goes et al., 2012; Morrone et al.,
443 2007; Saiyudthong and Marsden, 2011) in humans and animal models. They can even
444 normalize neuroendocrine hormone levels and immune functions in some instances (Komori
445 et al., 1995), and influence the dopaminergic and serotonergic brain turnover in the

446 prefrontal cortex and striatum (Komiya et al., 2006). Sweet orange extracts supplementation
447 can also increase learned and spontaneous feed preferences in lambs and piglets (Clouard and
448 Val-Laillet, 2014; Simitzis et al., 2008), and specifically modulate brain regions involved in
449 appetite, feed pleasure, and motivation in piglets (Val-Laillet et al., 2016). Concerning
450 cinnamaldehyde, Yang et al. (2010) showed that supplementing cattle with the main active
451 compound of cinnamon oil improved feed intake, although it had a reduced impact on weight
452 gain or carcass traits. On the other hand, some studies showed in mice fed a high-fat diet that
453 cinnamaldehyde could increase adipose tissue lipolysis, decrease fasting-induced
454 hyperphagia, feed intake, and/or gastric emptying rates, modulate secretion of leptin and
455 ghrelin, and reduce inflammation (Camacho et al., 2015; Khare et al., 2016). Interestingly,
456 Blavi et al. (2016) showed that a feed additive containing cinnamaldehyde and provided to
457 sows during gestation and lactation made piglets to consume more feed and gain more weight.
458 Both limonene and cinnamaldehyde were active compounds of the FA1, and the GC-MS
459 analyses demonstrated that limonene was successfully transferred into the maternal colostrum
460 and milk, meaning that piglets were exposed to it during all the lactation period and probably
461 also during the gestation phase through the amniotic fluid, as already demonstrated for
462 cinnamaldehyde by Blavi et al. (2016).

463 The fact that limonene was also present (though in much lower concentrations) in the
464 colostrum and milk of sows not supplemented in limonene can be explained by the fact that
465 this molecule is ubiquitous, meaning that it can be found in various biological environments
466 or matrices, and notably in the main ingredients of the sows' diet such as wheat and barley
467 (Bianchi et al., 2007; Niu et al., 2016). A contamination of the different feeds or animals *via*
468 indirect contact (*via* animal caretakers or air) might also explain why carvone and anethole
469 were also found in the colostrum and milk of sows that did not receive these molecules in
470 their respective diets. It is important to notice that, despite this possible contamination,

471 control piglets/pigs had a lower feed intake and growth. Further studies aimed at investigating
472 the impact of different doses of additives in the feed are required.

473 Literature on the compounds composing FA2 is scarcer, but there is interesting evidence
474 showing behavioral and metabolic effects of menthol, anethole, and carvone. Transfer of
475 anethole to the amniotic fluid was already demonstrated in sows (Blavi et al., 2016), but the
476 same authors failed to demonstrate a transfer to milk. In human mothers, the ingestion of
477 capsules containing menthol, anethole and carvone induced a peak of anethole and carvone in
478 the maternal milk two hours after intake (Hausner et al., 2008). Such a transfer in colostrum
479 and milk is clearly confirmed for anethole and carvone in our study, but is also highly
480 probable for menthol, which was detected at PND14 and PND28 in FA2 sows' milk.
481 Menthol, which induces cold sensation, can increase the activity of endogenous signaling
482 lipids and heat production (Ehrlich et al., 2016), or improve physical performance in hot
483 environments (Tran Trong et al., 2015). Topical application of L-menthol can also reduce
484 pain intensity, mechanical and heat hyperalgesia, as well as neurogenic inflammation induced
485 by the administration of a hot compound (Andersen et al., 2016). Anethole can have anti-
486 inflammatory, immunomodulatory, and neuroprotective effects (Aprotosoae et al., 2016).
487 Interestingly Hatano et al. (2012) showed an anxiolytic effect of carvone in rats subjected to
488 the elevated T-maze test. However, a phytogetic additive characterized by menthol and
489 anethole only had a tendency towards improved zootechnical performance and apparent ileal
490 absorption of phosphorus in broilers, whereas encapsulated essential oils of caravacol,
491 thymol, and limonene significantly improved performance and digestibility (Hafeez et al.,
492 2016). Interestingly, Blavi et al. (2016) showed that a feed additive containing anethole and
493 provided to sows during gestation and lactation caused piglets to consume more feed and gain
494 more weight.

