



WP 2 Task 2.3/2.4

# Growth potential of immune- and surgically castrated Iberian pigs fed diets of different protein concentration

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# Introducción

Castration ♂ pigs



**Prevent**

- *sexual development*
- *agressive behaviour*
- *boar taint*

- Androstenone
- Skatole

**Concern on European citizens**



**Animal welfare**



**Alternatives**



**Immunocastration**

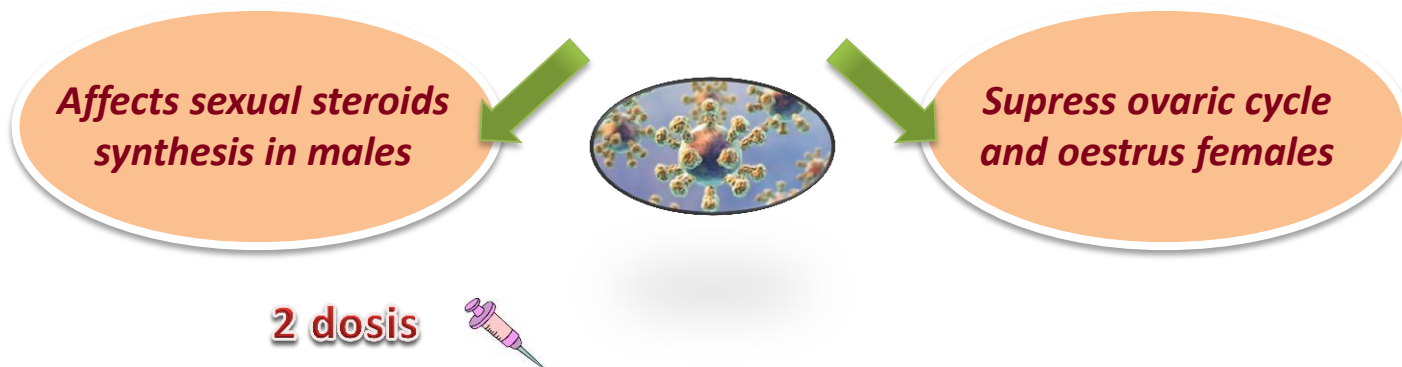
**HEAVY PIGS**

**FEMALES**

# Introducción

## Inmunocastración

### Vaccination againsts gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH)



- ❖ Animal welfare
- ❖ Increased performance until second vaccination (Millet et al. 2011; Batorek et al., 2012)
- ❖ Increased protein/Lys requirements in IC males vs SC males (Elsbernd et al., 2017)



Iberian pig?

