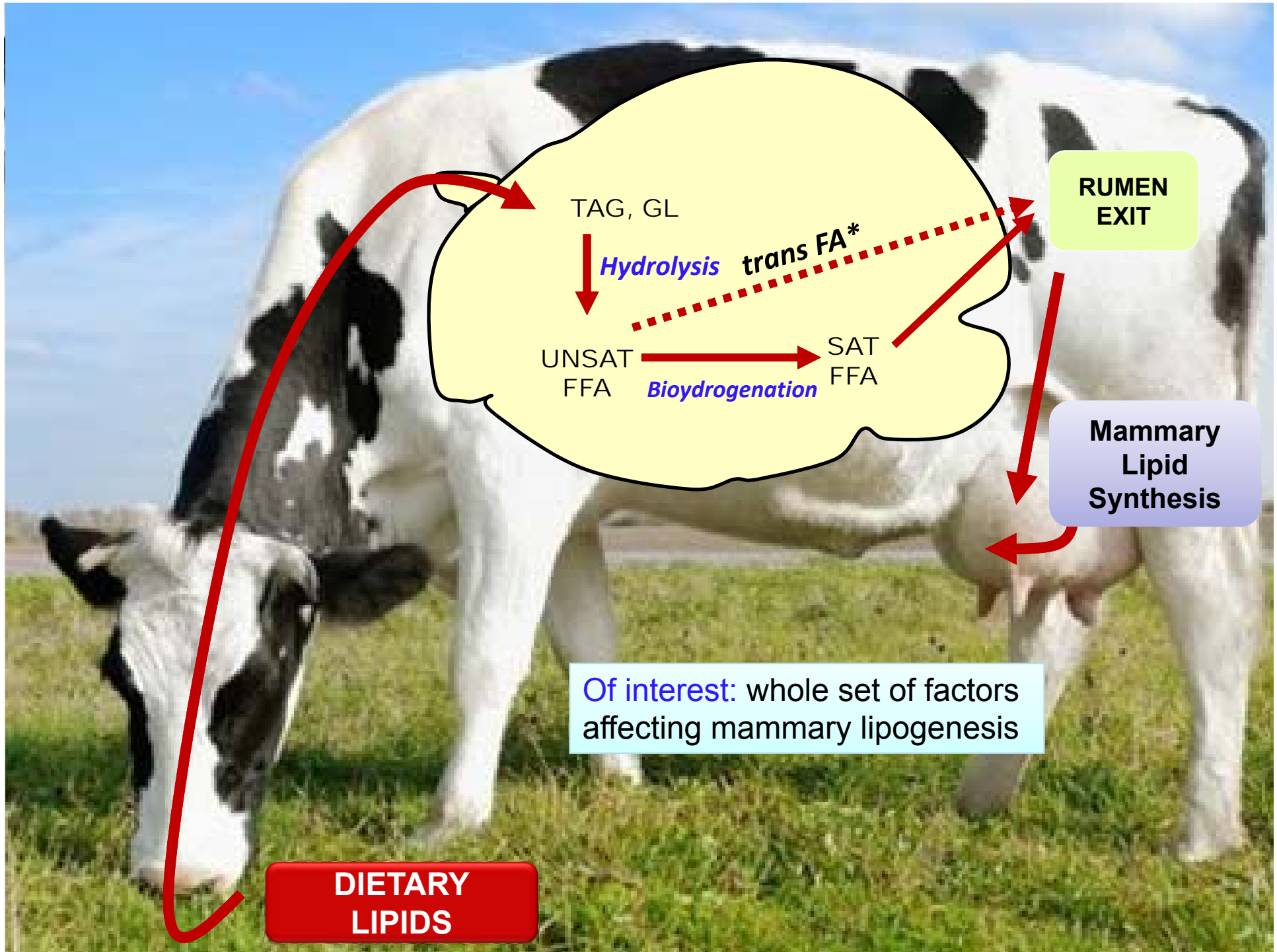


# Understanding Milk Fat Synthesis

**Rachel Gervais\***  
**Daniel E. Rico**

*14<sup>th</sup> Euro Fed Lipid Congress*  
21-23 September 2016  
Lokeren, Belgium





**DIETARY LIPIDS**

Of interest: whole set of factors affecting mammary lipogenesis

**RUMEN EXIT**

**Mammary Lipid Synthesis**

TAG, GL

Hydrolysis trans FA\*

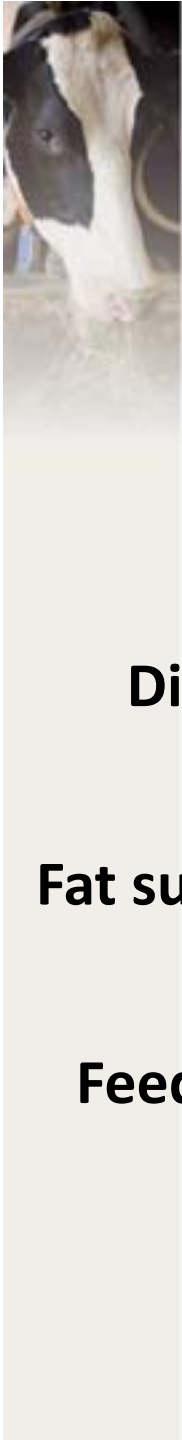
UNSAT FFA

Biohydrogenation

SAT FFA

RUMEN EXIT

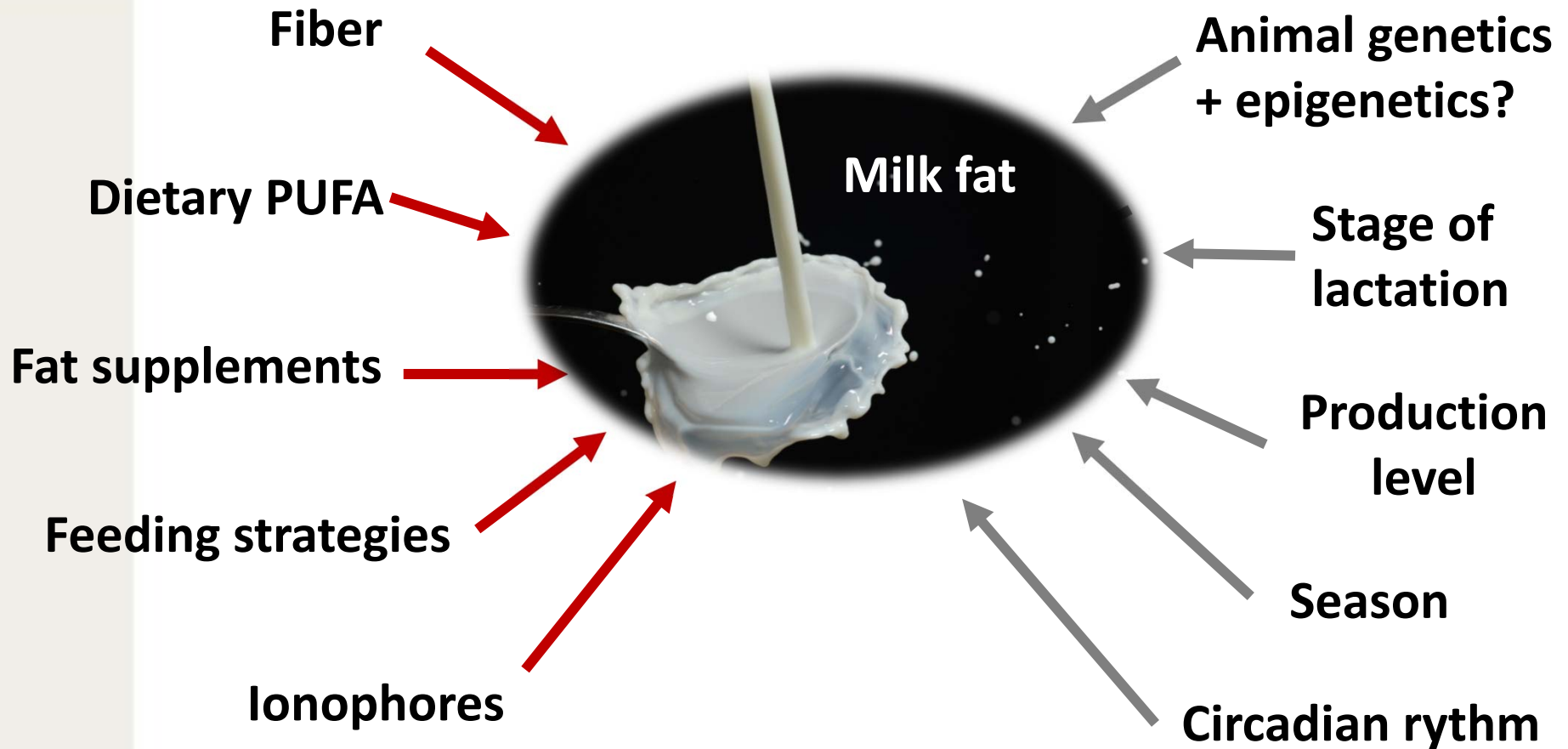
Mammary Lipid Synthesis

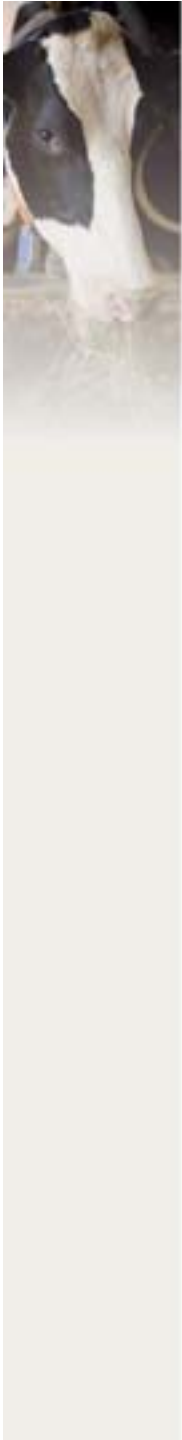


# Numerous factors affect milk fat

**Nutritional factors**

**Non-nutritional factors**





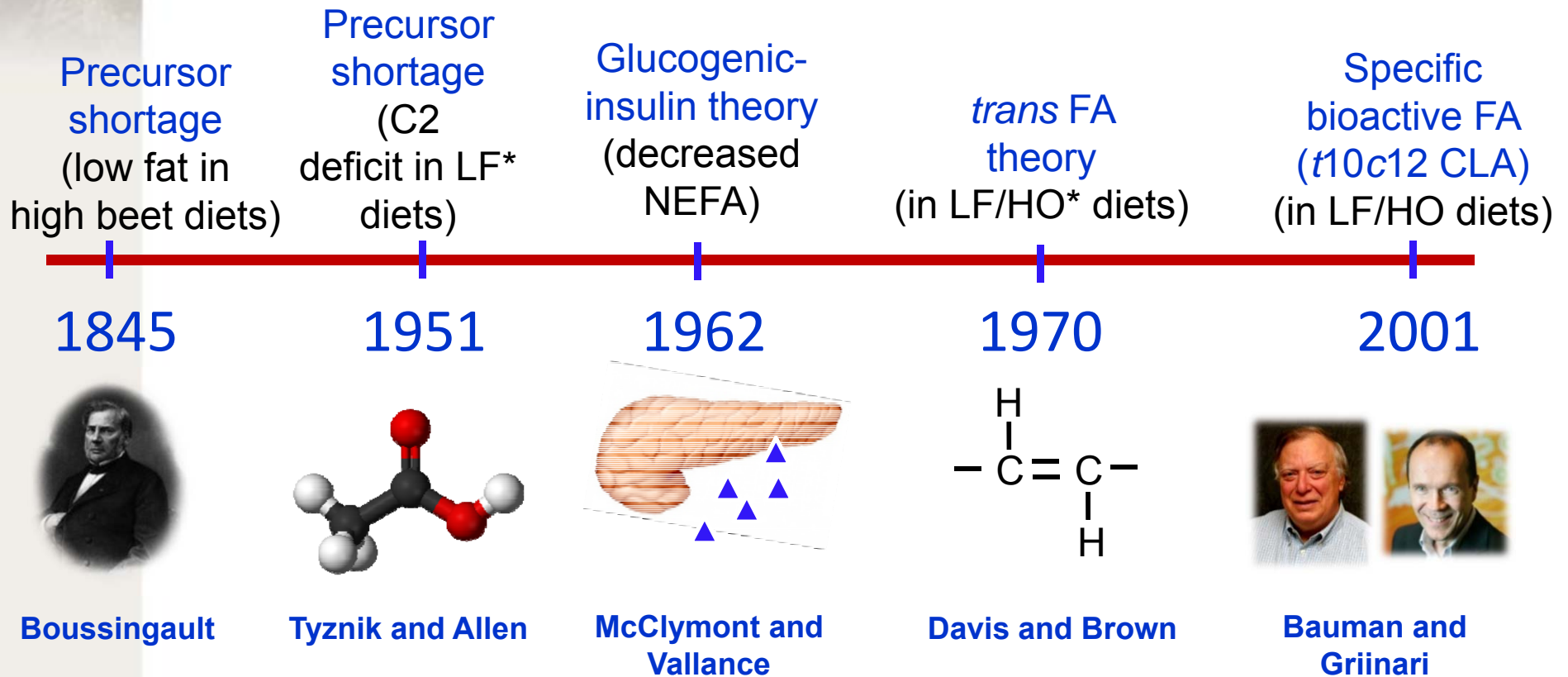
# Milk fat depression, an old problem

- i) Recognized by Boussingault in 1845
- i) Occurs under certain dietary conditions
  - High concentrate/low fiber
  - Plant and fish oil supplements (PUFA)
- iii) Particular phenotype:
  - Specific decrease in fat yield (up to 50%)
  - Decrease in fatty acid yield
    - *de novo* > preformed
    - increase in specific *trans* fatty acids (FA)