495 Convergent data are still lacking to illustrate the impact of these phytochemical compounds on
496 eating behavior and body weight, but the effects observed on performance in our study are
497 more likely related to early programming mechanisms rather than appetite facilitation through
498 sensory habituation processes, because the group with the best outcomes was that with
499 maternal exposure only. Previous studies already showed an impact of biologically active
500 compounds such as seaweed or ginger extracts supplemented in the sow's diet on the
501 progeny's body weight, performance and immunity, without direct exposure of the piglets
502 {Leonard, 2010 #115;Lee, 2013 #116}. Our own results even suggest that exposure to the
503 additives after weaning had rather negative consequences or no consequence at all. As
504 previously stated, this is in contradiction with some studies in pigs and humans showing in
505 younglings a better acceptability of a flavor that was previously incorporated in the maternal
506 diet (Nicklaus, 2016b; Oostindjer et al., 2009). Even though there was no aversion to the
507 sensory additives included in the piglets' feed, since feed consumption and performance did
508 not differ from the control group, we failed at demonstrating a positive impact of the additives
509 incorporated to the weaned piglets' feed.

510 Two hypotheses can be proposed to explain these results. First, the additives concentration or
511 inclusion rate used for sows might not be adapted to piglets. Previous studies showed that the
512 concentration of the additive is very important for perception and hedonic processes,
513 especially in young animals (Clouard et al., 2012; Clouard and Val-Laillet, 2014; Val-Laillet
514 et al., 2016). A dose-effect study is consequently needed to identify the optimal concentration
515 for acceptance and palatability of the additives in piglets. Second, it is possible that the
516 beneficial effects of the additives are related to a particular developmental stage, during which
517 specific events/exposures can shape further metabolic and behavioral processes. Perinatal
518 exposure is determinant for the development of flavor preferences, appetite regulation, and
519 nutritional programming, both in humans and pigs (Nicklaus, 2016a, b; Roura et al., 2016).

520 Further studies are needed to investigate the impact of early exposure to phytogetic products,
521 and especially during gestation and lactation, on brain development and plasticity, as well as
522 nutritional and behavioral programming. For example, Todrank et al. (2011) showed the
523 effects of *in utero* odorant exposure on neuroanatomical development of the olfactory bulb
524 and odor preferences, describing larger tagged glomeruli in mice exposed to these activating
525 odorants in amniotic fluid and later in mother's milk, as well as significant preferences for the
526 activating odor.

527 In conclusion, our study demonstrated that phytogetic additives in the maternal diet during
528 gestation and lactation could modulate the sensory and biochemical profiles of maternal
529 colostrum and milk, as well as the progeny's growth and performance even in the absence of
530 post-weaning exposure to these additives. Notably, the transfer of limonene, carvone,
531 anethole, and probably menthol from the maternal feed to sows' colostrum and milk was
532 demonstrated, which was unprecedented. No beneficial effect was observed when the
533 additives were supplemented in the piglets' solid feed after weaning, with or without early
534 exposure. These results highlight the importance of the exposure to bioactive sensory
535 compounds during the perinatal period for nutritional programming and/or sensory
536 conditioning and further performance, and suggest that the effects observed after weaning
537 were independent from a familiarization process to the organoleptic and sensory properties of
538 the additives. The potential mechanisms underlying this programming/conditioning
539 phenomenon need further investigation to validate the putative action modes of the additives.

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676

677

678 **Table 1.** Composition of the animal feeds used in the study. The gestation and lactation feeds
 679 were provided to the gestating or lactating sows. The pre-starter, starter, and growth feeds
 680 were provided to the piglets. ++ and + symbols indicate very small and infinitesimal
 681 quantities of compounds added in the diet.
 682
 683

	Gestation (GD)	Lactation (LD)	Pre-starter (PS)	Starter (ST)	Growth (GR)
Composition (%)					
Wheat	22.0	25.6		23.2	26.2
Corn	10.0	12.0		25.0	16.0
Barley	33.9	25.68	45.31	24.05	25.5
Wheat bran	15.0	10.0			5.0
Soybean meal	9.0	18.0	17.5	22.57	19.0
Soybean proteins			2.5		
Vegetal oil	2.0	2.0	2.3	0.45	2.0
Molasses		3.0			3.0
Beet pulp	5.0				
Mild lactoserum			20.0		
Fattened milk			8.0		
Carbonate calcium	1.74	1.2	1.41	1.13	1.29
Mono-calcic phosphate			0.8	0.97	
Bi-calcic phosphate	0.3	1.02			0.5
Salt	0.45	0.45		0.4	0.45
Vitamin complement	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Lysine		+	++	++	+
Méthionine		+	++	++	+
Thréonine		+	++	++	+
Tryptophane			+	+	
Valine			+	+	
Acidifying agent	+	+	+	+	+
Phytase	+	+	+	+	+
Chemical composition %					
Dry matter	87.58	86.94	89.92	86.99	
Mineral content	5.77	6.06	7.02	5.44	5.6
Crude Protein	13.32	16.45	18.99	18,0	16.5
Fat content	4.28	4.21	6.74	2.79	4.2
Crude fibre	5.14	4.09	2.97	3.62	3.8
Starch	40.5	38.9	24.5	43.5	40.9
Nutritional values					
Net energy, MJ/kg	9.25	9.41	10.63	9.67	9.67