## *Objective*

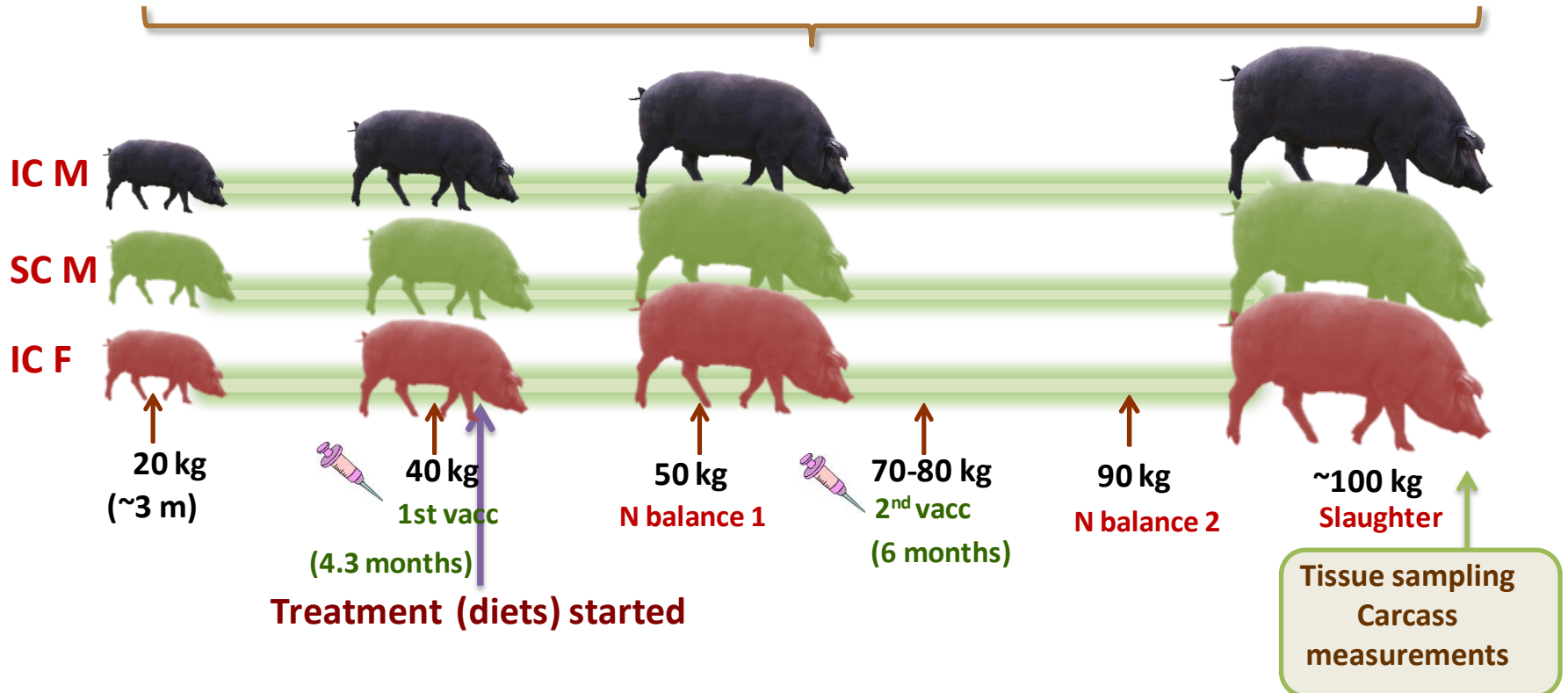
*Examine the effects of immunocastration on Iberian pig performance and carcass traits under different dietary protein concentrations*

# Materials & Methods

## Experimental design

- 3 Groups:** Immunocastrated Iberian male pigs **IC M** (n=18)  
Surgically castrated Iberian male pigs, **SC M** (n=18)  
Immunocastrated Iberian female pigs, **IC F** (n=18)
- 3 diets:** 16% PB, 14% PB and 12% PB (90% *ad lib*)
- 6 pigs** per treatment combination (n= 54, 2 Replicates)

Feed intake individually adjusted to BW (weekly ) individual housing



# Materials & Methods

## Experimental Diets



Ingredients, g/kg	High CP	Medium CP	Low CP
Barley	700	700	700
Maize	145	189	232
Soybean meal 47	125	81	37
Calcium phosphate	9.0	9.3	10.2
CO <sub>3</sub> Ca	6.3	6.2	6.1
ClNa	3.0	3.0	3.0
Vitamins/minerals	3.0	3.0	3.0
L-Lys (50%)	6.0	6.0	6.0
L-Thr (50%)	2.4	2.3	2.2
Met hydrox. analog.(75%)	0.8	0.6	0.4
L-Trp (19.6%)	0	0	0.3
Nutrient composition, g/kg			

Crude protein, g/kg FM	143	125	107
Crude protein g/kg MS	161	141	121
ME, MJ/kg MS	14.6	14.7	14.3
Total lipids	20.3	20.9	21.4
Lysine	9.4	8.2	7.0
Threonine	6.2	5.4	4.7
Methionine	2.7	2.4	2.0
Tryptophane	1.7	1.4	1.2