**Boussingault**

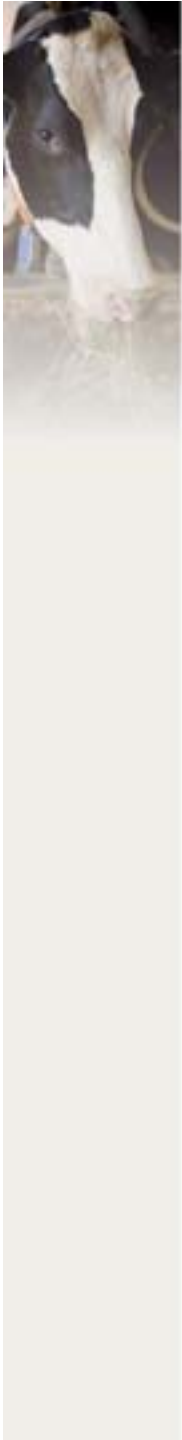
# Time course of MFD theories



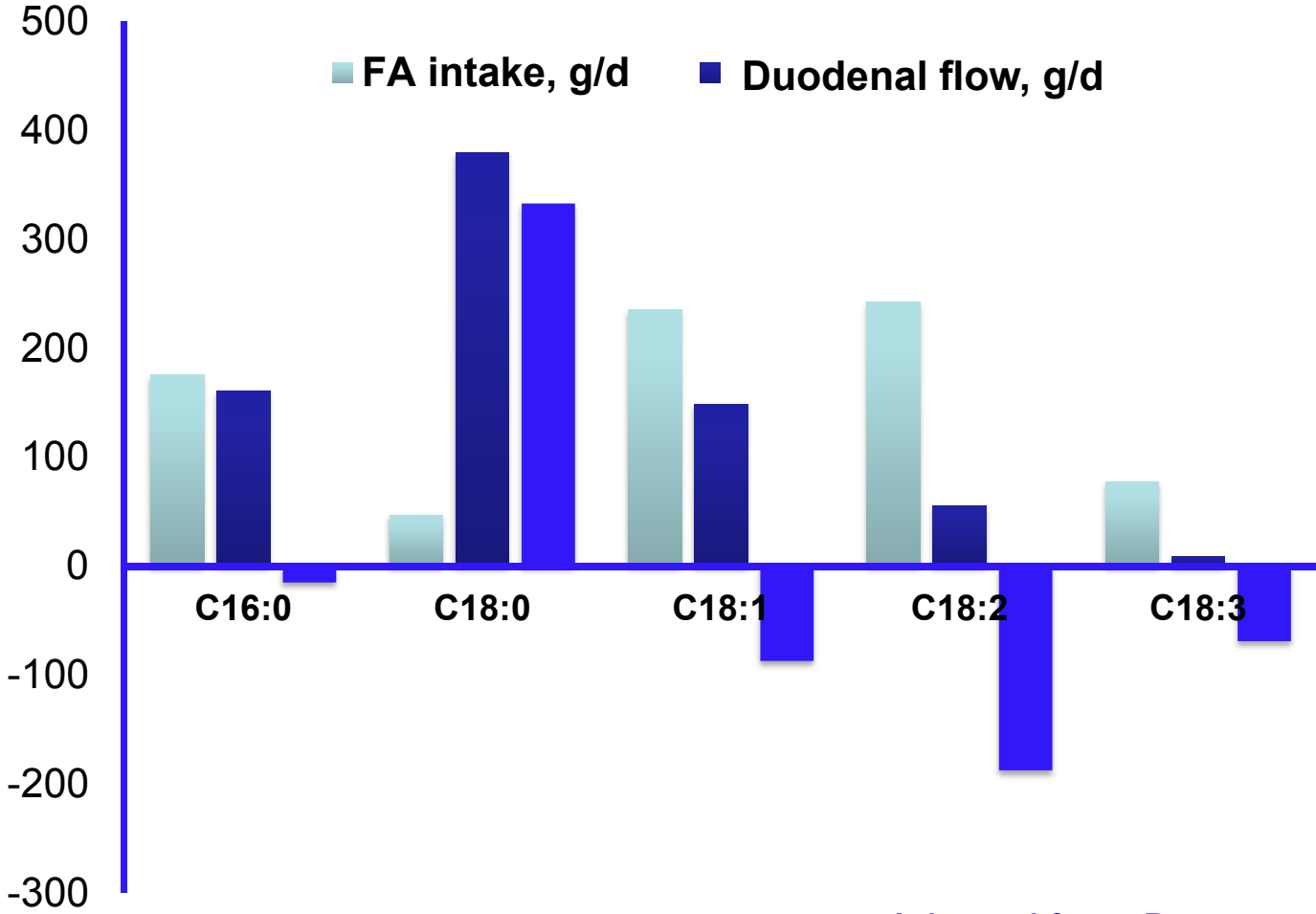
\*LF=low forage

\*HO=high oil

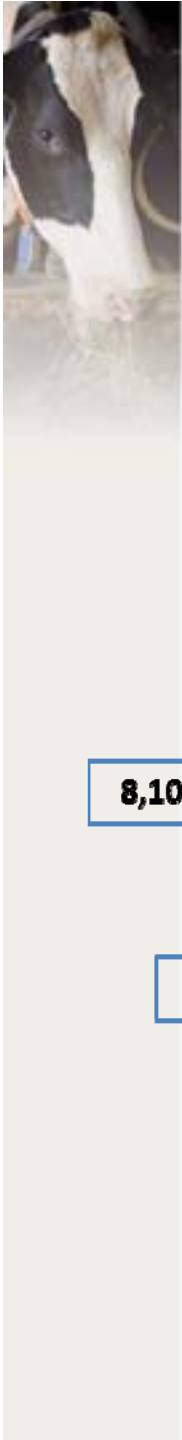
CLA = Conjugated linoleic acid



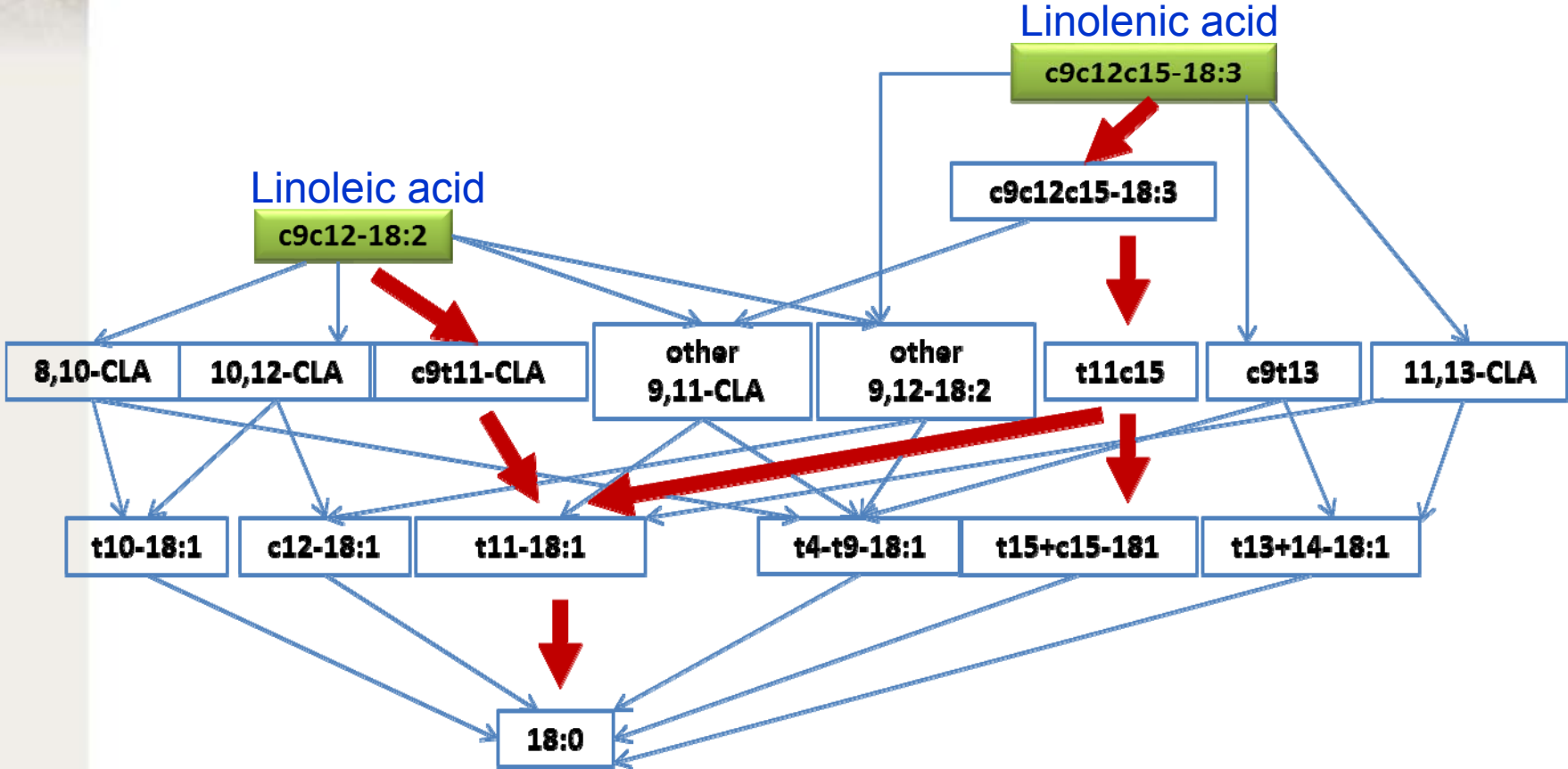
# Evidence of biohydrogenation

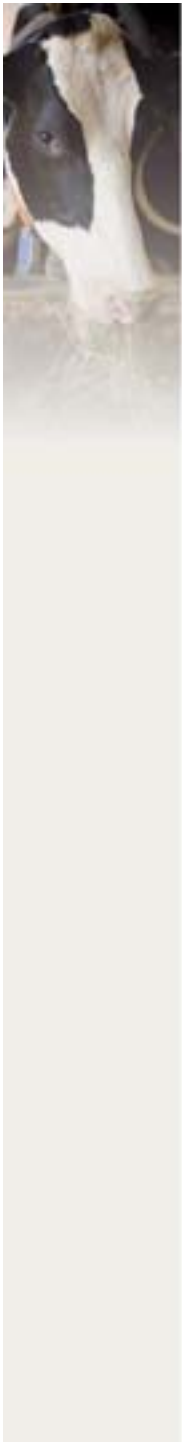


*Adapted from Boerman et al. 2015*



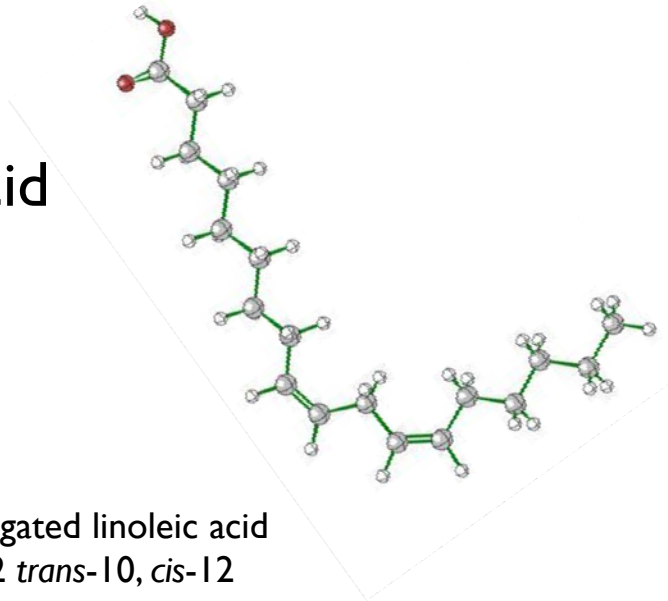
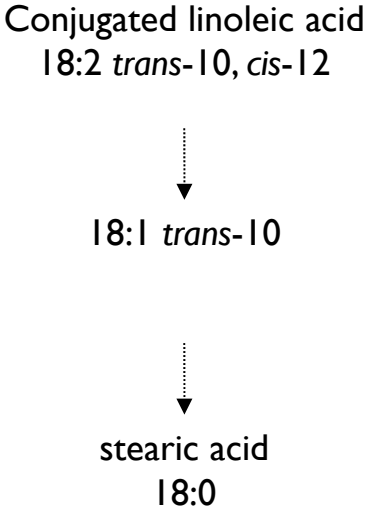
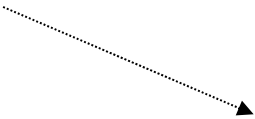
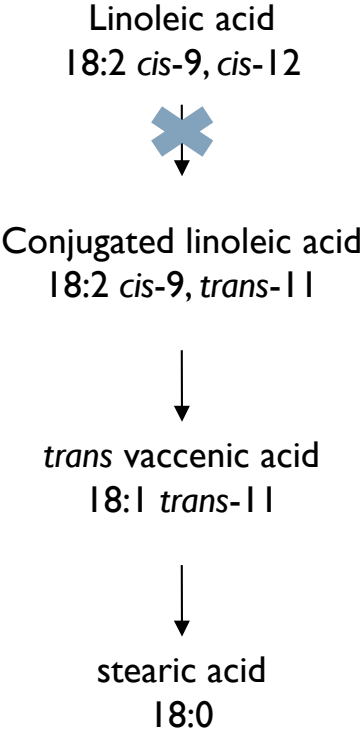
# Biohydrogenation is complex!





# Biohydrogenation pathways can be altered

## Biohydrogenation of linoleic acid

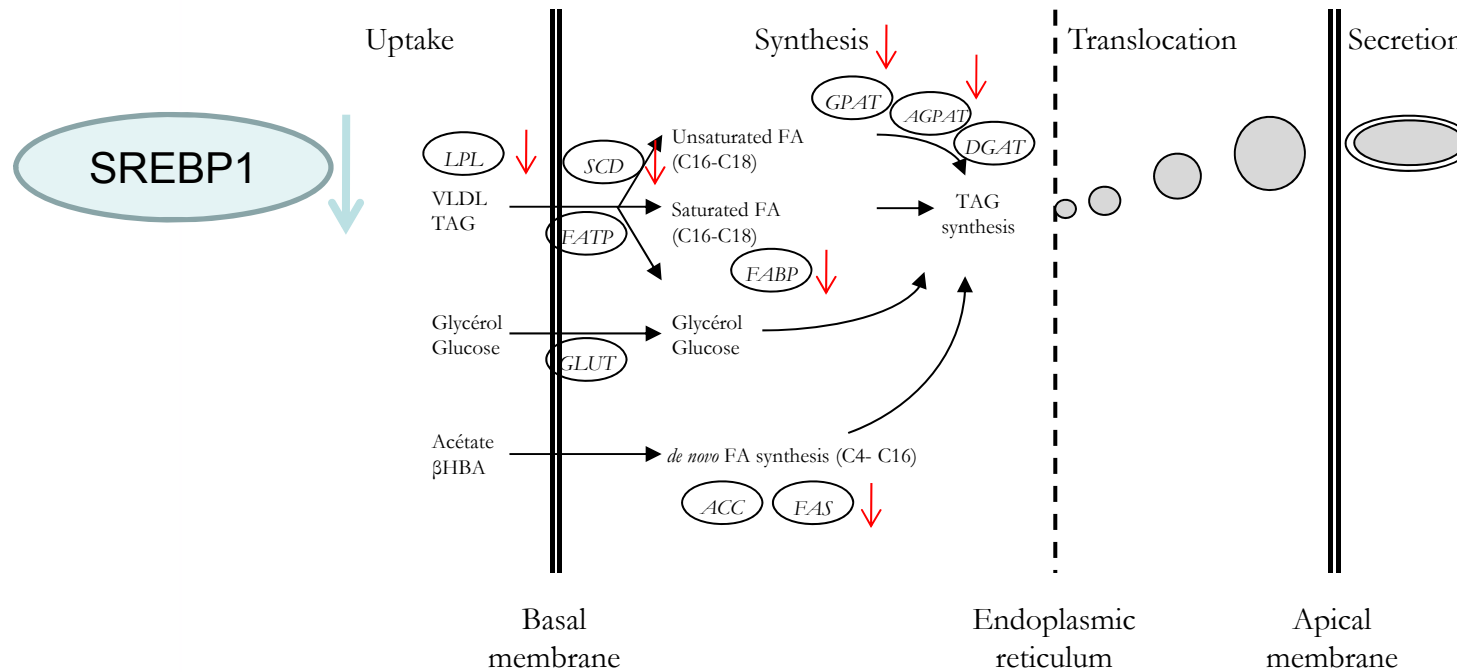






## Coordinated gene downregulation

- Milk fat synthesis and secretion



- *trans*-10, *cis*-12 CLA inhibits lipogenesis in adipose tissue via the synthesis of proinflammatory proteins.



# Effects of CLA on lipid metabolism of the mammary tissue in lactating dairy cows

material et methods

results

- Cross-over design
  - 4 cows ( $195 \pm 6$  DIM)
  - 2 treatments:
    - Intravenous infusions of 5 d
    - Lipid emulsion (15 % w/w) :
      - 10 g/d of 18:2 *cis*-9, *cis*-12 (CTL)
      - 10 g/d of 18:2 *trans*-10, *cis*-12 (CLA)
  - 23-d washout between periods