684

Table 2. Concentrations (ppm) of four target compounds in sows' colostrum/milk. Samples with values lower than 0.05 ppm were labeled trace, while values lower than 0.02 ppm were labeled absent. Limonene and cinnamaldehyde were added to the FA1 diet, whereas menthol, carvone, and anethole were added to the FA2 diet. Cinnamaldehyde was always below the detection range. Data are expressed as mean \pm SE.

	Control			FA1			FA2		
	PND1	PND14	PND28	PND1	PND14	PND28	PND1	PND14	PND28
Batch 1									
Limonene	1.85 \pm 0.67	0.34 \pm 0.18	1.34 \pm 1.34	2.61 \pm 1.14	6.31 \pm 3.26	10.74 \pm 4.21	3.54 \pm 1.55	–	4.49 \pm 3.66
Menthol	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.16 \pm 0.16
Carvone	0.09 \pm 0.04	trace	0.08 \pm 0.05	0.06 \pm 0.03	trace	trace	0.41 \pm 0.08	0.47 \pm 0.24	2.08 \pm 1.45
Anethole	0.06 \pm 0.01	–	trace	trace	–	trace	0.11 \pm 0.05	0.13 \pm 0.05	0.33 \pm 0.01
Batch 2									
Limonene	2.54 \pm 1.90	–	1.51 \pm 1.51	6.46 \pm 1.46	6.76 \pm 2.60	12.66 \pm 0.10	0.91 \pm 0.79	0.33 \pm 0.23	0.09 \pm 0.07
Menthol	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.43 \pm 0.18	–
Carvone	0.27 \pm 0.18	trace	trace	–	trace	–	0.23 \pm 0.06	0.29 \pm 0.08	0.37 \pm 0.01
Anethole	0.07 \pm 0.03	trace	–	0.08 \pm 0.06	trace	trace	0.14 \pm 0.01	0.16 \pm 0.02	0.36 \pm 0.01
Batch 3									
Limonene	1.01 \pm 1.00	0.60 \pm 0.45	0.32 \pm 0.32	2.87 \pm 0.80	8.68 \pm 0.95	6.36 \pm 1.92	1.04 \pm 0.81	0.42 \pm 0.28	–
Menthol	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.17 \pm 0.19	0.32 \pm 0.07
Carvone	trace	trace	–	0.07 \pm 0.03	trace	–	0.27 \pm 0.09	1.39 \pm 0.356	0.84 \pm 0.08
Anethole	trace	trace	–	trace	–	–	0.16 \pm 0.11	0.21 \pm 0.07	0.11 \pm 0.06
Total									
Limonene	1.80 \pm 0.69	0.31 \pm 0.16	1.06 \pm 0.62	3.84 \pm 0.83	7.31 \pm 1.46	9.58 \pm 1.97	1.75 \pm 0.66	0.29 \pm 0.14	1.15 \pm 1.12
Menthol	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.19 \pm 0.11	0.20 \pm 0.06
Carvone	0.13 \pm 0.07	trace	trace	trace	trace	0.06 \pm 0.02	0.30 \pm 0.05	0.89 \pm 0.25	1.04 \pm 0.41
Anethole	trace	trace	–	trace	trace	trace	0.14 \pm 0.04	0.18 \pm 0.04	0.23 \pm 0.05

Table 3. Pigs' average daily gain (ADG), average daily feed intake (ADFI), and growth:feed ratio (G:F) depending on the treatment (sow's diet/progeny's diet *e.g.* C/C C/S *etc.*) and time period (PND postnatal day). C: control diet; S, FA1S, FA2S: diets with sweetener; FA1: diet with feed additive 1; FA2: diet with feed additive 2. *P*-values for the maternal diet, progeny's diet, and transition effects are indicated for each parameter and time period. Data are expressed as mean \pm SE. Significant values ($P < 0.05$) are indicated in bold and italic.