# *Materials & Methods*

## *Experimental design*



# ***Materials & Methods***

## ***Statistical analysis***



***2-way ANOVA, Sex (IC males, SC males, IC females)***  
***Diet (HP, MP, LP)***  
***Sex × Diet***

***test LSD  $P < 0,05$***

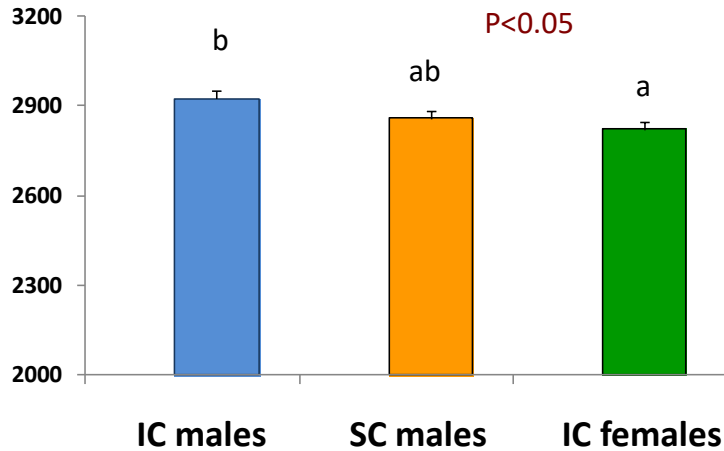