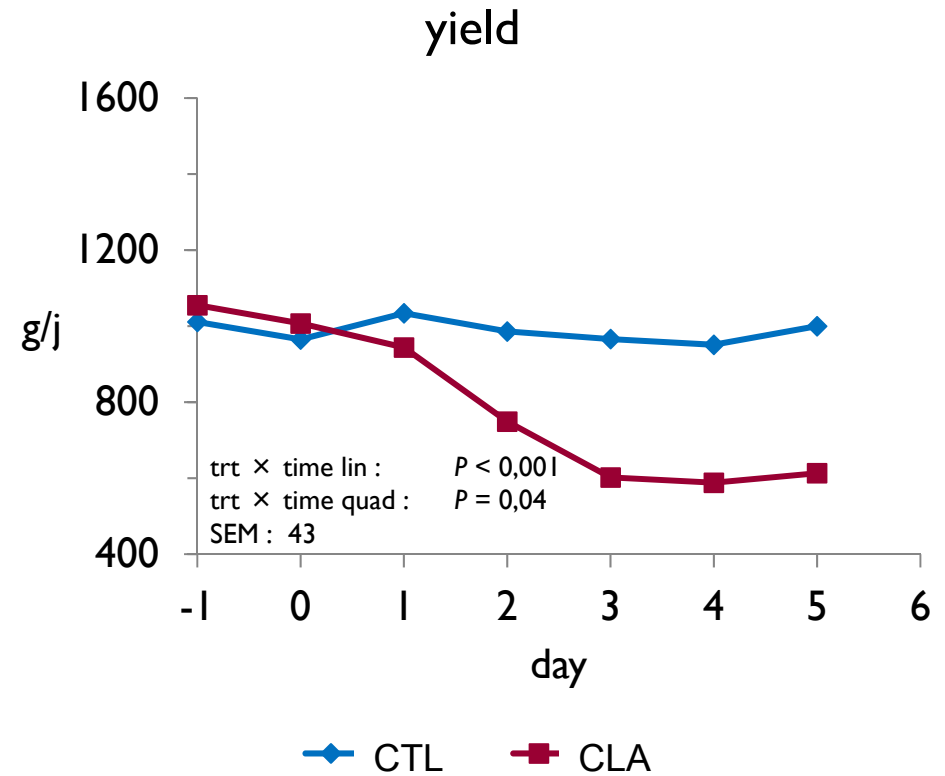
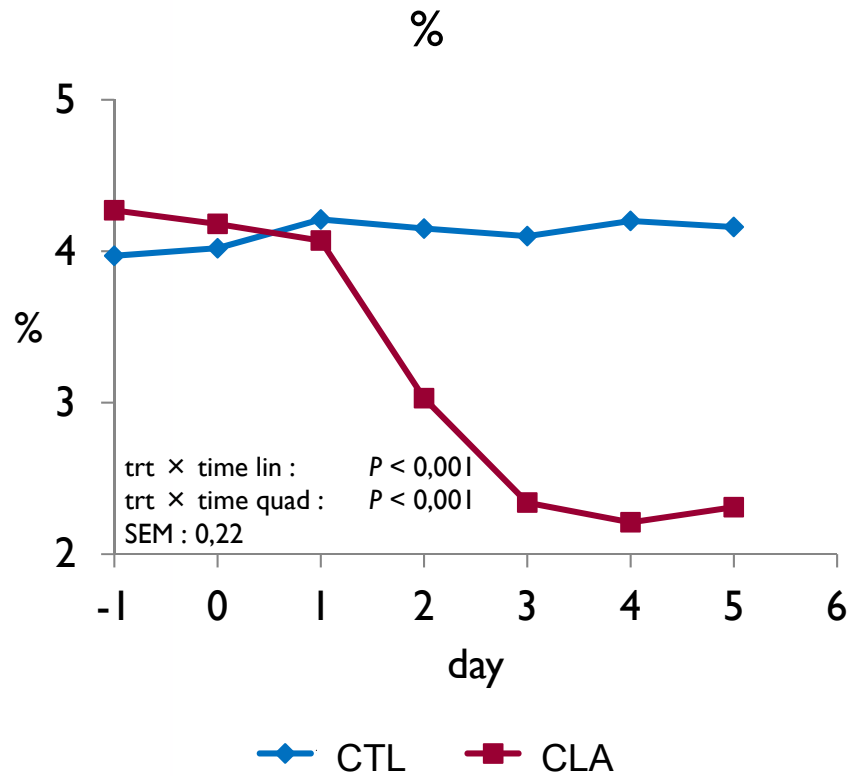


# Effects of CLA on lipid metabolism of the mammary tissue in lactating dairy cows

material et methods

results

## Milk fat

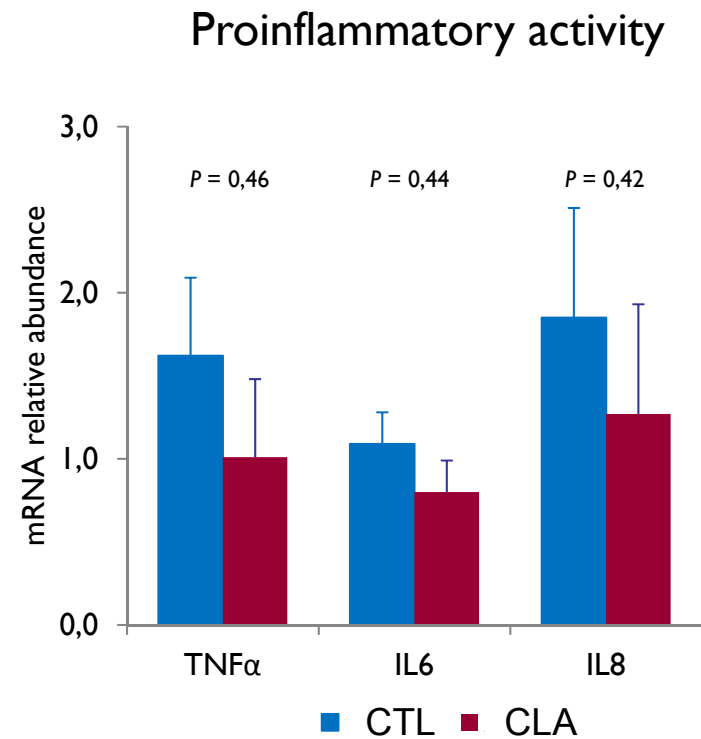
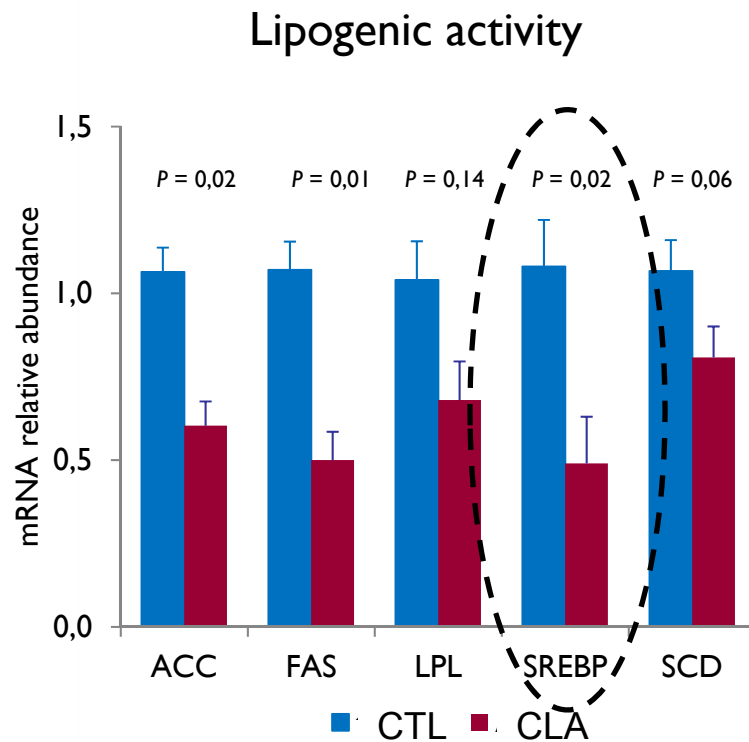


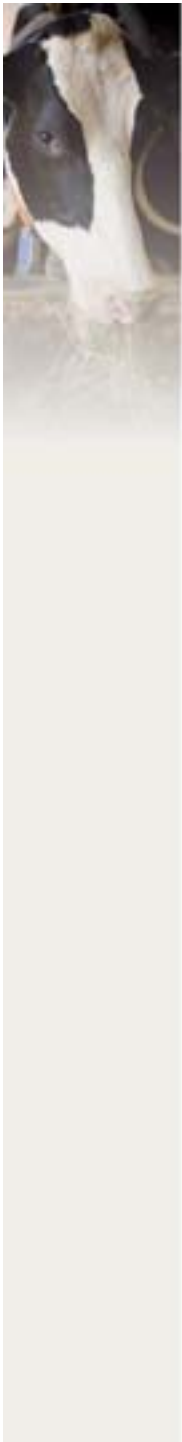


# Effects of CLA on lipid metabolism of the mammary tissue in lactating dairy cows

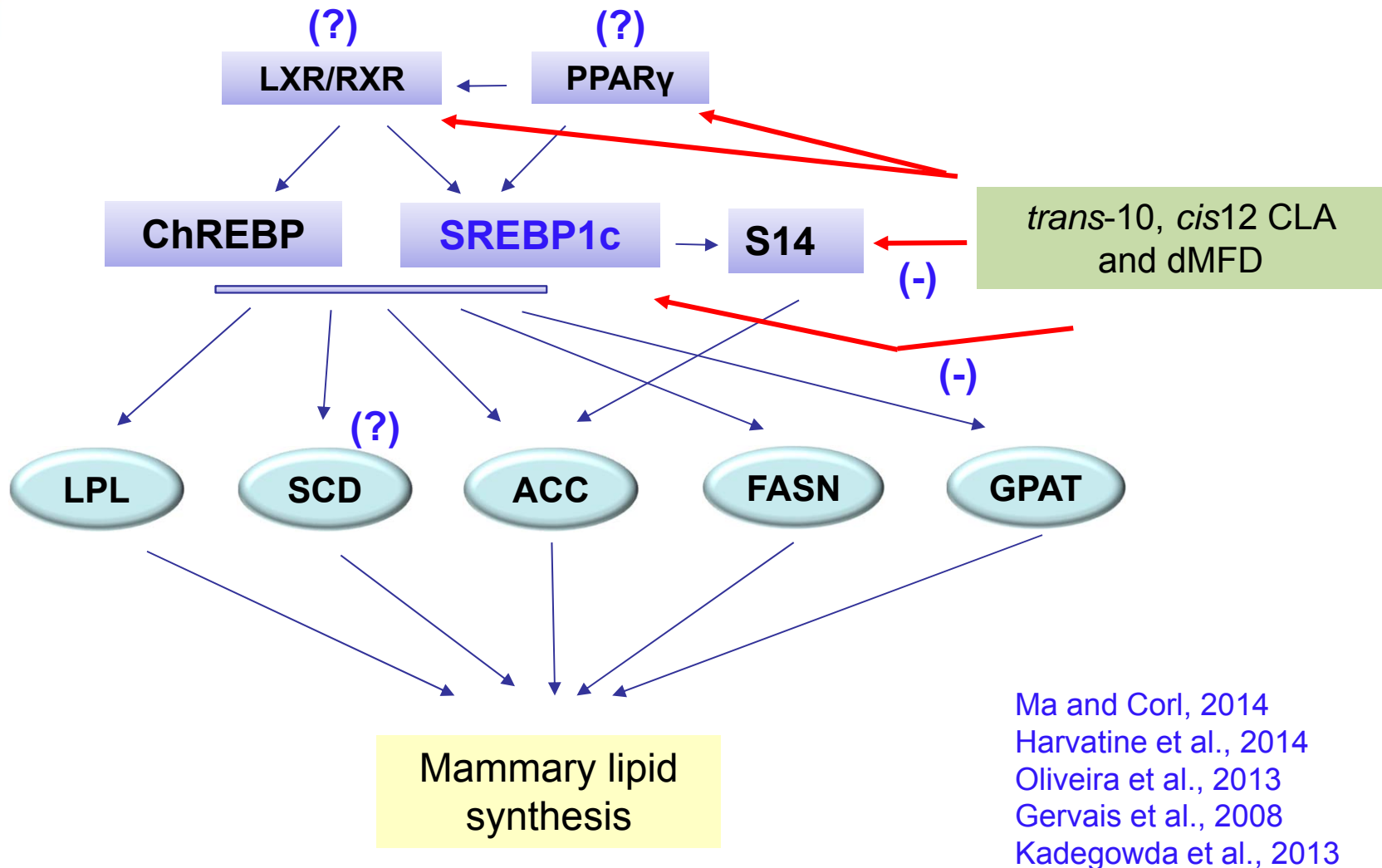
Gervais et al., 2009

## Gene expression



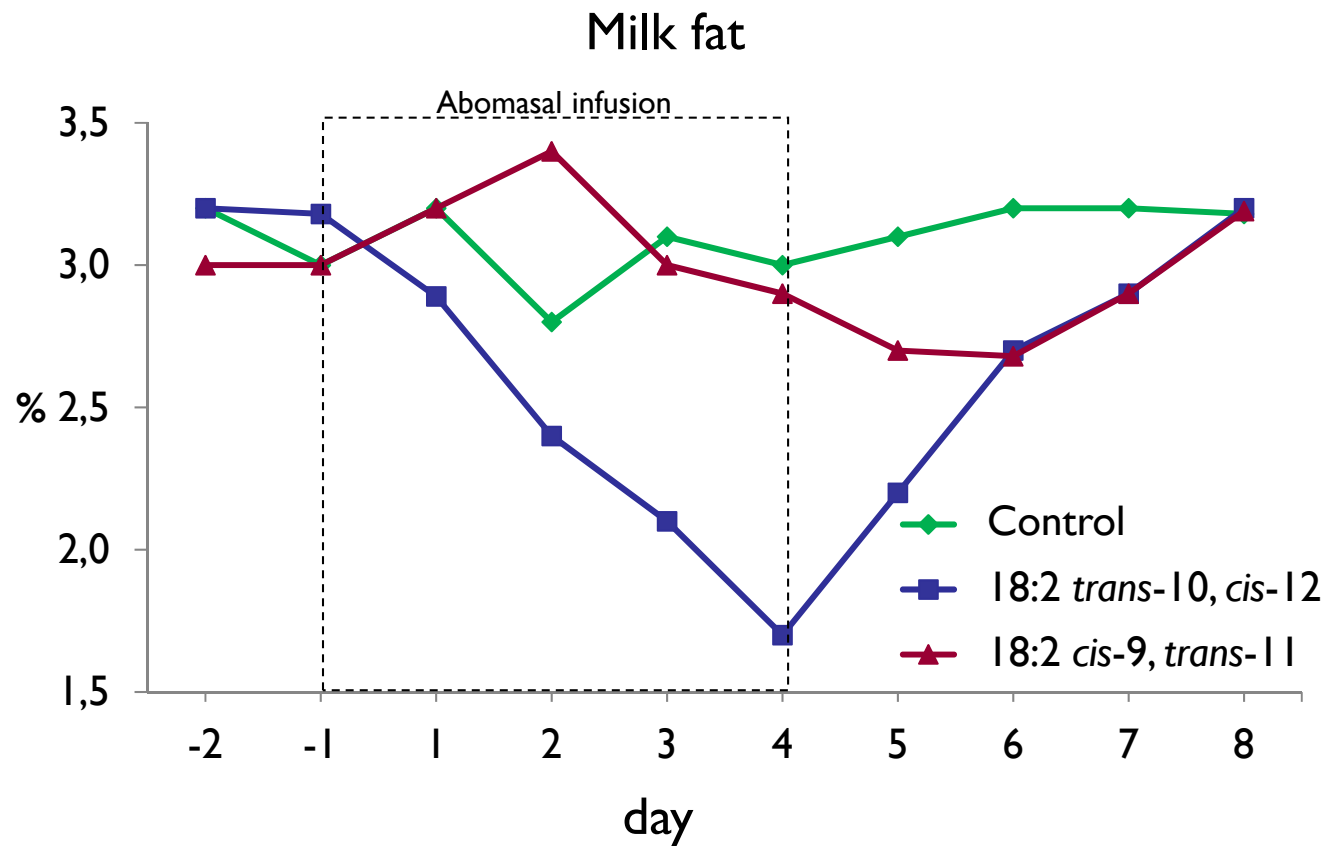


# Working model of lipogenesis inhibition during MFD





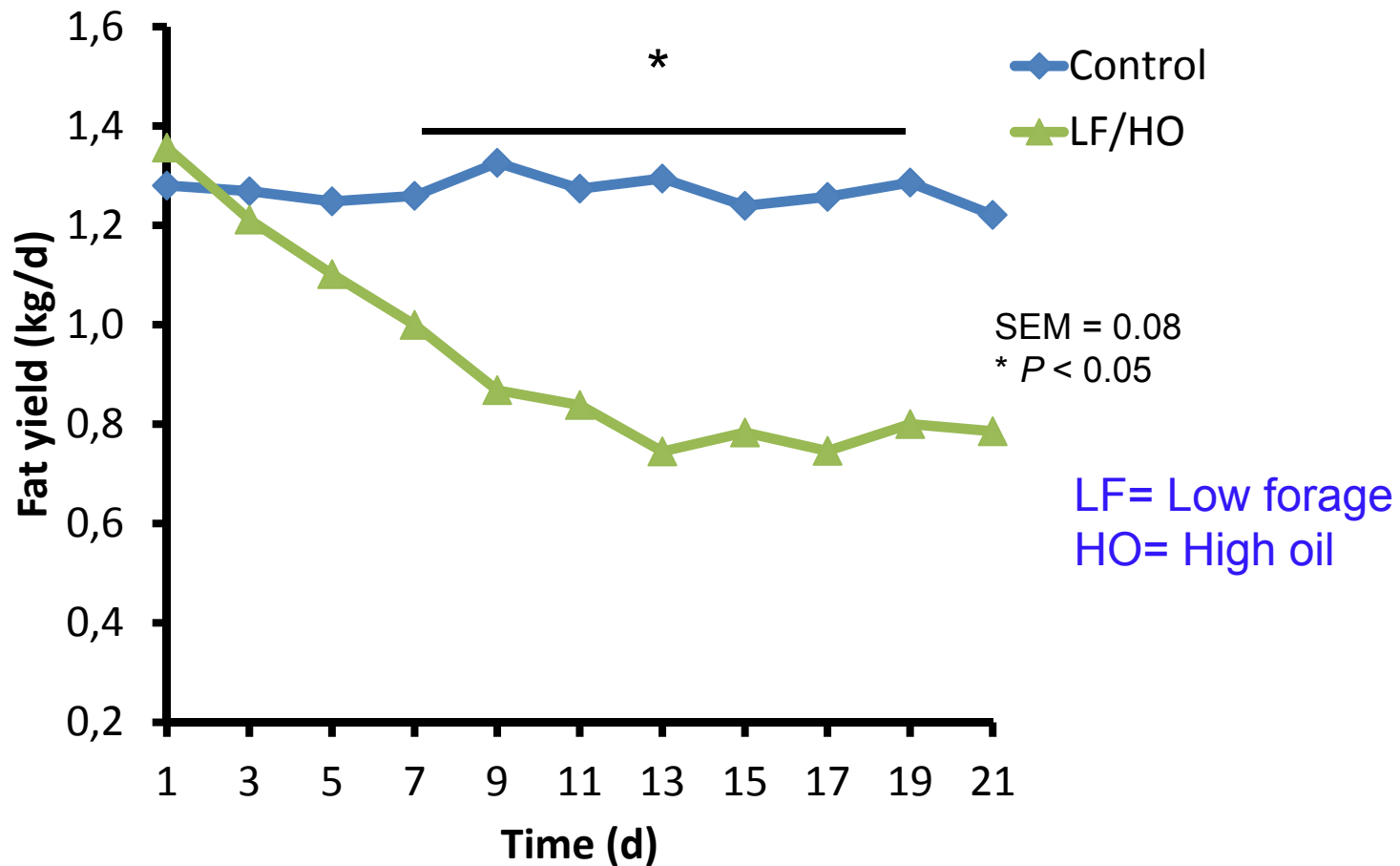
# Mammary response to CLA is rapid!



