



ECAR
European College of Animal Reproduction



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<https://www.facebook.com/pigresearch/>

2nd ECAR Course on Pig Reproduction and Herd Health

This course takes place **24 – 28 February 2020** near **Helsinki / Finland** and is open for residents and diplomats of the ECAR and ESPHM. Altogether, six residents / diplomats can register.

The course will include **lectures (10 h)**, **hands-on workshops (4.5 h)**, **group work (4h)** and a **full-day pig herd visits**. There is also an **optional pre-course visit to Olkipossu** (Translation: *straw pig*) (<http://olkipossu.fi/>) which is an innovative small locally producing family pig farm with high animal welfare and international reputation.

We will also offer **voluntarily pre-course online lectures** on basic subjects in pig production, e.g., reproductive physiology of sows and boars, endocrinology and physiology of gestation and parturition as well as puerperium and lactation. These lectures will be free of charge and available to everyone.

For further information email to Stefan.bjorkman@helsinki.fi

Course fees

Course | 500€ (Includes: Lunch & coffee breaks, daily transportation from Helsinki to course venue and the pig farm)

Pre-course pig farm visit | 50€ (Includes: Transportation)

Registration

Application period | 1.9.2019 (16:00 EEST) – 29.9.2019 (16:00 EEST)

Residents will be given priority. Year of residency will be taken into consideration.

Apply here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WXWumNwQiEKOLkWT5i_i7skF5jpU0sNDo_extrD9HhtUNIA2OTRZTlowUkRUUDJROU1aSkY3Q110Ny4u



Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
23.2.	15:00 - 18:00	Optional pre-course farm visit to Olkipossu
24.2.	9:00 - 12:00	Lectures - Farrowing & Neonatal management
		<i>Successful farrowing (CO)</i>
		<i>Neonate piglets and colostrum management (CO)</i>
	13:00 - 16:00	Group-work I
		<i>Introduction of participants</i>
		<i>Participants' wishes</i>
		<i>Group work - Preparation of Wednesday's farm visit</i>
	17:00 - 20:00	Social event (Sponsored by MSD)
		<i>Dinner & Smoke Sauna in Finnish woods</i>
25.2.	9:00 - 12:00	Lectures - Fertility management
		<i>Fertility problems in sows (AG)</i>
		<i>Fertility problems in boars (SB)</i>
	13:00 - 16:00	Practical training - Workshops I
		<i>General examination of the sow &</i>
		<i>Diagnostic approach to the sub-/infertile sow (AG)</i>
		<i>Obstetrical examination &</i>
		<i>Examination of the female reproductive tract (OP)</i>
		<i>Semen evaluation &</i>
<i>Diagnostic approach to the sub-/infertile boar (SB)</i>		
26.2.	8:00 - 16:00	Practical training - Farm visit
		<i>Examination of farrowing unit & neonatal piglets (CO)</i>
		<i>Examination of the boar (AG)</i>
		<i>Examination of pregnant and non-pregnant sows (SB)</i>
27.2.	10:00 - 12:00	Lectures - Herd Health management
		<i>Biosecurity on pig farms (MH)</i>
	13:00 - 16:00	Practical training - Workshops II
<i>Euthanasia / Autopsy of piglets & sows (MH)</i>		
28.2.	9:00 - 12:00	Lectures - New innovations
		<i>Alternatives to physical castration (OP)</i>
	13:00 - 16:00	<i>New innovations for environmental enrichment (HT)</i>
		Group work II
		<i>Group work - Summary of Wednesday's farm visit</i>
	<i>Presentation of group work</i>	
	<i>Participants' wishes</i>	

Teachers

SB | Stefan Björkman, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ECAR

Stefan is a clinical teacher in Animal Reproduction at the Department of Production Animal Medicine, Helsinki University. He has done his PhD in pig reproduction and is a Diplomate of the European College of Animal Reproduction (ECAR, Subspecialisation in porcine reproduction).

CO | Claudio Oliviero, DVM, PhD

Claudio is an Adjunct Professor of Diseases, reproduction and herd health in pigs, at the Department of Production Animal Medicine, Helsinki University. He has done his PhD in pig reproduction focusing on farrowing. He is conducting research on farrowing duration, colostrum, neonatal vitality, and interaction between gut microbiota and immunity.

AG | Alexander Grahofer, DVM, Diplomate ECPHM

Alexander is a Research Assistant at the Swine Clinic Berne, Vetsuisse University. He has done his doctoral thesis in pig reproduction and is a Diplomate of the European College of Porcine Health Management (ECPHM) and a Resident of the European College of Animal Reproduction (ECAR, Subspecialisation in porcine reproduction).

OP | Olli Peltoniemi, DVM, MVetSc, PhD, Diplomate ECAR

Olli is a Professor in Animal Reproduction at the Department of Production Animal Medicine, Helsinki University. He has done his PhD in pig reproduction and is a Diplomate of the European College of Porcine Health Management (ECPHM).

MH | Mari Heinonen, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ECPHM

Mari is a Professor in Swine Medicine at the Department of Production Animal Medicine, Helsinki University. She has done her PhD in Swine Medicine and is a Diplomate of the European College of Porcine Health Management (ECPHM).

HT | Helena Telkänranta, PhD

Helena is a Biologist, Research Associate, award-winning nonfiction author and lecturer specialized in animal behaviour, emotions and cognition. She is a Scientist at University of Bristol and Helsinki and does science communication at Siluris Communications. She has been awarded multiple times for her books such as the one "What's it like to be an animal". New innovations for environmental enrichment on pig farms is a project of hers at the University of Helsinki, developing new ways to reduce tail biting and other problems caused by the production environment.

Venue & recommended accommodation

The course will take place at the Production Animal Unit of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital of the University of Helsinki / Finland. This clinic is located in Saari, a small village 60 kilometers northeast of Helsinki. Further information: <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/faculty-of-veterinary-medicine/faculty/department-of-production-animal-medicine>



We recommend you to stay at Unihome Töölö Towers (<https://en.unihome.fi/locations/toolo-towers/>). There are affordable studios with own bathroom, shower and kitchen. Free WiFi is available. Each room offers a refrigerator, iron and flat-screen TV. The private bathroom has a shower. The apartments and studios feature a full kitchen. Breakfast is included in the room price. There is a reception and sauna. Central Helsinki is 15 minutes away via public transportation, and the closest tram stop is a 3-minute walk away. The nearest airport is Helsinki-Vantaa Airport, 19.2 km from the property. **University rate is about 350€.** University rates only available through reservations made by your host faculty (please contact Stefan Björkman; Stefan.bjorkman@helsinki.fi). Daily transportation to the course venue will start in front of this house.