# Results and discussion

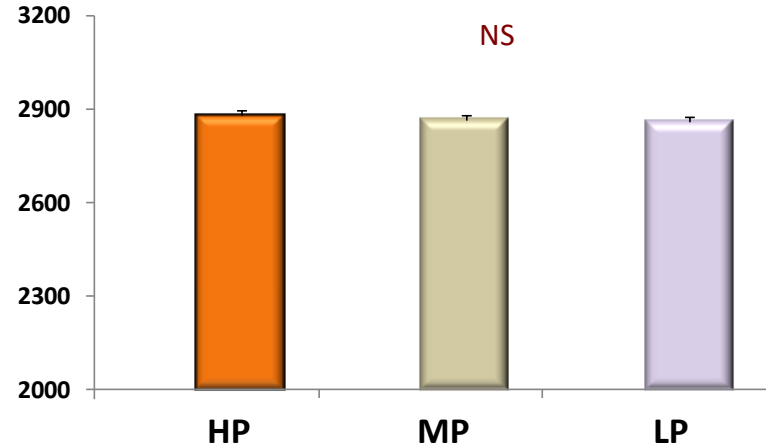
## Performance



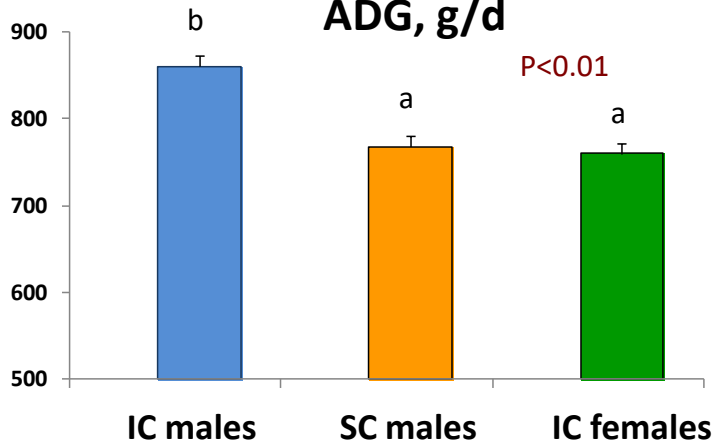
### DM intake, g/d



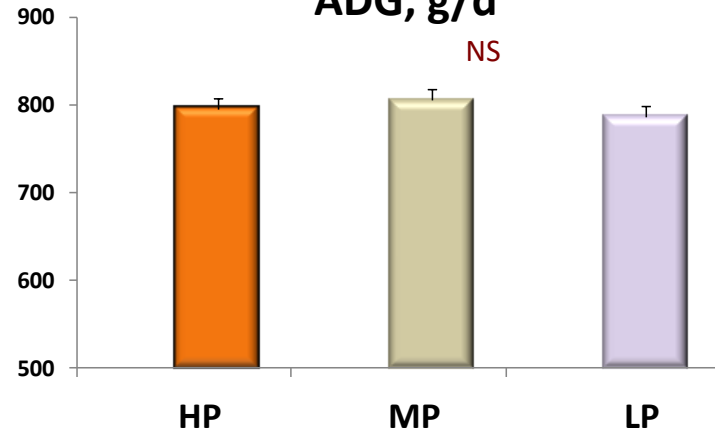
### DM intake, g/d



### ADG, g/d



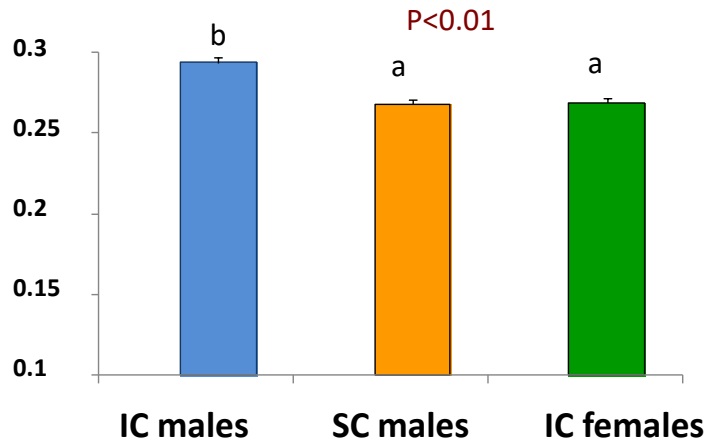
### ADG, g/d



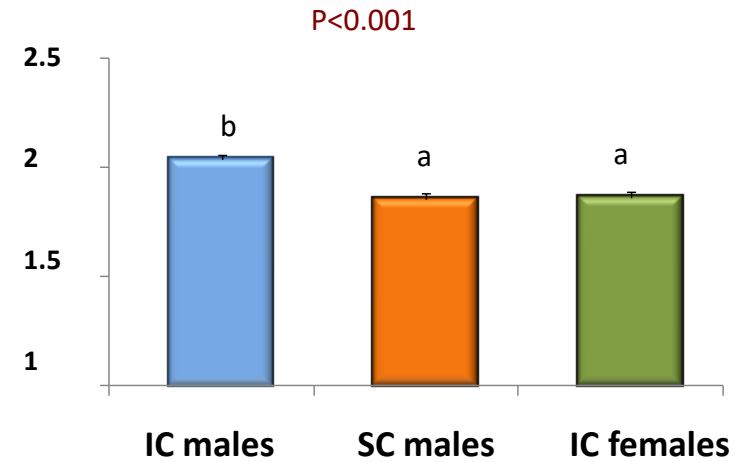