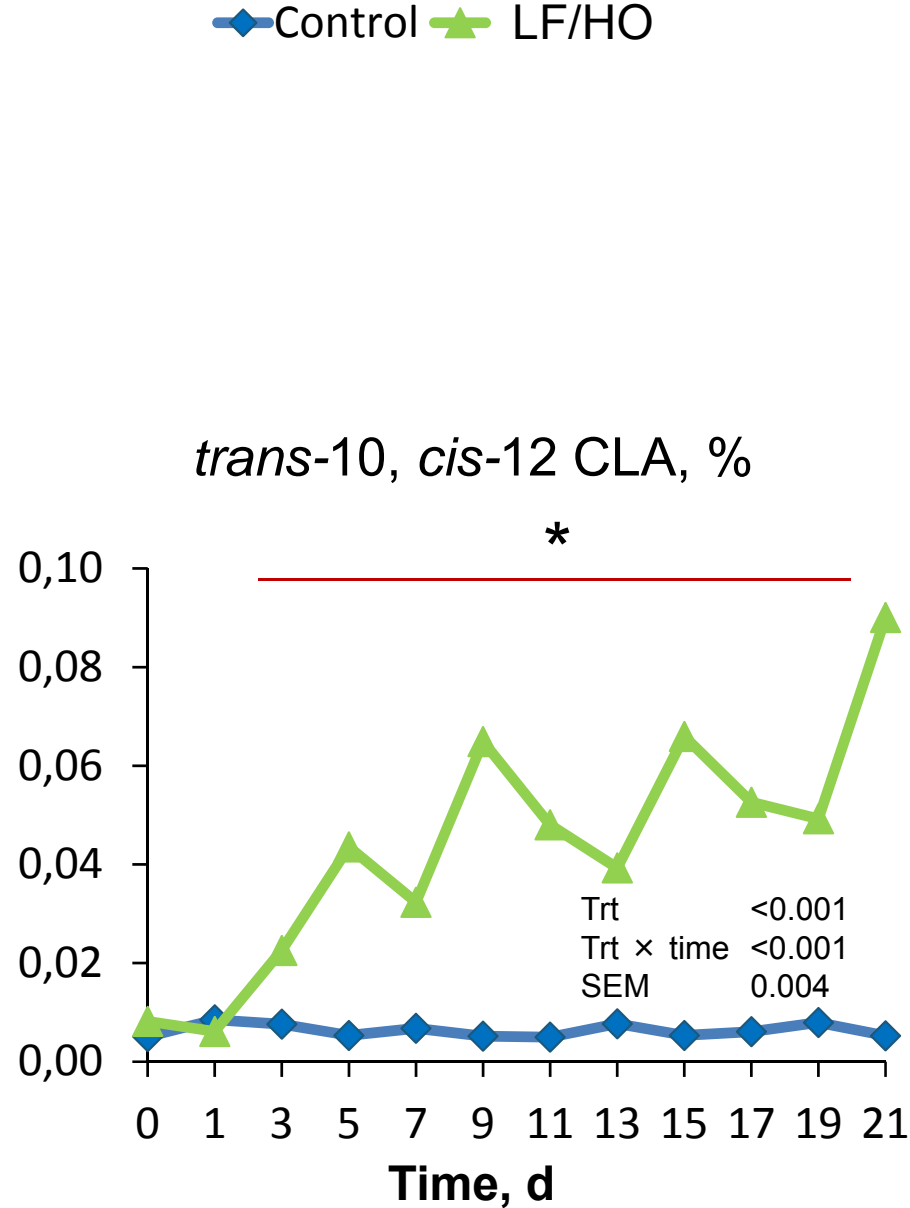
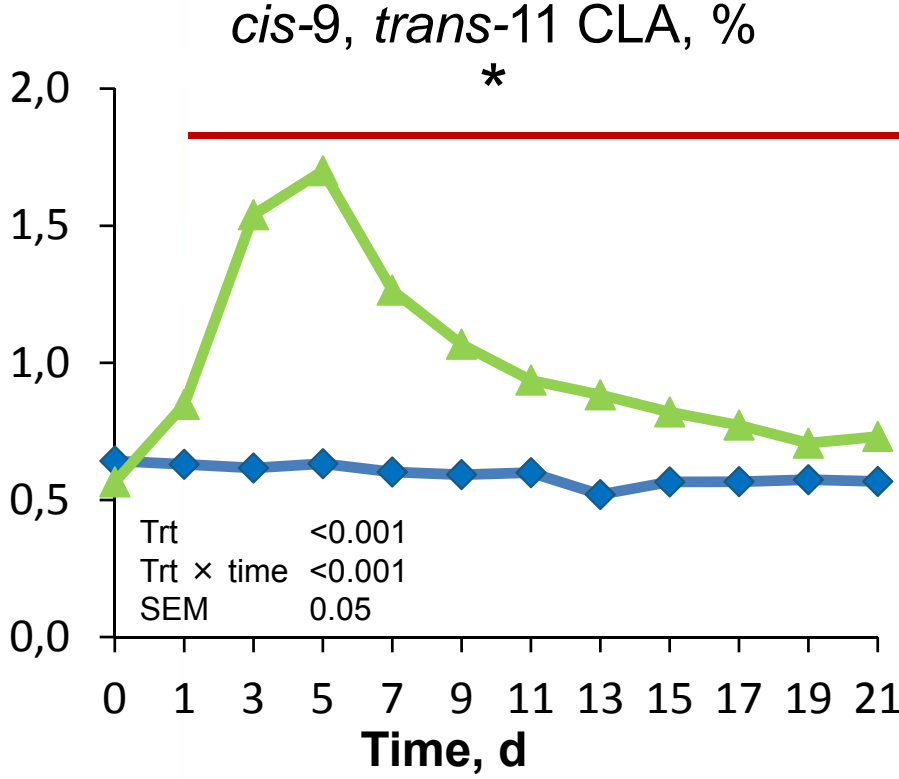
Baumgard et al. (2000)



# Diet induced milk fat depression is progressive



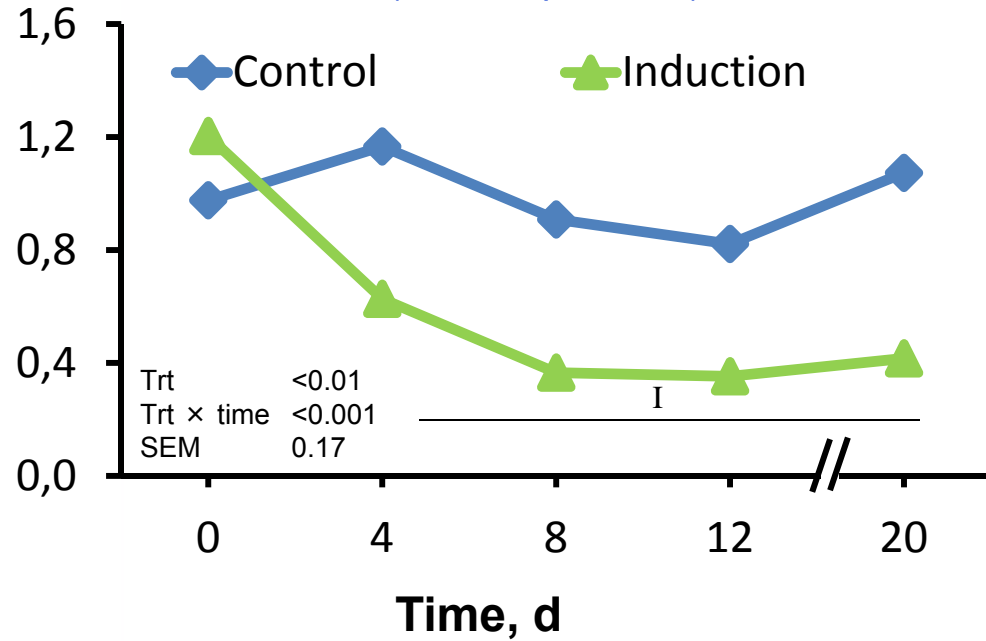
# Induction of MFD



\*  $P < 0.05$

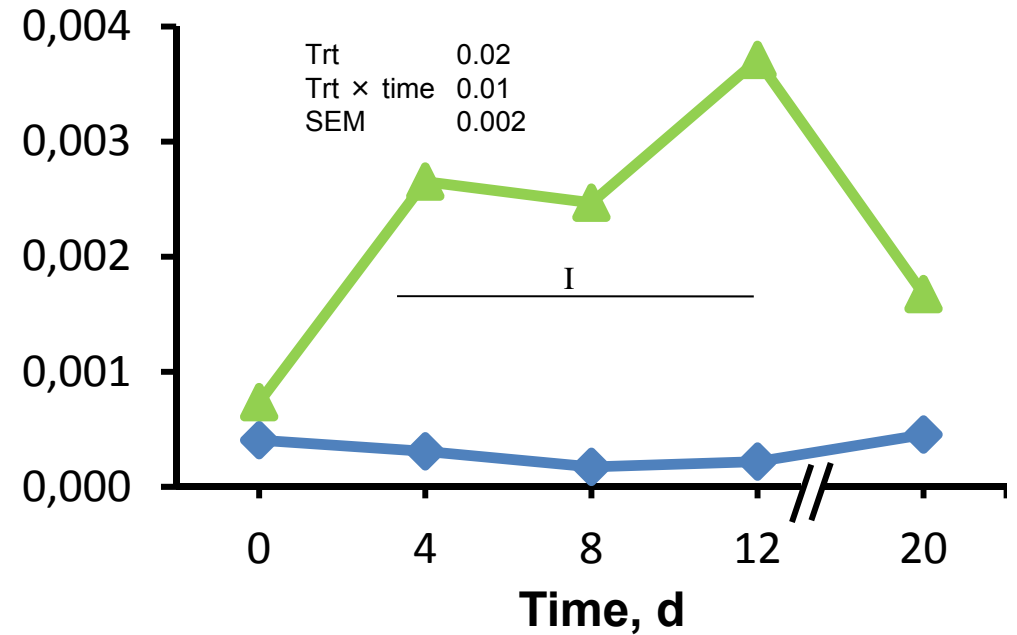


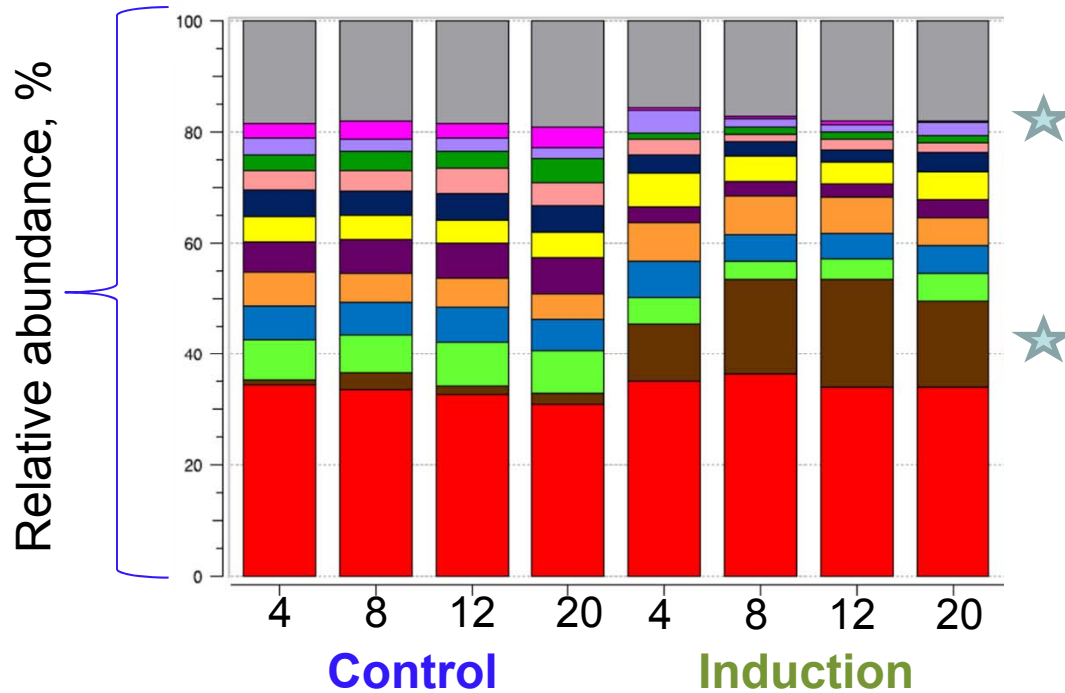
*B. fibrisolvens* / *Pseudobutyrvibrio*, % of bacteria  
(11 18:1 producer)



I =  $P < 0.05$

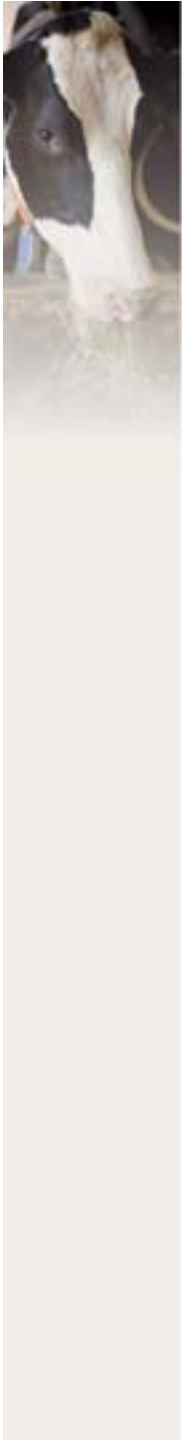
*Megasphaera elsdenii*, % of bacteria  
(Lactate user)