	ADG					ADFI			G:F		
	PND0-28	PND28-70	PND70-160	PND28-160	PND0-160	PND28-70	PND70-160	PND28-160	PND28-70	PND70-160	PND28-160
C/C	294 \pm 7	505 \pm 22	905 \pm 18	781 \pm 14	696 \pm 12	806 \pm 16	1578 \pm 30	1344 \pm 25	.63 \pm .02	.58 \pm .02	.58 \pm .01
C/S	296 \pm 7	511 \pm 17	893 \pm 24	774 \pm 18	691 \pm 15	807 \pm 7	1557 \pm 18	1330 \pm 12	.63 \pm .02	.57 \pm .02	.58 \pm .01
C/FA1S	298 \pm 9	512 \pm 24	932 \pm 22	801 \pm 20	713 \pm 17	861 \pm 27	1594 \pm 36	1373 \pm 32	.60 \pm .03	.59 \pm .02	.59 \pm .02
C/FA2S	292 \pm 7	474 \pm 31	937 \pm 28	793 \pm 26	705 \pm 21	716 \pm 11	1591 \pm 20	1325 \pm 17	.66 \pm .04	.59 \pm .02	.60 \pm .02
FA1/S	305 \pm 10	529 \pm 23	983 \pm 18	842 \pm 15	748 \pm 13	855 \pm 22	1760 \pm 66	1485 \pm 49	.62 \pm .02	.57 \pm .02	.58 \pm .02
FA1/FA1S	309 \pm 12	485 \pm 26	936 \pm 19	796 \pm 17	711 \pm 15	782 \pm 26	1593 \pm 74	1348 \pm 58	.62 \pm .03	.62 \pm .04	.61 \pm .03
FA2/S	304 \pm 9	516 \pm 32	957 \pm 19	820 \pm 22	730 \pm 18	799 \pm 28	1636 \pm 57	1382 \pm 38	.64 \pm .03	.60 \pm .03	.61 \pm .03
FA2/FA2S	300 \pm 9	531 \pm 24	956 \pm 18	823 \pm 17	732 \pm 15	844 \pm 34	1700 \pm 75	1485 \pm 36	.63 \pm .02	.58 \pm .02	.56 \pm .02
Maternal diet effect	0.298	0.571	0.024	0.049	0.036	0.419	0.039	0.006	0.817	0.847	0.839
C progeny	295 \pm 4	500 \pm 12	917 \pm 12	787 \pm 10	701 \pm 8	798 \pm 10	1580 \pm 13	1343 \pm 11	.63 \pm .01	.58 \pm .01	.59 \pm .01
FA1 progeny	307 \pm 8	508 \pm 17	960 \pm 13	819 \pm 12	730 \pm 10	820 \pm 18	1678 \pm 50	1418 \pm 39	.62 \pm .02	.59 \pm .02	.59 \pm .02
FA2 progeny	302 \pm 6	524 \pm 20	956 \pm 13	822 \pm 14	731 \pm 12	822 \pm 22	1669 \pm 47	1435 \pm 27	.64 \pm .02	.59 \pm .02	.58 \pm .02
Progeny's diet effect	0.787	0.814	0.411	0.531	0.522	0.255	0.467	0.388	0.589	0.752	0.810
Transition effect	0.541	0.701	0.009	0.039	0.030	0.468	0.054	0.016	0.999	0.830	0.947
No FA	295 \pm 5	508 \pm 14	899 \pm 15	778 \pm 11	693 \pm 9	806 \pm 8	1567 \pm 17	1337 \pm 14	.63 \pm .02	.58 \pm .01	.58 \pm .01
Addition	295 \pm 6	493 \pm 19	934 \pm 18	797 \pm 16	709 \pm 13	789 \pm 18	1592 \pm 20	1349 \pm 18	.63 \pm .02	.59 \pm .01	.58 \pm .01
Removal	304 \pm 7	522 \pm 19	970 \pm 13	832 \pm 13	739 \pm 11	828 \pm 18	1699 \pm 44	1435 \pm 32	.63 \pm .02	.59 \pm .02	.59 \pm .02
Continuity	304 \pm 8	508 \pm 18	946 \pm 13	810 \pm 12	722 \pm 10	814 \pm 22	1648 \pm 53	1418 \pm 35	.63 \pm .02	.60 \pm .02	.58 \pm .02

Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental paradigm showing the A) exposure periods to the different experimental feeds in sows and piglets (PND postnatal day). Apart from the feed additives tested (FA1 and FA2), a sweetener was added in all piglets' diets excepting for a control group (C). The S diet corresponded to a control diet without feed additive but with the sweetener. B) Distribution of the animals per batch (B1, B2, B3), experimental treatment and housing pen.