# Results and discussion

## Performance

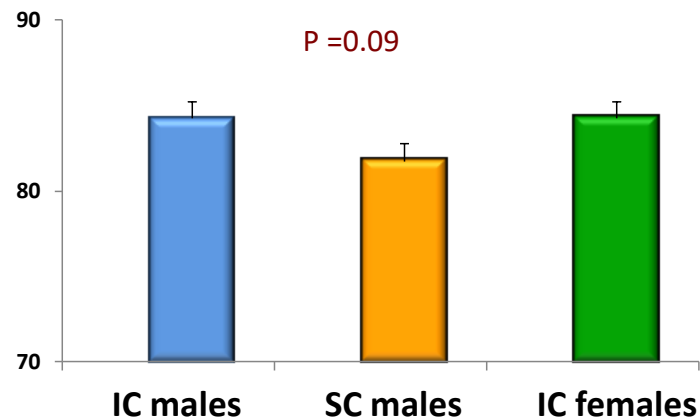
Gain : feed intake



Gain : protein intake

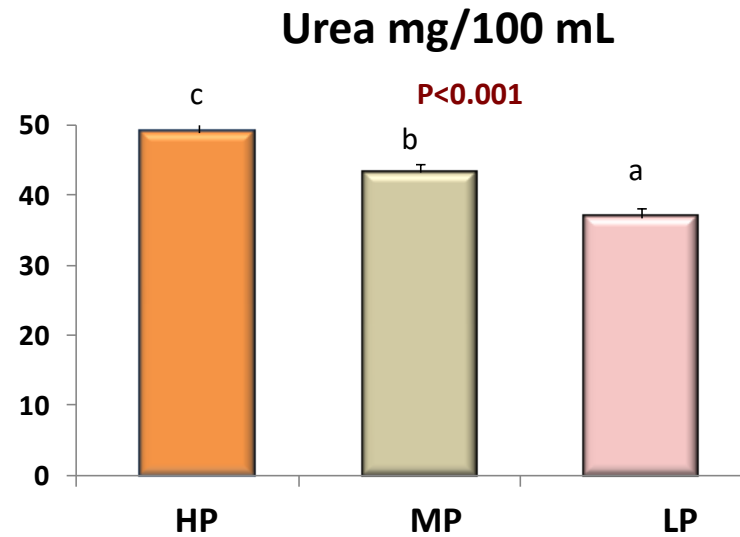
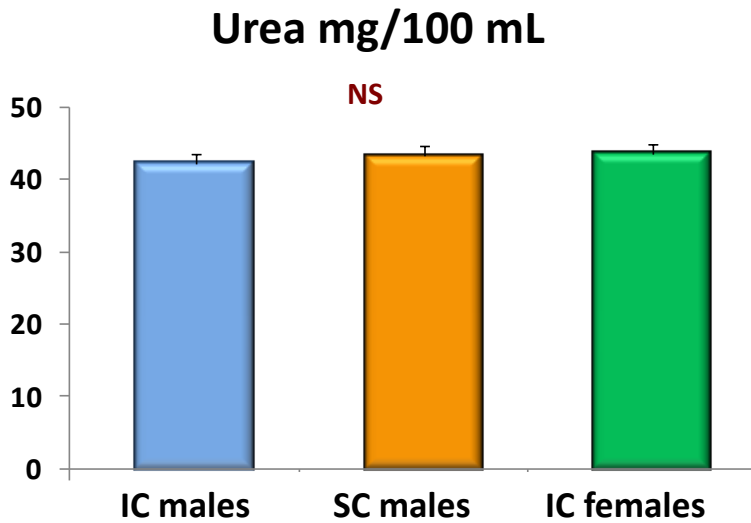
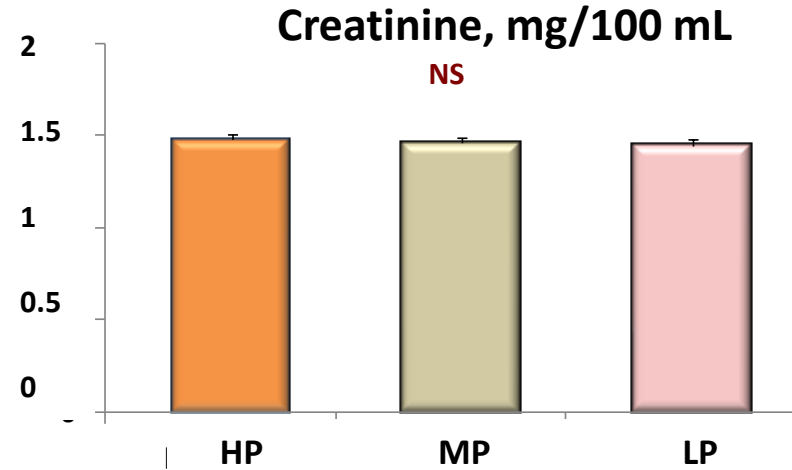
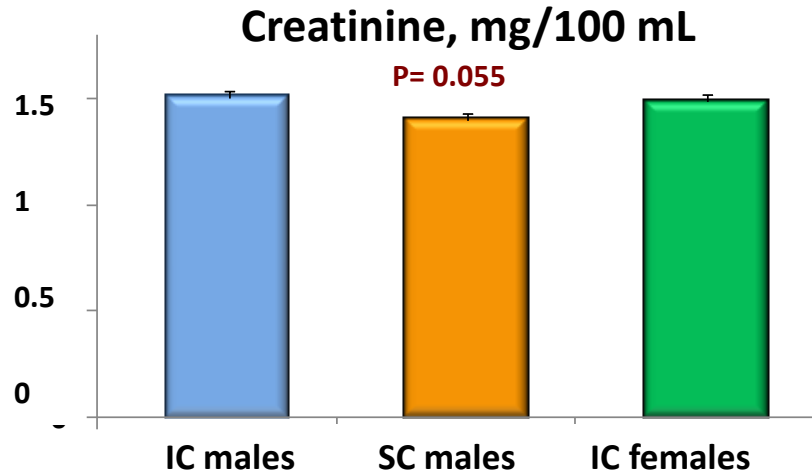