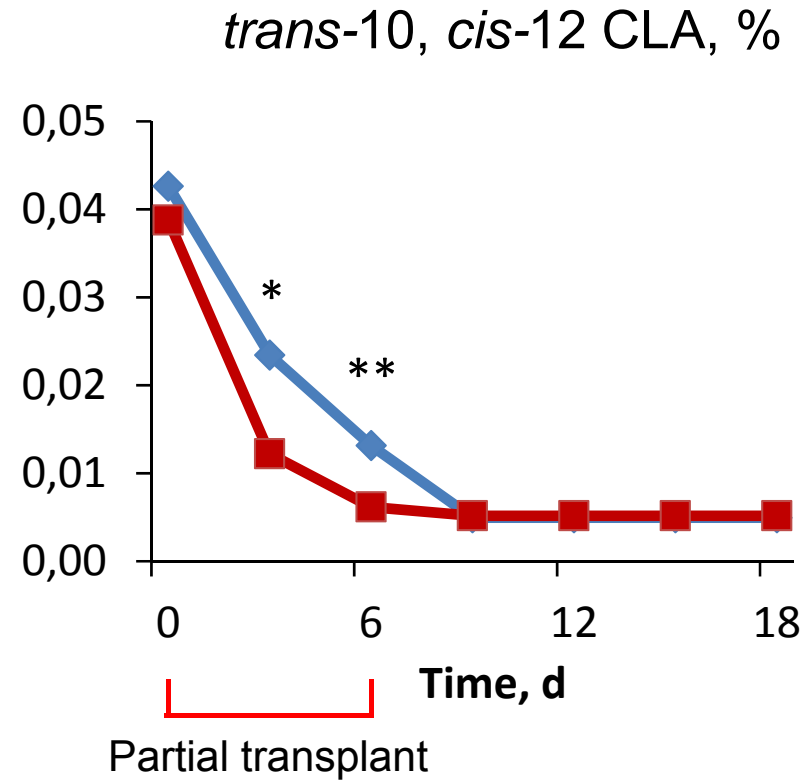
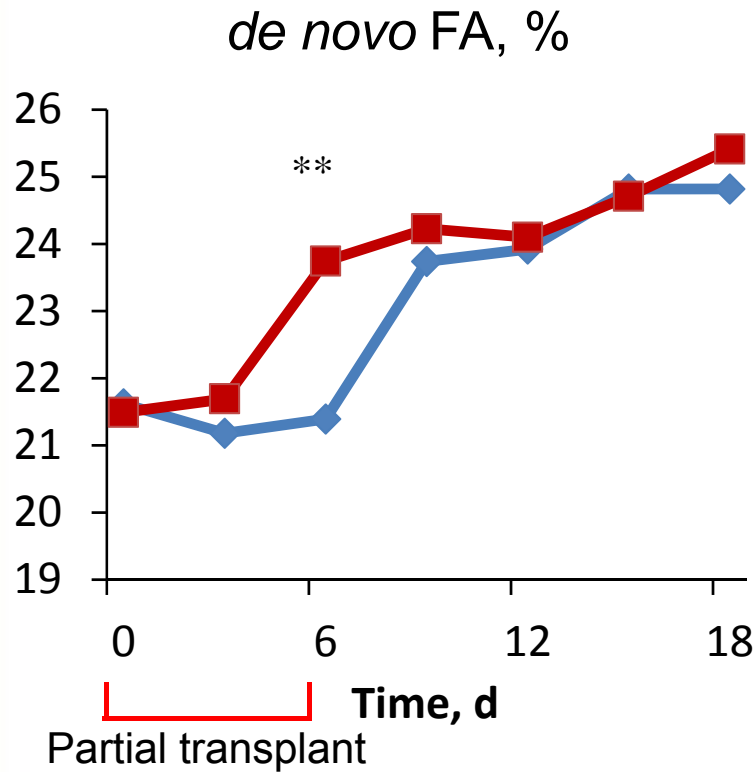
- p\_\_Bacteroidetes/ c\_\_Bacteroidia/ o\_\_Bacteroidales/ f\_\_Prevotellaceae/ g\_\_Prevotella
- p\_\_Proteobacteria/ c\_\_Gammaproteobacteria/ o\_\_Aeromonadales/ f\_\_Succinivibrionaceae/ g\_\_
- p\_\_Firmicutes/ c\_\_Clostridia/ o\_\_Clostridiales/ f\_\_/ g\_\_
- p\_\_Firmicutes/ c\_\_Clostridia/ o\_\_Clostridiales/ f\_\_Lachnospiraceae/ g\_\_
- p\_\_Firmicutes/ c\_\_Clostridia/ o\_\_Clostridiales/ f\_\_Veillonellaceae/ g\_\_Succiniclasticum
- p\_\_Bacteroidetes/ c\_\_Bacteroidia/ o\_\_Bacteroidales/ f\_\_/ g\_\_
- p\_\_Firmicutes/ c\_\_Clostridia/ o\_\_Clostridiales/ f\_\_Lachnospiraceae/ g\_\_Butyrivibrio
- p\_\_Firmicutes/ c\_\_Clostridia/ o\_\_Clostridiales/ f\_\_Ruminococcaceae/ g\_\_
- p\_\_Firmicutes/ c\_\_Clostridia/ o\_\_Clostridiales/ f\_\_Ruminococcaceae/ g\_\_Ruminococcus
- p\_\_Spirochaetes/ c\_\_Spirochaetes/ o\_\_Spirochaetales/ f\_\_Spirochaetaceae/ g\_\_Treponema
- p\_\_Bacteroidetes/ c\_\_Bacteroidia/ o\_\_Bacteroidales/ f\_\_S24-7/ g\_\_
- p\_\_Fibrobacteres/ c\_\_Fibrobacteria/ o\_\_Fibrobacterales/ f\_\_Fibrobacteraceae/ g\_\_Fibrobacter
- Other

Illumina sequencing  
of genomic DNA  
(16S rRNA)



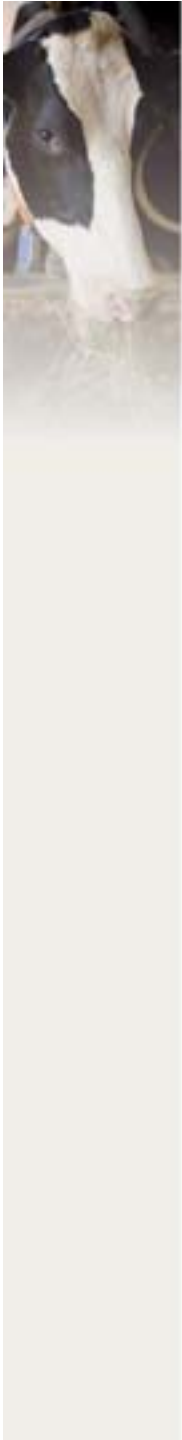
# Microbial adaptation may limit speed of recovery from MFD

◆ Control ■ Partial transplant



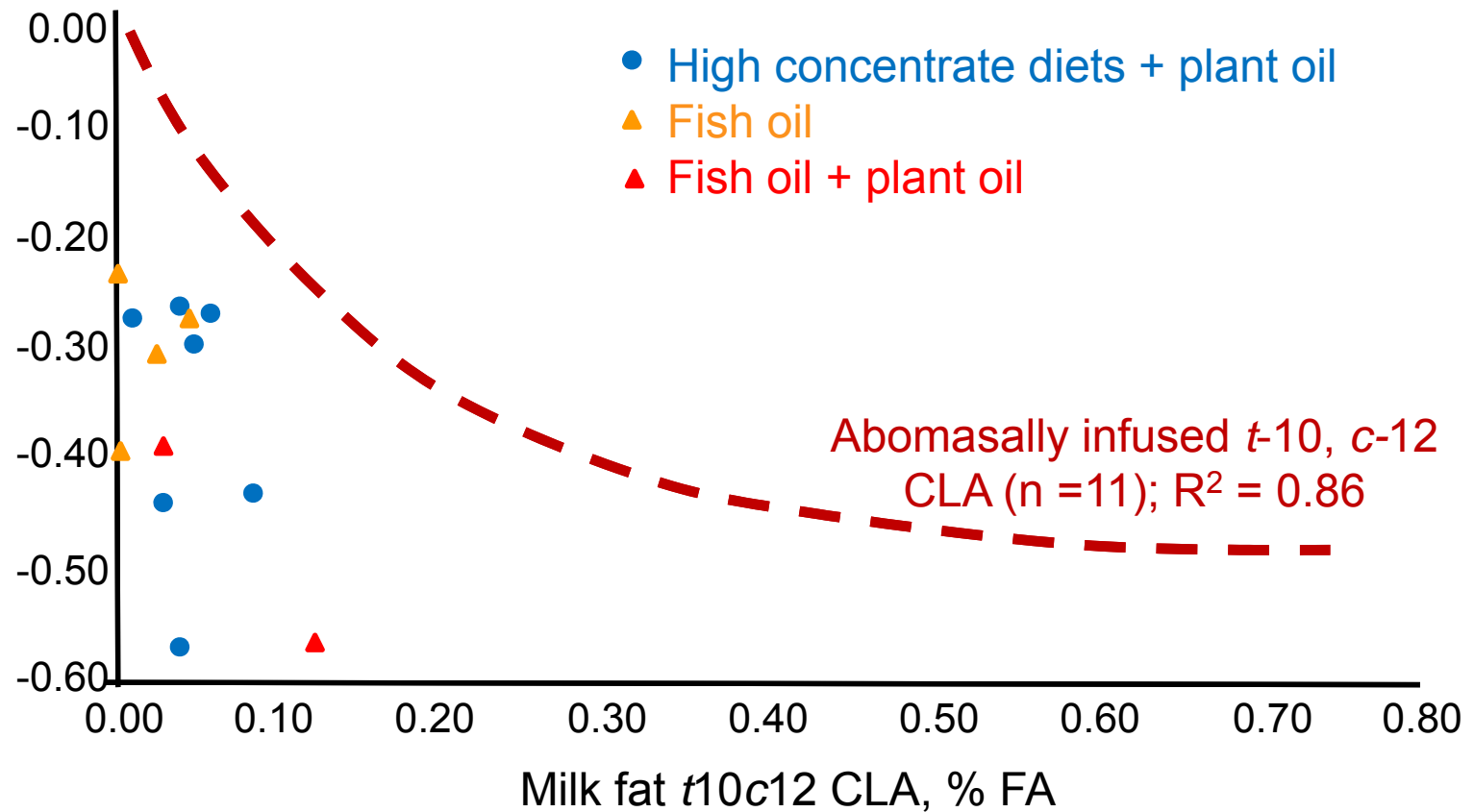
\* =  $P < 0.05$

\*\* =  $P < 0.01$



# Reduction in milk fat = $f(t10c12 \text{ CLA})$ ?

$\Delta$  in milk fat yield



*Adapted from Shingfield and Griinari, 2007*



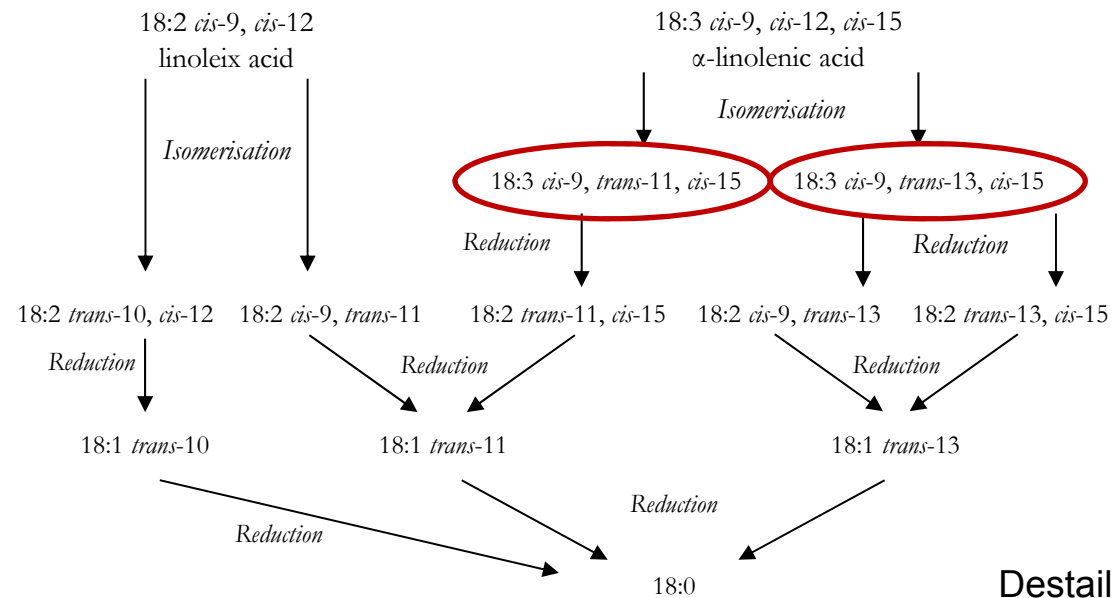
## Effects of Intravenous Infusion of Conjugated Diene 18:3 Isomers on Milk Fat Synthesis in Lactating Dairy Cows

Conjugated FA isomer	Effect on mammary lipogenesis	Reference	Conjugated FA isomer	Effect on mammary lipogenesis	Reference
18:2			18:3		
trans-8, cis-10	∅	Perfield et al. 2004	cis-6, trans-10, cis-12	∅	Sæbø et al. 2005b
<b><u>trans-9, cis-11</u></b>	↓	<b>Perfield et al. 2007</b>	cis-6, trans-8, cis-12	∅	Sæbø et al. 2005b
cis-9, trans-11	∅	Baumgard et al. 2000 Baumgard et al. 2002 Lor et Herbein 2003			
trans-9, trans-11	∅	Perfield et al. 2007			
<b><u>trans-10, cis-12</u></b>	↓	<b>Baumgard et al 2000</b>			
<b><u>cis-10, trans-12</u></b>	↓	<b>Sæbø et al. 2005a</b>			
trans-10, trans-12	∅	Sæbø et al. 2005a			
cis-11, trans-13	∅	Perfield et al. 2004			



## Effects of Intravenous Infusion of Conjugated Diene 18:3 Isomers on Milk Fat Synthesis in Lactating Dairy Cows

- It is possible that other biohydrogenation intermediates have an impact on mammary tissue lipogenesis

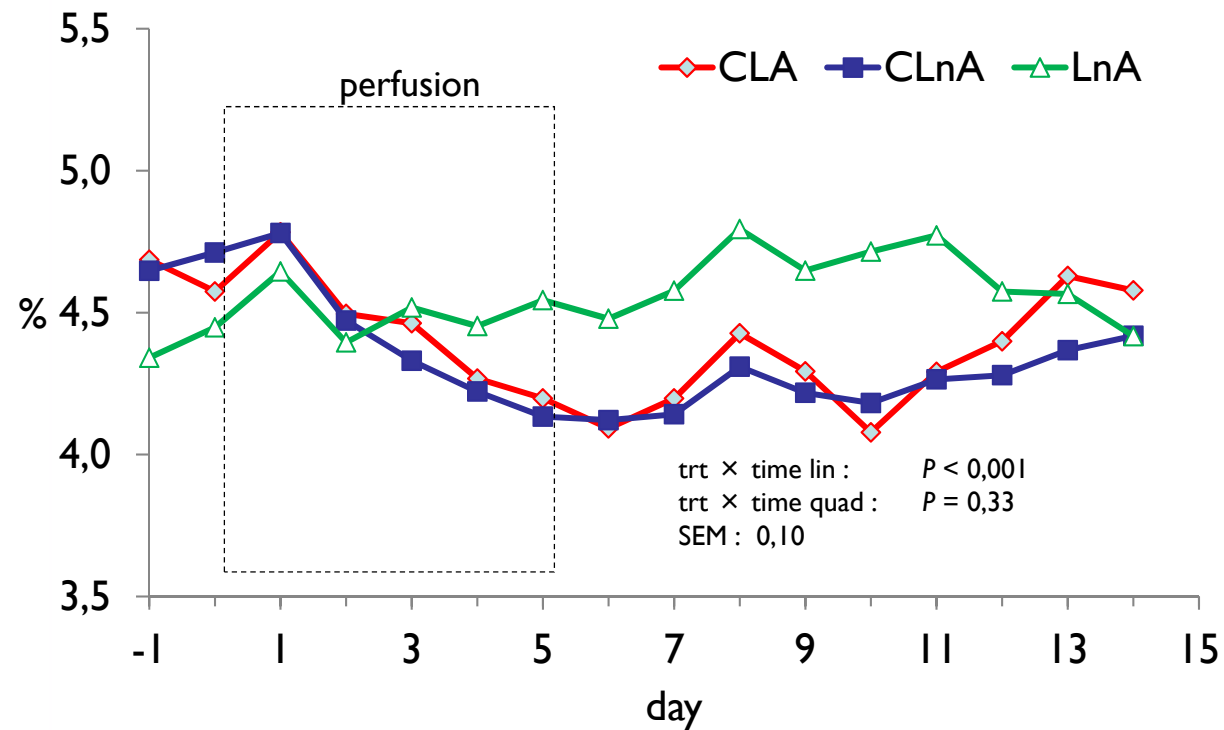


- In rats, conjugated linolenic acids (CLnA) induce a more important decrease in adipose tissue than *trans*-10, *cis*-12 CLA. (Koba et al., 2002)