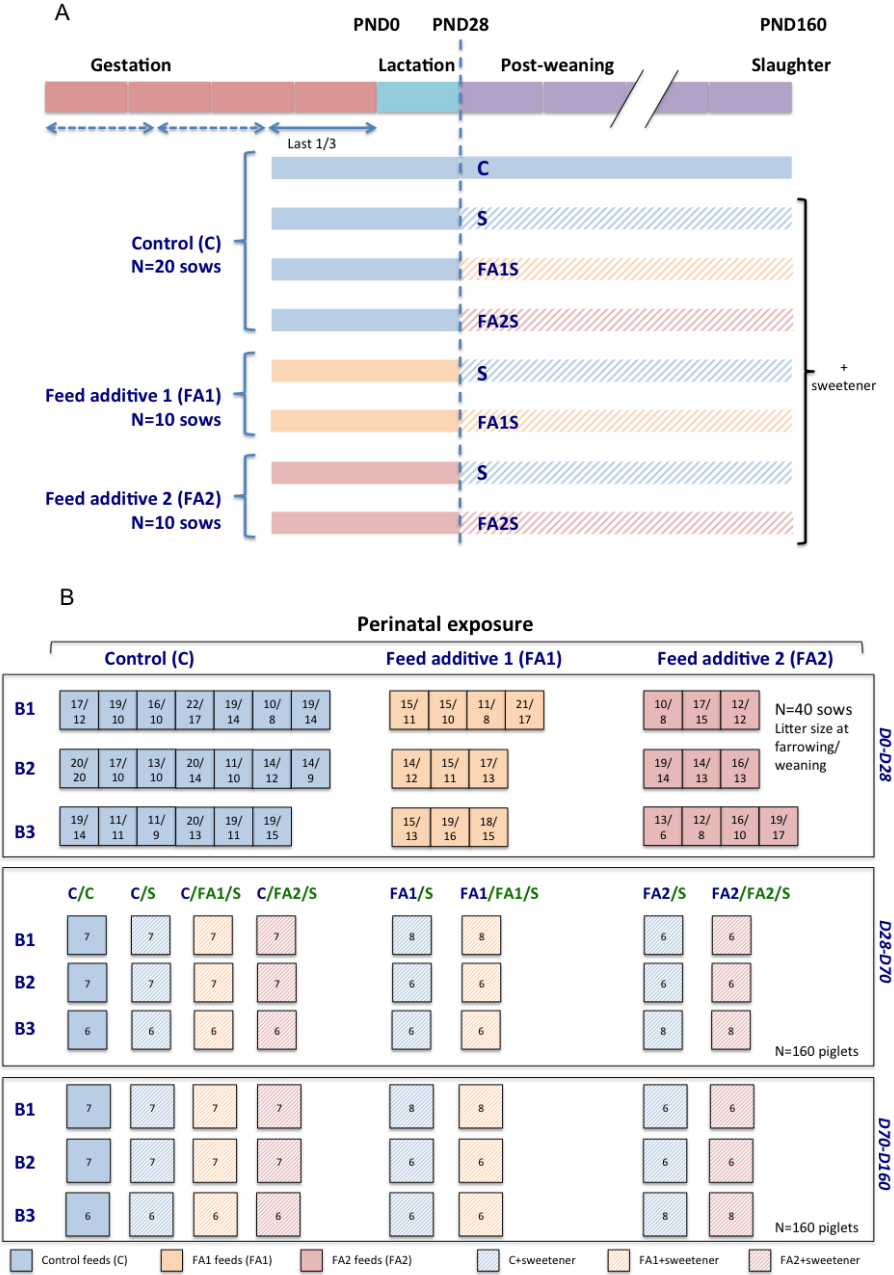


Figure 2. Concentrations of four target compounds in the colostrum/milk of sows fed a control (N=9), FA1 (N=10), or FA2 (N=10) diet. Limonene (A) and cinnamaldehyde were added to the FA1 diet, whereas menthol (B), carvone (C), and anethole (D) were added to the FA2 diet. Cinnamaldehyde was always below the detection range (0.05 ppm). Analyses were performed using SPME and GC-MS. Data are expressed as mean \pm SE.