Carcass weight, kg



# Results and discussion

## Plasma metabolites



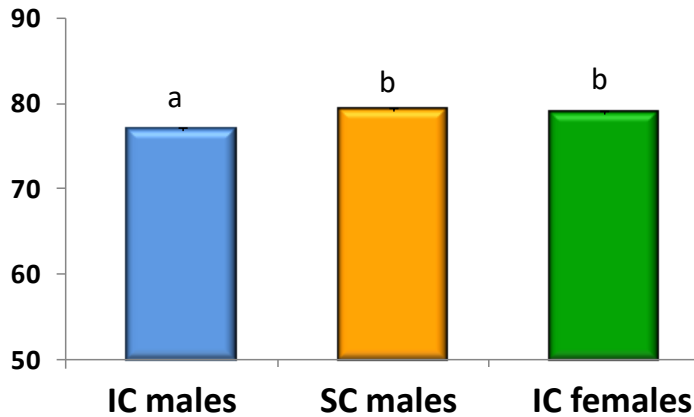
# Results and discussion

## Carcass traits



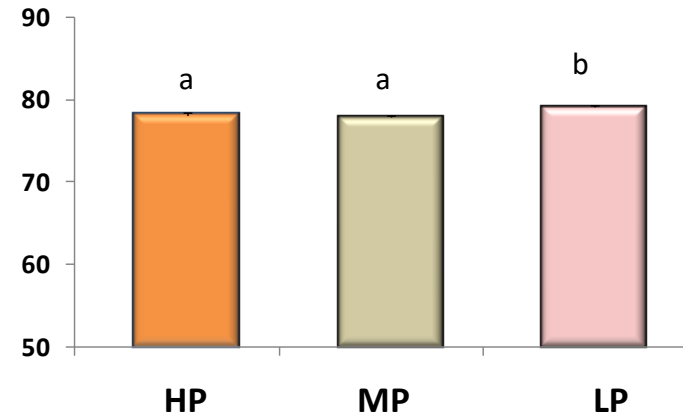
### Carcass yield (%)

$P < 0.001$



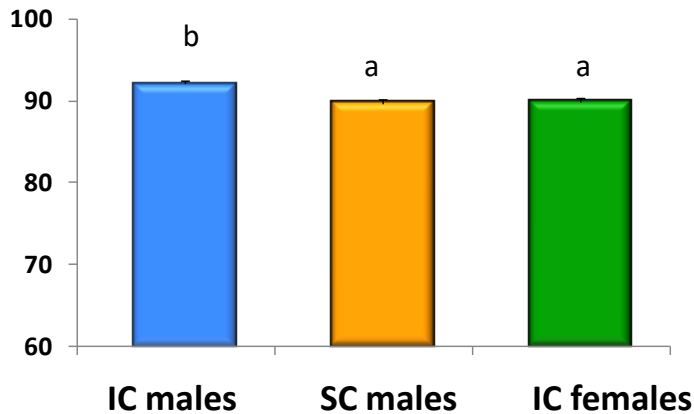
### Carcass yield (%)