# Effects of Intravenous Infusion of Conjugated Diene 18:3 Isomers on Milk Fat Synthesis in Lactating Dairy Cows

## Milk fat





## Effects of Intravenous Infusion of Conjugated Diene 18:3 Isomers on Milk Fat Synthesis in Lactating Dairy Cows

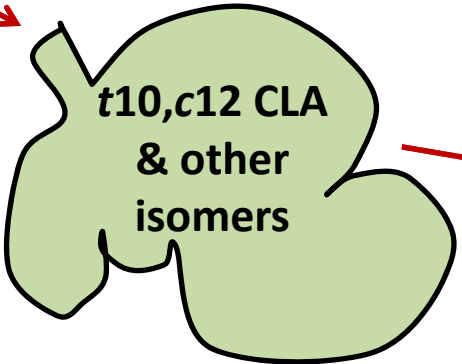
Conjugated FA isomer	Effect on mammary lipogenesis	Reference	Conjugated FA isomer	Effect on mammary lipogenesis	Reference
18:2			18:3		
trans-8, cis-10	∅	Perfield et al. 2004	cis-6, trans-10, cis-12	∅	Sæbø et al. 2005b
<b><u>trans-9, cis-11</u></b>	↓	<b>Perfield et al. 2007</b>	cis-6, trans-8, cis-12	∅	Sæbø et al. 2005b
cis-9, trans-11	∅	Baumgard et al. 2000 Baumgard et al. 2002 Loor et Herbein 2003	cis-9, trans-11, cis-15	∅	Gervais and Chouinard, 2008
trans-9, trans-11	∅	Perfield et al. 2007	cis-9, trans-13, cis-15	∅	Gervais and Chouinard, 2008
<b><u>trans-10, cis-12</u></b>	↓	<b>Baumgard et al 2000</b>			
<b><u>cis-10, trans-12</u></b>	↓	<b>Sæbø et al. 2005a</b>			
trans-10, trans-12	∅	Sæbø et al. 2005a			
cis-11, trans-13	∅	Perfield et al. 2004			



# Current model of milk fat depression

LF/HO  
diets

(+)



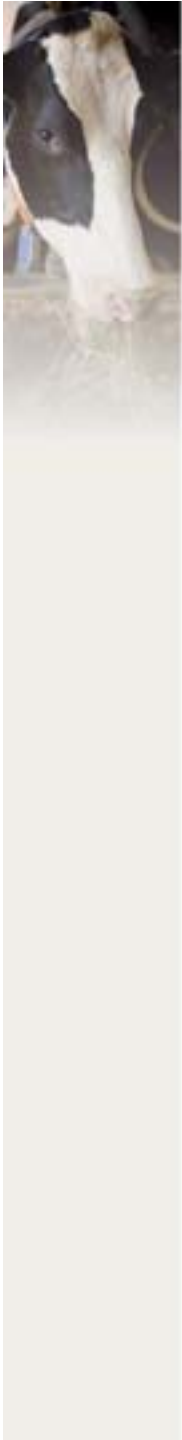
*Ruminal changes*

(-)



*Mammary gland*

However, rumen outflow known intermediates  
is insufficient to fully explain observed milk fat  
reductions

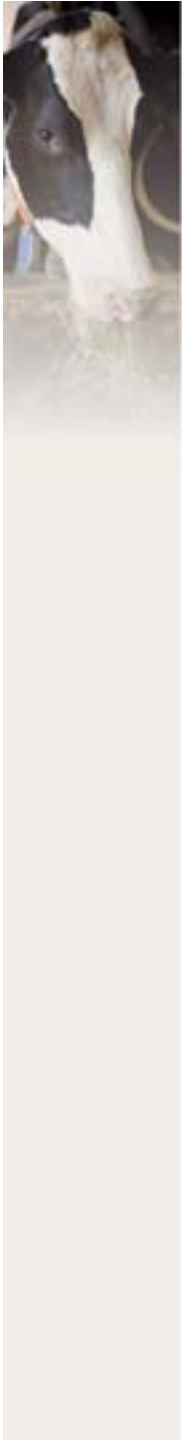


# Biohydrogenation theory of MFD

*“Under certain conditions, rumen biohydrogenation results in unique fatty acids that are potent inhibitors of milk fat synthesis”*

Bauman and Griinari, 2001

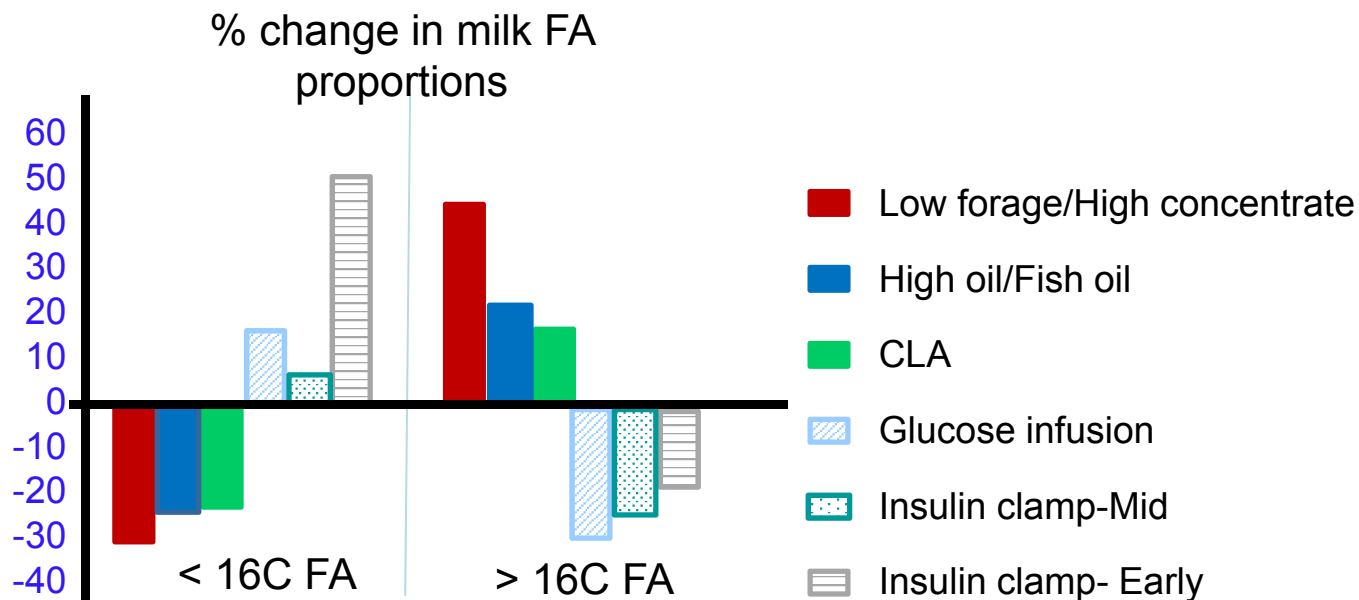




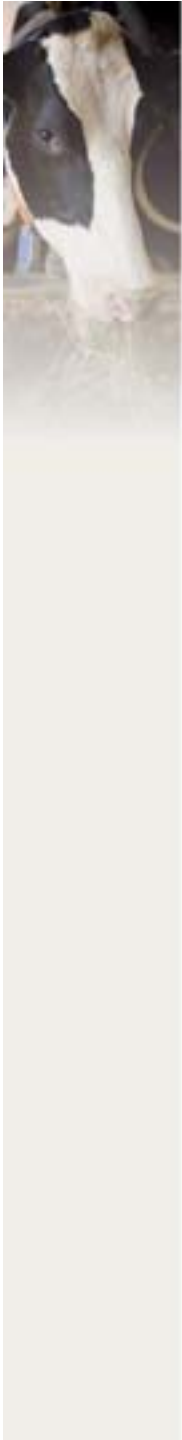
# Insulin secretagogues & milk fat

Abomasal infusions of glucose or propionate decreased milk fat % and yield in a dose dependent manner.

Maxin et al., 2010 (meta-analysis)



*Adapted from Harvatine et al., 2009*



# Biohydrogenation theory of MFD

*“Under certain conditions, rumen biohydrogenation results in unique fatty acids that are potent inhibitors of milk fat synthesis”*

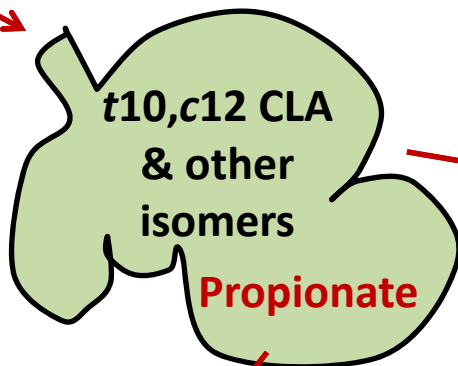
Bauman and Griinari, 2001



# Other factors affecting milk fat synthesis

LF/HO diets

(+)



Ruminal changes

Insulin



Adipose Tissue

(-)

NEFA

Blood FA pool

(-)

De novo:

C4 to C16

Preformed:

C16, C18 FA

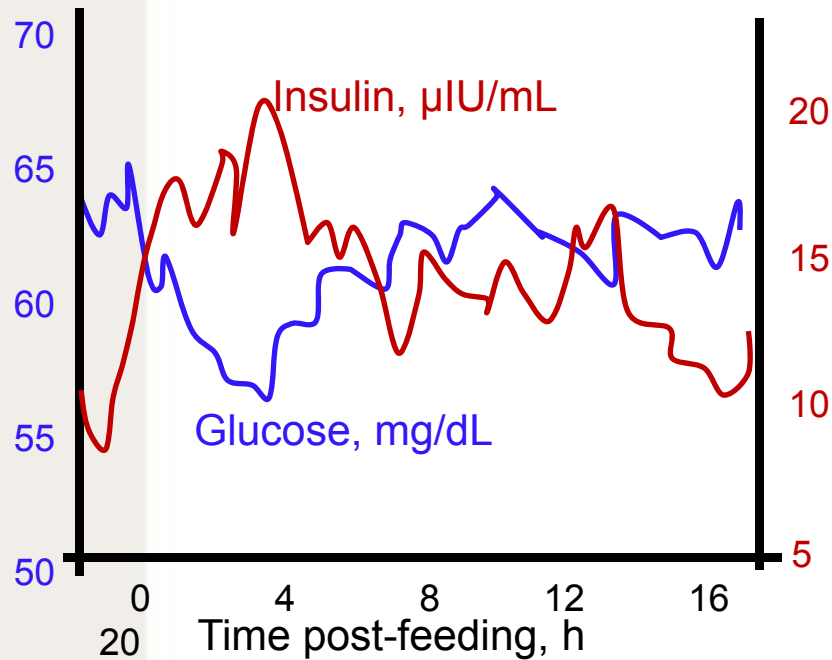
Mammary gland

(-)

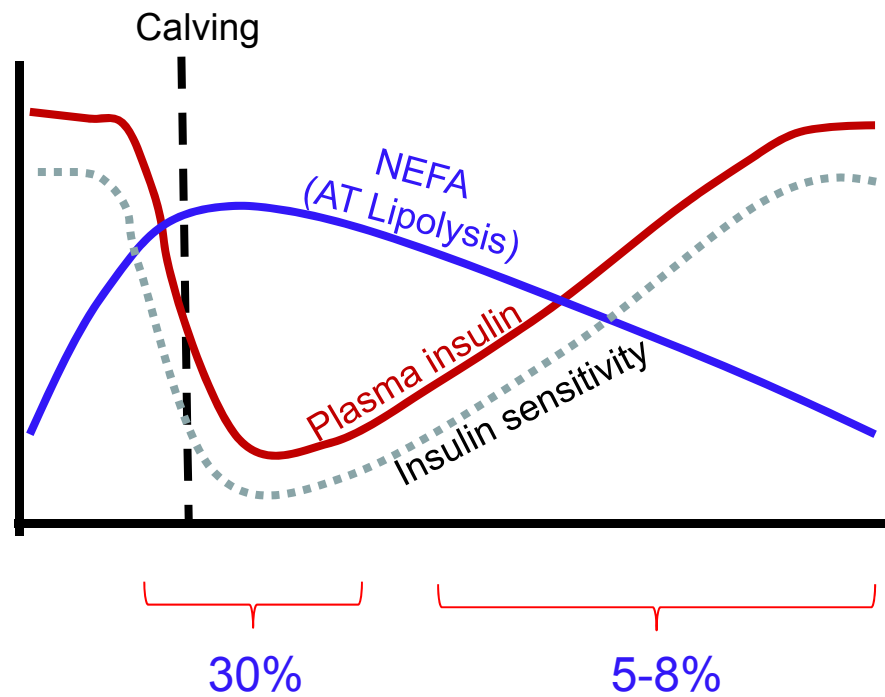


# Insulin changes

Daily pattern,  
*Homeostasis*

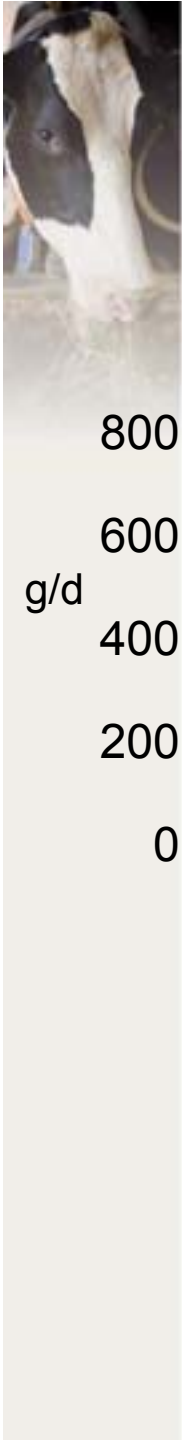


During lactation,  
*Homeorhesis*



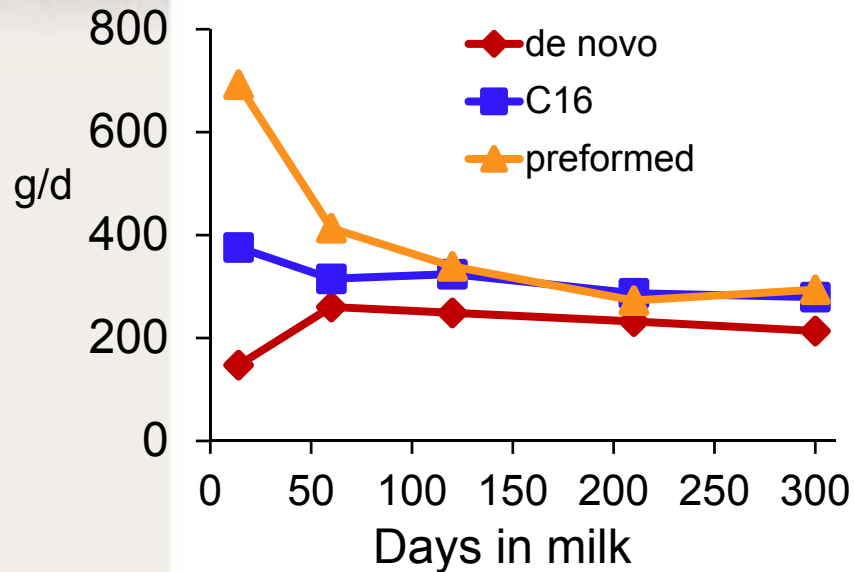
*Oba and Allen, 2003*

Reduction in milk fat yield during insulin clamp

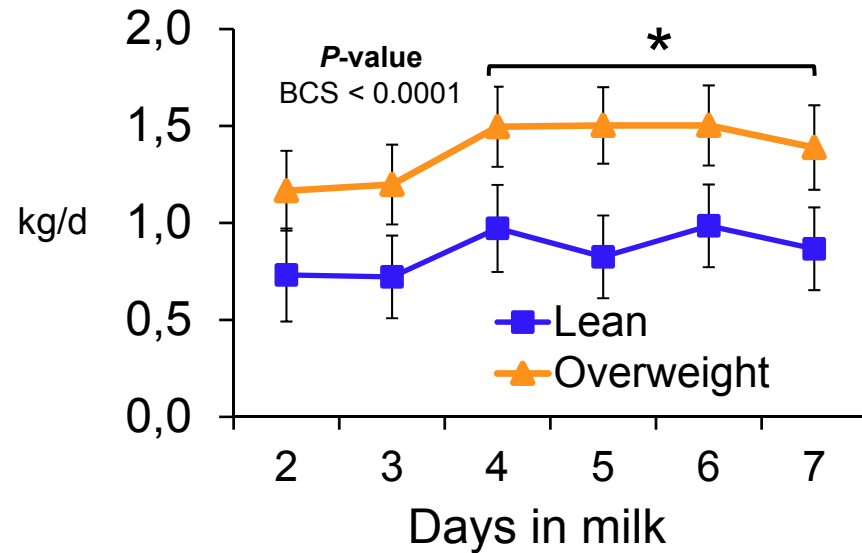


# NEFA for milk fat during lactation

Milk fat yield



Milk fat yield



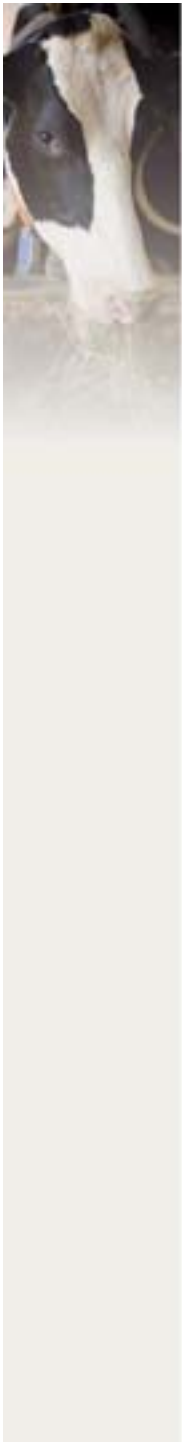
(NEFA increase 2-3x 1<sup>st</sup> week postpartum )