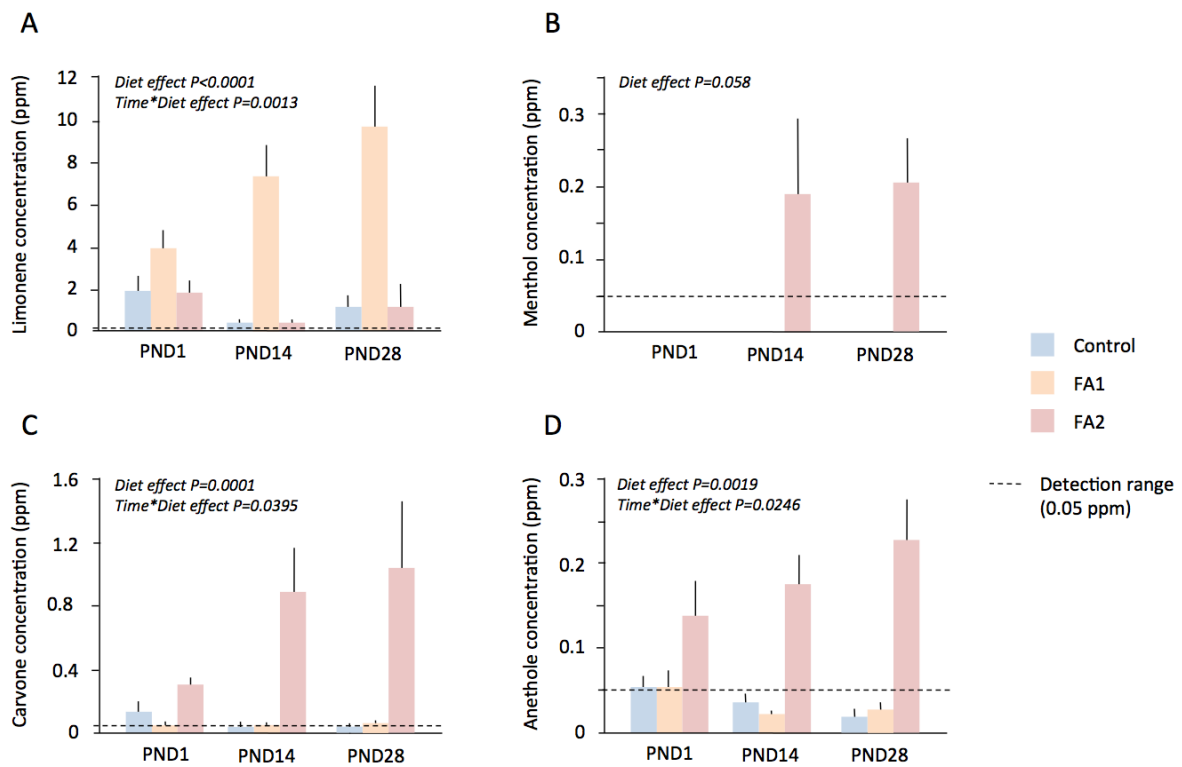


Figure 3. Impact of the maternal diet on the progeny's body weight (A), average daily gain (B), and average daily feed consumption (C) at different ages and periods from birth to slaughter (PND: postnatal day). C sows were subjected to a control diet during the whole trial. FA1 and FA2 sows were subjected to the control diet with a feed additive (FA1 or FA2) during the last third of gestation and whole lactation period. Data are expressed as mean \pm SE. Two different letters indicate a significant difference at $P < 0.05$.