$P < 0.001$



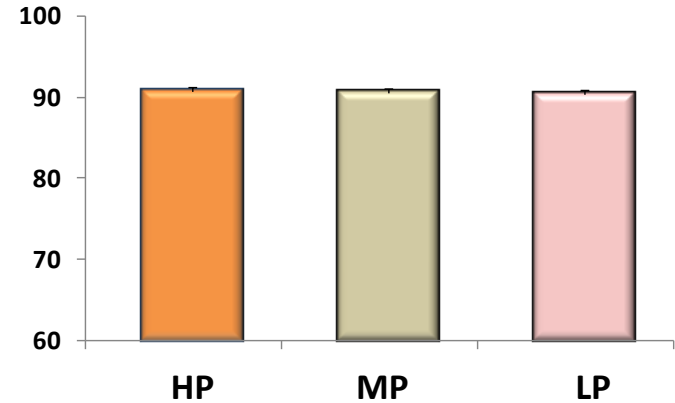
### Carcass length, cm

$P < 0.001$



### Carcass length, cm

NS

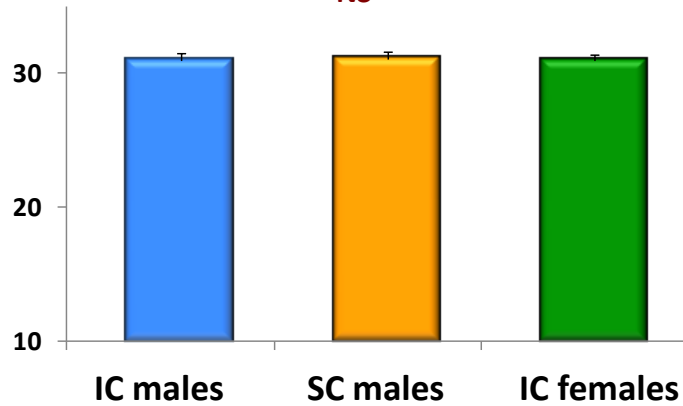


# Results and discussion

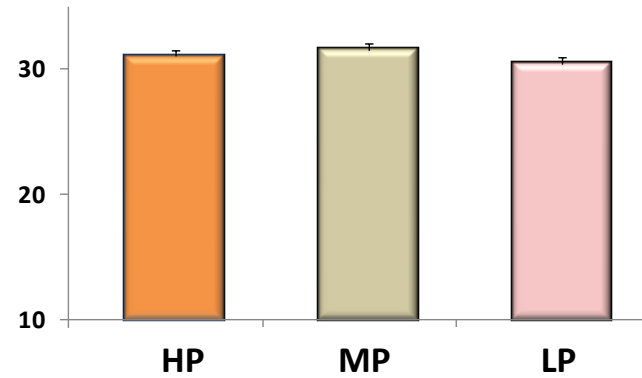
## Carcass traits



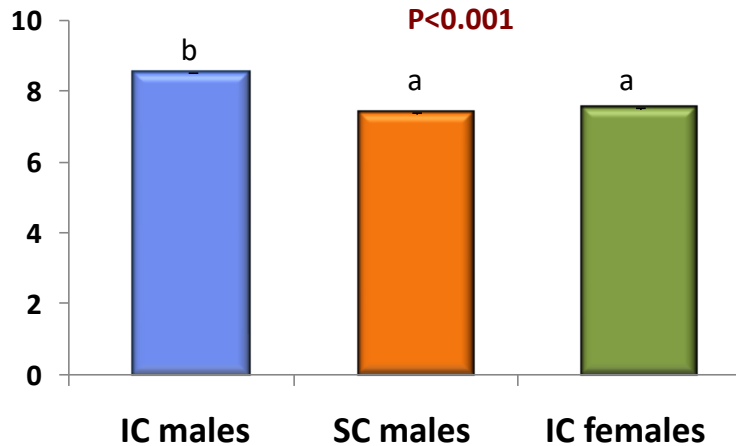
Hams, %  
NS



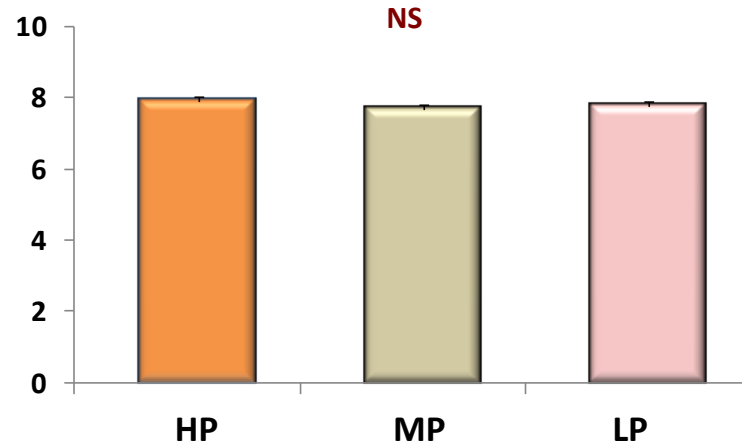
Hams, %  
P = 0.06



Lean cuts (loins, sirloins, butt lean, %)



Lean cuts (loin, sirloin, butt lean, %)



## *Conclusions*

- ✓ **IC Iberian males** showed higher growth rate and feed efficiency than **SC males** and **IC females**
- ✓ **IC males** had lower carcass yield, similar ham (shoulder, backfat) proportions, and higher lean cuts (loin, sirloin, butt lean) than **SC males** and **IC females**
- ✓ **IC females** and **SC males** showed similar performance and carcass characteristics
- ✓ No apparent effects of dietary **protein** concentration on performance were observed and very moderate effects on carcass traits

***Thanks for your attention!!***