*Baumann et al., 2015*

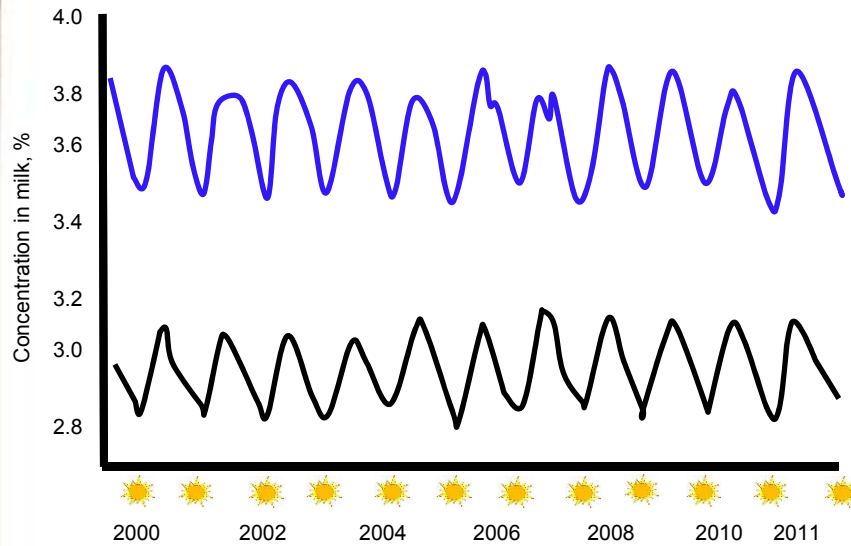


*Rico et al., 2015*

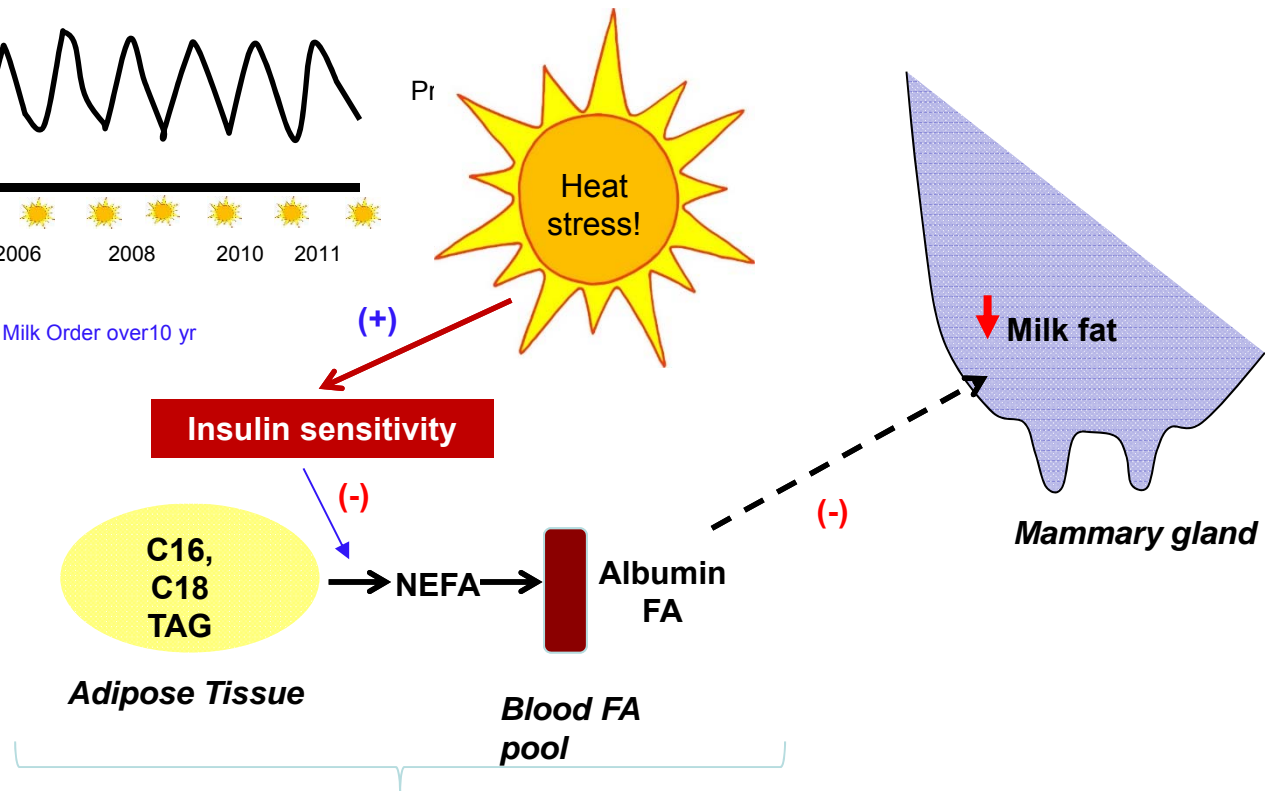




# Milk fat is reduced during heat stress

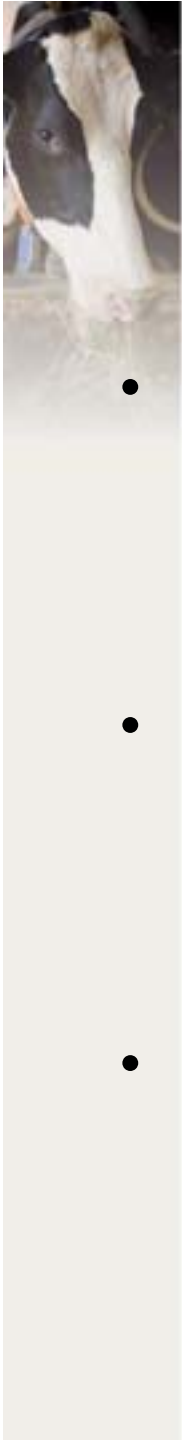


Southwest Milk Order over 10 yr



Adapted from Wheelock et al., 2010

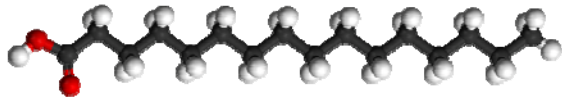




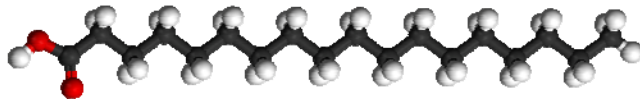
## Summary

- Milk fat synthesis is affected by bioactive BH intermediates & ruminal adaptation is a key rate limiting step (changes are reversible).
- NEFA are used as a substrate for milk fat synthesis, thus, decreased adipose mobilization results in lower milk fat.
- Homeorhetic effects of insulin may explain some cases of MFD (Heat stress, high concentrate diets, ionophores).

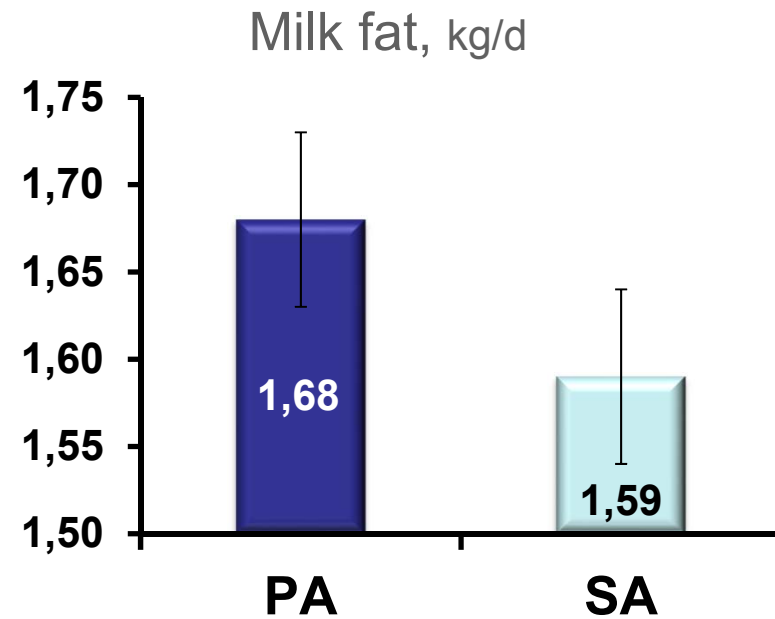
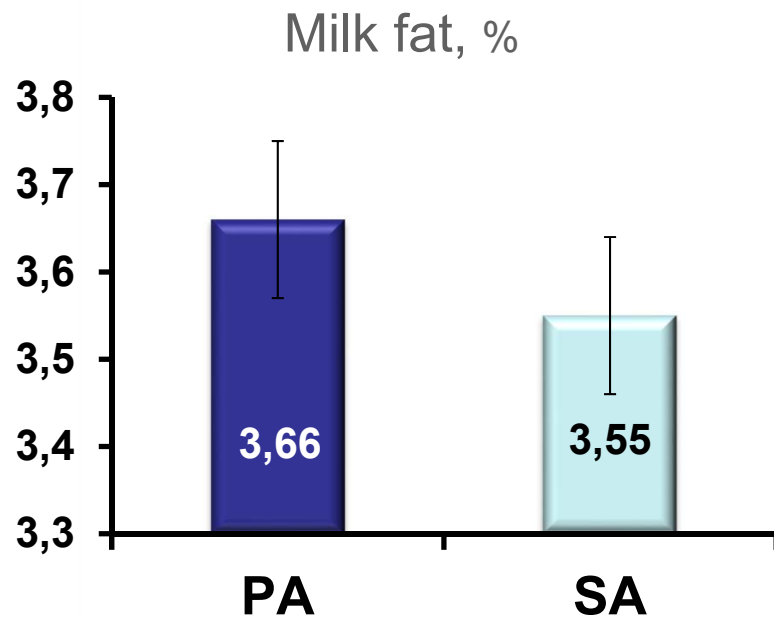
# PA increases milk yield



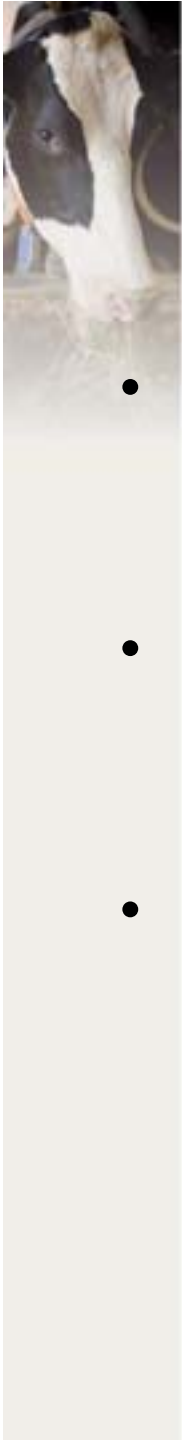
Palmitic acid, C16:0



Stearic acid, C18:0

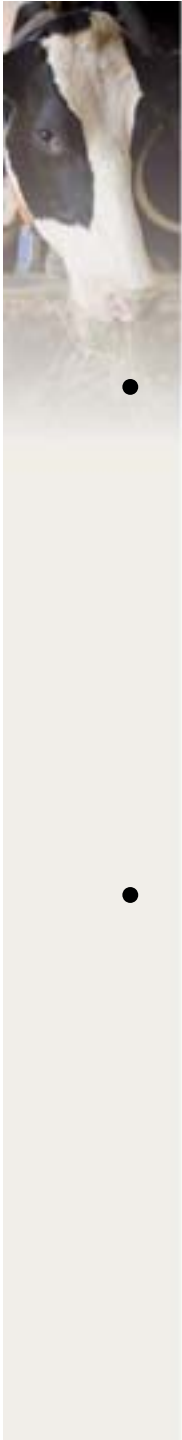


Rico et al. 2014



## Differences between saturated FA supplements

- 16:0 enriched supplement increased milk fat quadratically with dietary inclusion level (Mosley et al. 2007)
- Higher potential of 16:0 to increase milk fat relative to 18:0 (Rico et al. 2014)
- Shorter chains (8:0 – 10:0) perturb ruminal microflora and thus fermentation, but.....are metabolized differently when absorbed at the intestine

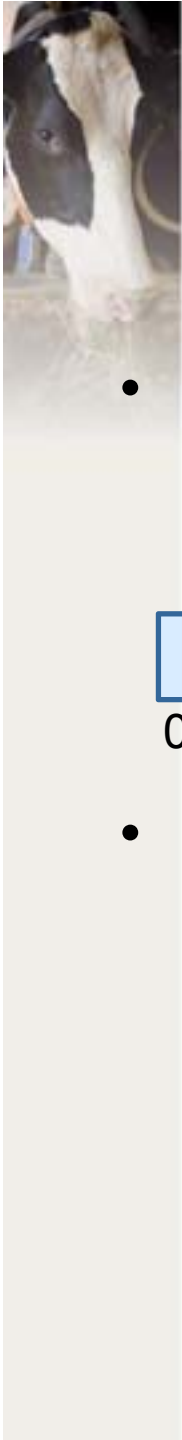


# Hypothesis

- Abomasally-infused fat supplements with varying chain length will differently affect performance and milk composition in dairy cows

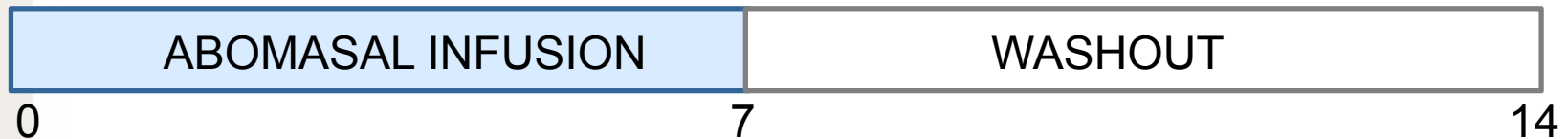
# Objective

- To test the effect of FA chain length of saturated fat supplements on milk production and composition in lactating dairy cows



# Design and treatments

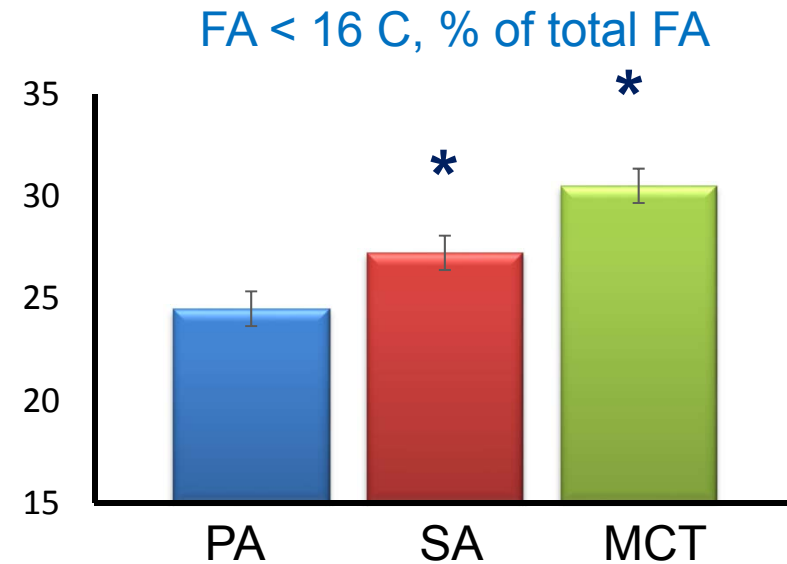
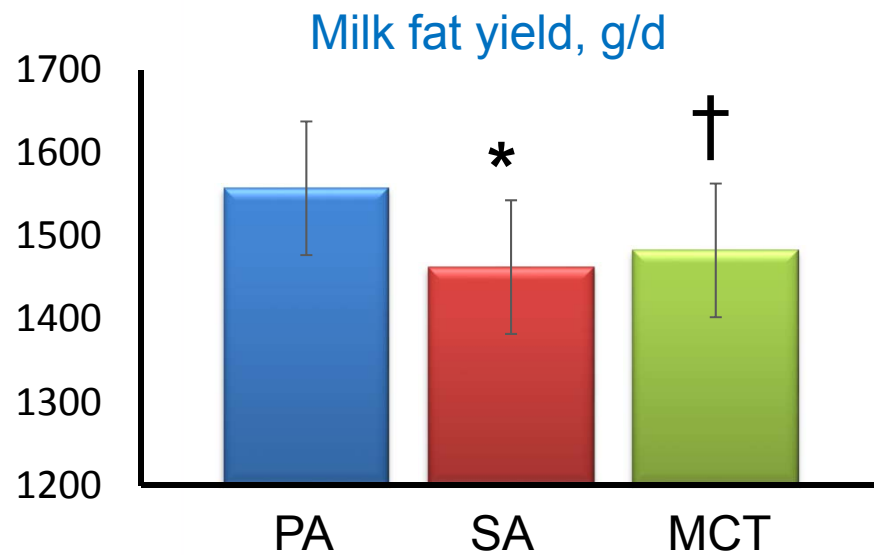
- 11 cannulated Holstein dairy cows ( $150 \pm 52$  DIM) in replicated Latin square design (3 periods of 14 d)