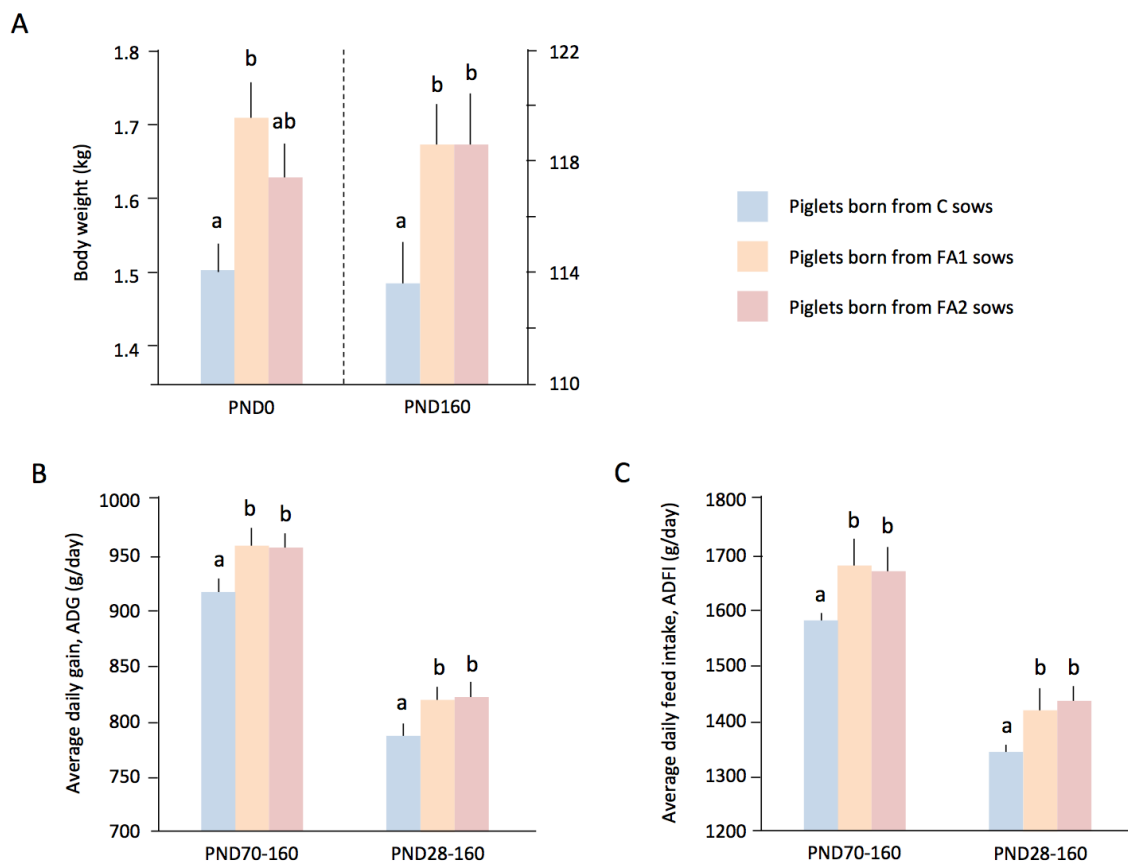
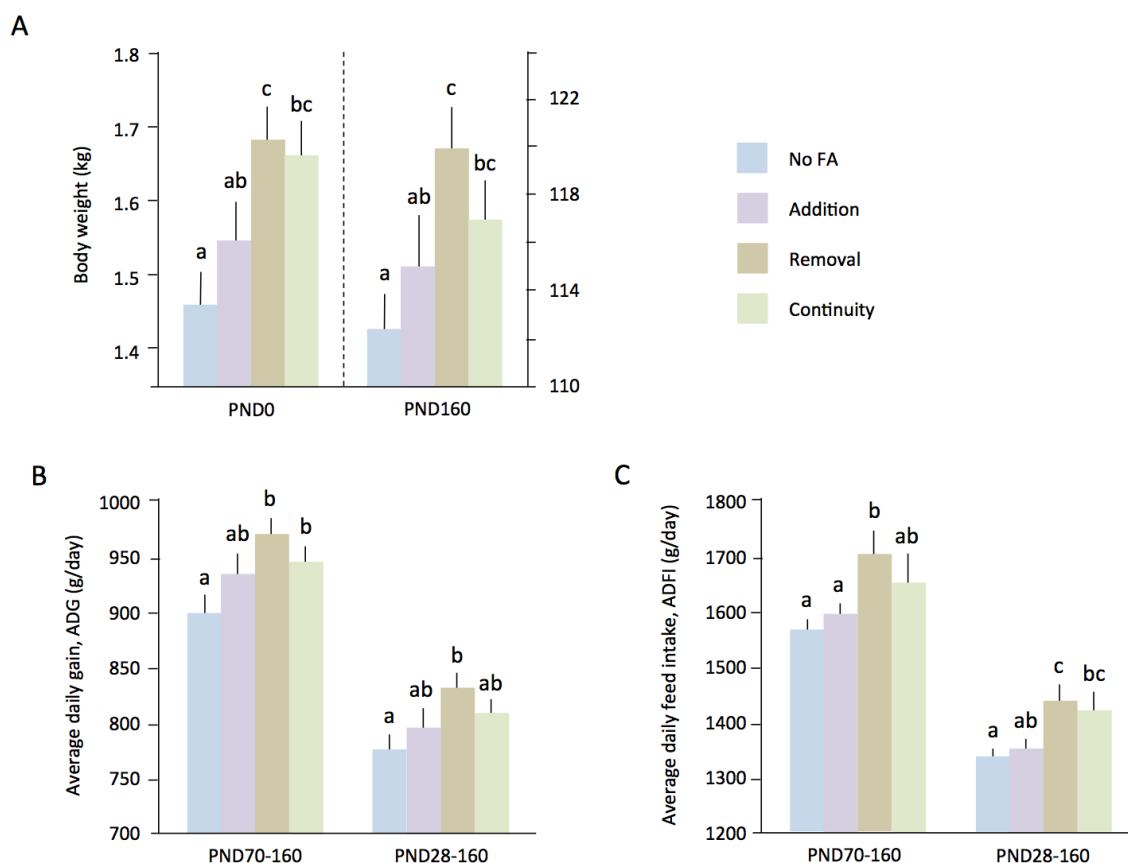