- Emulsions providing 280 g/d of FA:
  - Free FA enriched in palmitic acid (PA; >85% 16:0)
  - Free FA enriched in stearic acid (SA; 98% 18:0)
  - Medium-chain triglycerides (MCT; 8:0 and 10:0)



# Saturated FA chain length altered milk fat during mid-lactation



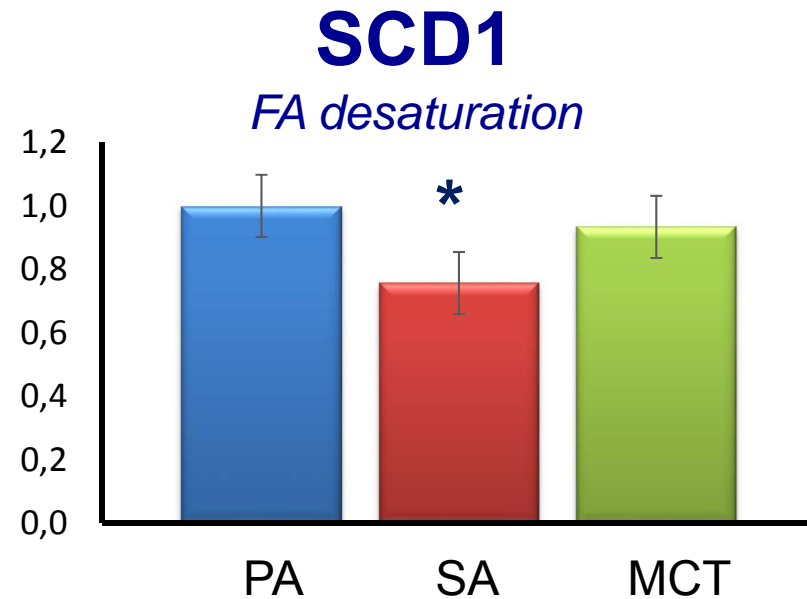
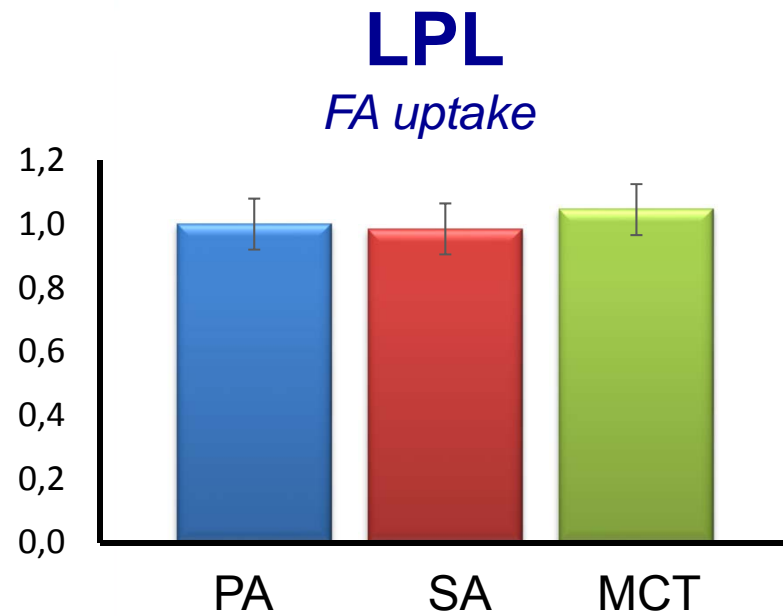
PA = C16:0  
SA = C18:0  
MCT = C8:0 + C10:0

\* vs. PA  $P < 0.05$

† vs. PA  $P < 0.10$



# Mammary lipid metabolism genes fold changes ( $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ )

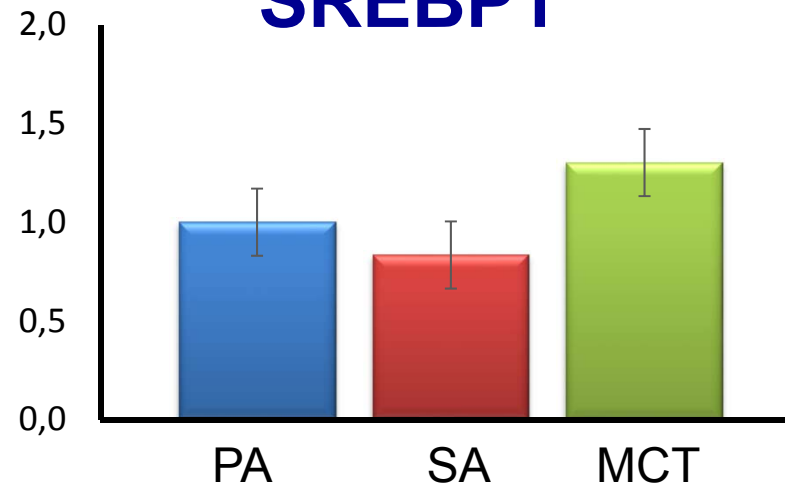


\* vs. PA  $P < 0.05$

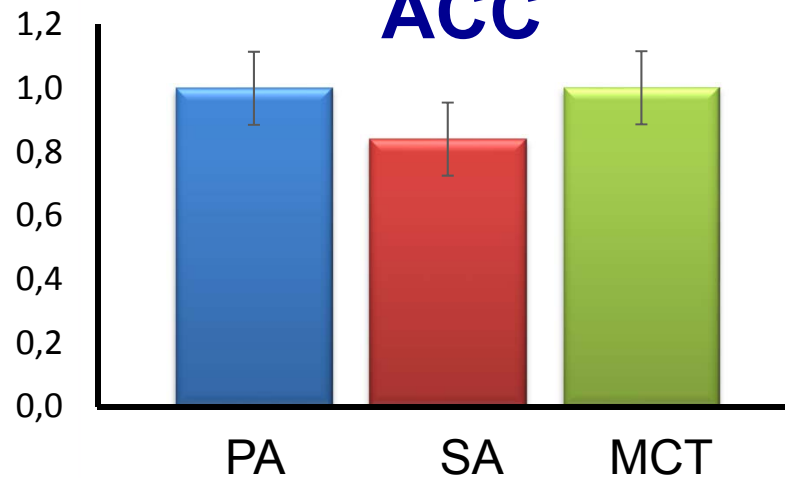


# Mammary lipid metabolism genes fold changes ( $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ )

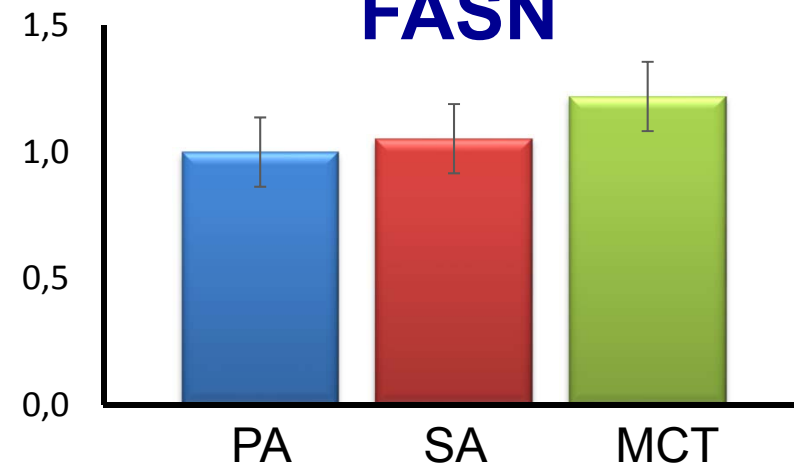
## SREBP1



## ACC



## FASN





## Summary of results

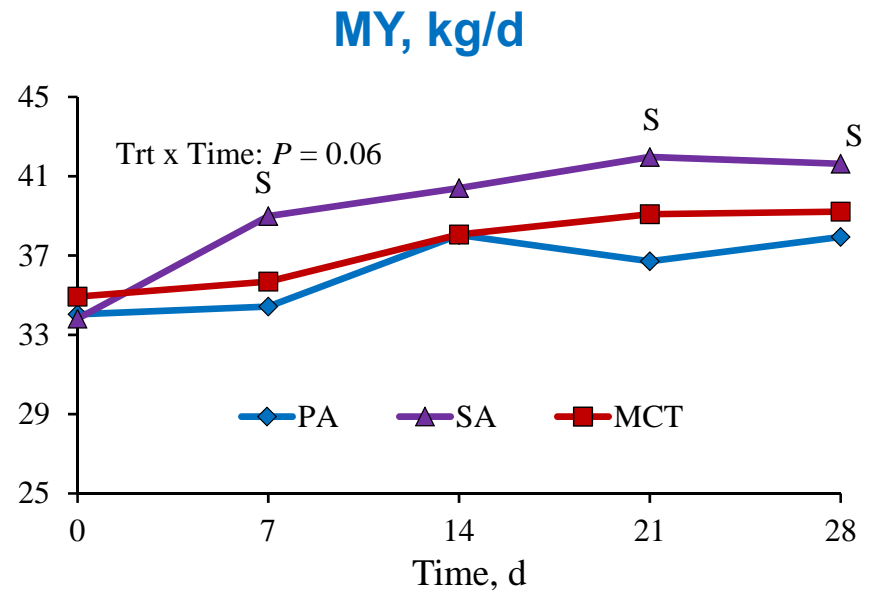
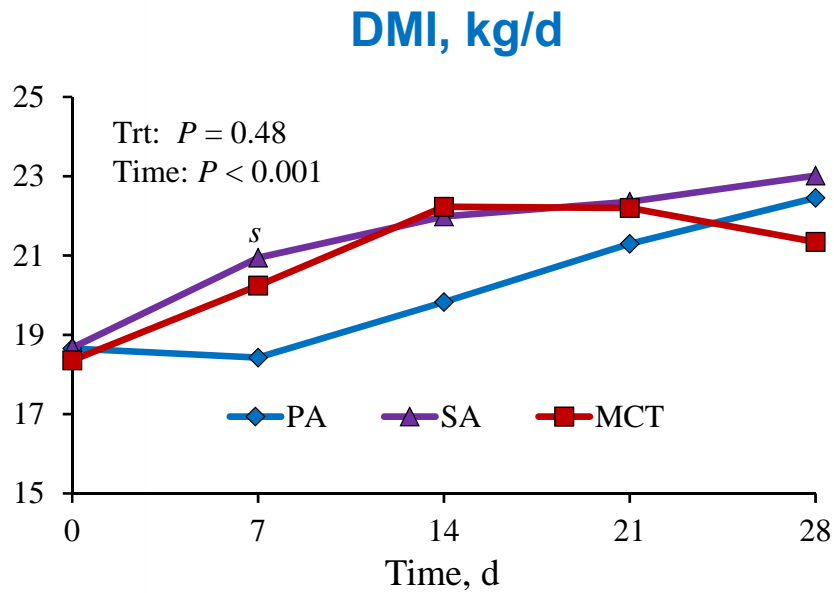
- PA increased milk fat synthesis and efficiency relative to SA
- Higher 10:0 and 12:0 with MCT
  - .....known to be oxidized in the liver?
- Transcription of key mammary lipogenic genes was not affected
- Liver pyruvate kinase was reduced by PA



## Effects of dietary fatty acid chain length on performance of early lactation dairy cows

- Twenty one multiparous Holstein dairy cows ( $6 \pm 2$  DIM) in randomized complete block design
- Fat supplements fed for 28 d at **2%** of ration DM were:
  - 1) free FA enriched in palmitic acid (>85% 16:0; PA)
  - 2) free FA enriched in stearic acid (35% 16:0; 45% 18:0; SA)
  - 3) medium-chain triglycerides (25% 8:0 and 10:0 mix; MCT) protected in a saturated FA matrix (57% 16:0 and 43% 18:0)

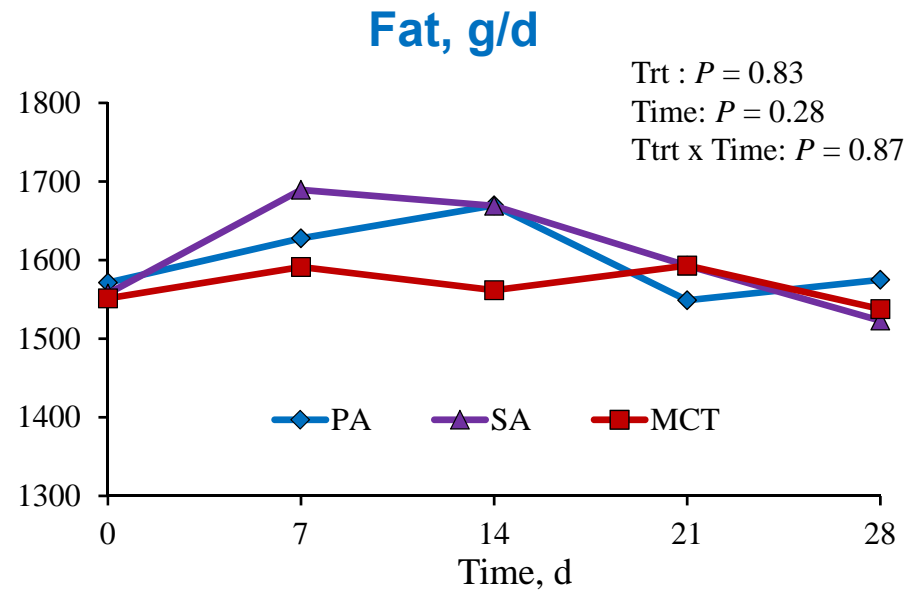
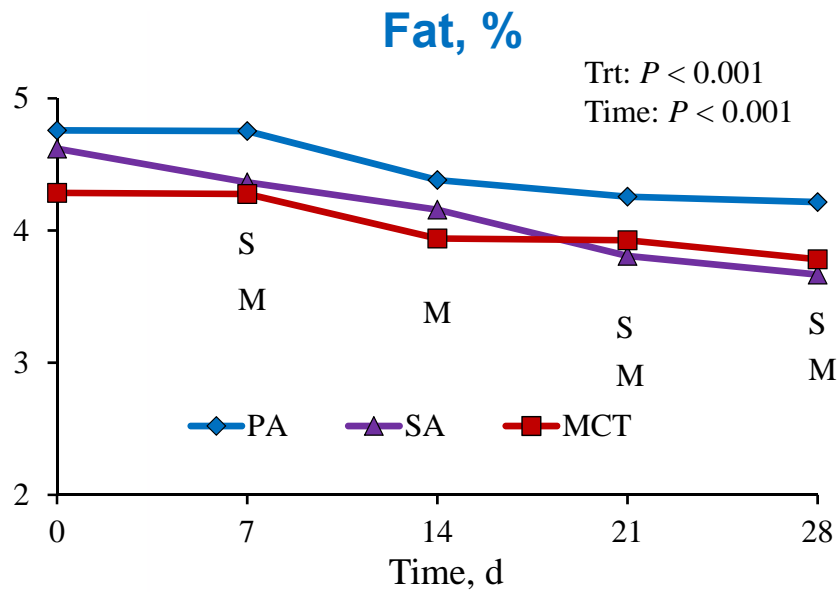
# Milk yield reduced by PA, minor DMI effects



PA vs. SA  
S:  $P < 0.01$ ; s:  $P < 0.10$

PA vs. MCT  
M:  $P < 0.01$ ; m:  $P < 0.10$

# Milk fat concentration and yield effects



PA vs. SA  
**S**:  $P < 0.01$ ; **s**:  $P < 0.10$

PA vs. MCT  
**M**:  $P < 0.01$ ; **m**:  $P < 0.10$



## Conclusions

- Dietary FA chain length affected milk yield with minor effects on DMI and no effect on ECM
- PA failed to increase milk fat yield in contrast to previous studies
- Moderate effects on other milk components

# Questions