Figure 4. Impact of the transition type between the sows' diet and progeny's diet on the progeny's body weight (A), average daily gain (B), and average daily feed intake (C) at different ages and periods (PND postnatal day). The "No FA" condition corresponded to sows and their progeny subjected to a diet without feed additive, the "Addition" condition corresponded to the situation where only the progeny was subjected to a diet with a feed additive (FA1 or FA2), the "Removal" condition corresponded to the situation where only the sows were subjected to a diet with a feed additive (FA1 or FA2), the "Continuity" condition corresponded to the situation where both sows and their progeny were subjected to a diet with a feed additive (FA1 or FA2). Data are expressed as mean \pm SE. Two different letters indicate a significant difference at $P < 0.05$.



Appendix 1: List and raw data (ppm) of the colostrum/milk samples analyzed at day 1, 14 and 28 of lactation for each of the four detected compounds.

Batch	Animal	Diet	Limone	Limone	Limone	Menthol	Menthol	Menthol	Carvone	Carvone	Carvone	Anethole	Anethole	Anethole
			D1	D14	D28	D1	D14	D28	D1	D14	D28	D1	D14	D28
1	220965	Control	2.430	0.415	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.151	0.025	0.000	0.082	0.015	0.000
1	241978	Control	0.507	0.605	4.033	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.026	0.057	0.159	0.041	0.043	0.033
1	321402	Control	2.597	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.000	0.072	0.057	0.002	0.073
1	320424	FA1	4.538	3.484	20.407	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.038	0.016	0.058	0.019	0.003
1	341560	FA1	1.255	1.689	6.909	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.042	0.026	0.058	0.018	0.037
1	341566	FA1	4.548		4.913	0.000		0.000	0.135		0.086	0.027		0.055
1	463860	FA1	0.093	13.755		0.000	0.000		0.018	0.023		0.042	0.005	
1	220966	FA2	6.007	0.000		0.000	0.000		0.569	0.759		0.036	0.063	
1	320423	FA2	3.917		8.964	0.000		20.080	0.377		3.859	0.081		0.330
1	463856	FA2	0.686	0.000	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.162	0.298	0.178	0.301	0.200	0.192	0.321
2	320839	Control	6.274	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.623	0.000	0.034	0.135	0.013	0.016
2	464887	Control	1.272	0.000	4.524	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.167	0.027	0.036	0.029	0.057	0.011
2	561152	Control	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.083	0.027	0.048	0.066	0.020
2	461869	FA1	7.109			0.000			0.017			0.211		
2	463862	FA1	3.674	9.940	12.780	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.064	0.122	0.028	0.045	0.018
2	561621	FA1	8.589	3.578	12.538	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.012	0.153	0.012	0.021	0.077
2	322770	FA2	2.729	0.652		0.000	0.685		0.369	0.400		0.104	0.190	
2	461871	FA2	0.000		0.000	0.000		0.000	0.170		0.359	0.147		0.379
2	561619	FA2	0.000	0.000	0.188	0.000	0.170	0.000	0.161	0.177	0.378	0.155	0.127	0.340
3	320834	Control	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.020	0.000	0.025	0.008	0.009
3	320838	Control	3.021	1.475	0.972	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.070	0.000	0.047	0.011	0.007
3	464436	Control	0.000	0.334	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.012	0.020	0.000	0.018	0.105	0.004
3	230862	FA1	2.039	6.819	7.341	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.023	0.014	0.047	0.010	0.022
3	321454	FA1	4.463	9.241	9.075	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.108	0.113	0.018	0.060	0.030	0.017
3	462306	FA1	2.101	9.978	2.662	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.082	0.022	0.010	0.000	0.026	0.002
3	320452	FA2	0.182	0.809	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.242	0.137	1.529	0.786	0.037	0.270	0.075
3	460050	FA2	3.123	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.191	0.447	1.066	0.729	0.115	0.080	0.047
3	460051	FA2	0.289	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.480	0.134	2.196	1.055	0.049	0.140	0.051
3	460303	FA2	0.549	0.870	0.000	0.000	0.665	0.351	0.353	0.785	0.809	0.457	0.355	0.280