



Pig Relocation Services: Maximizing the Value

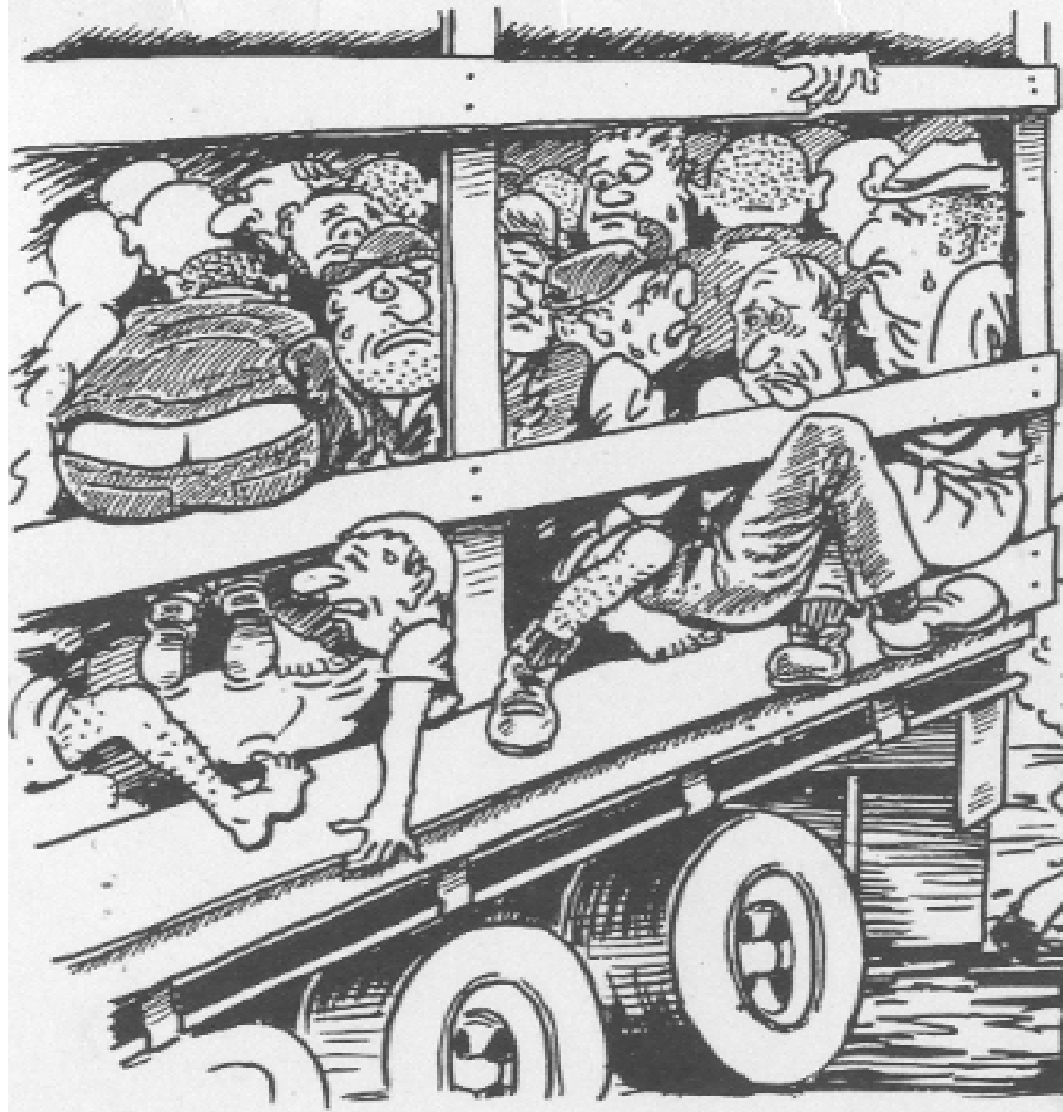
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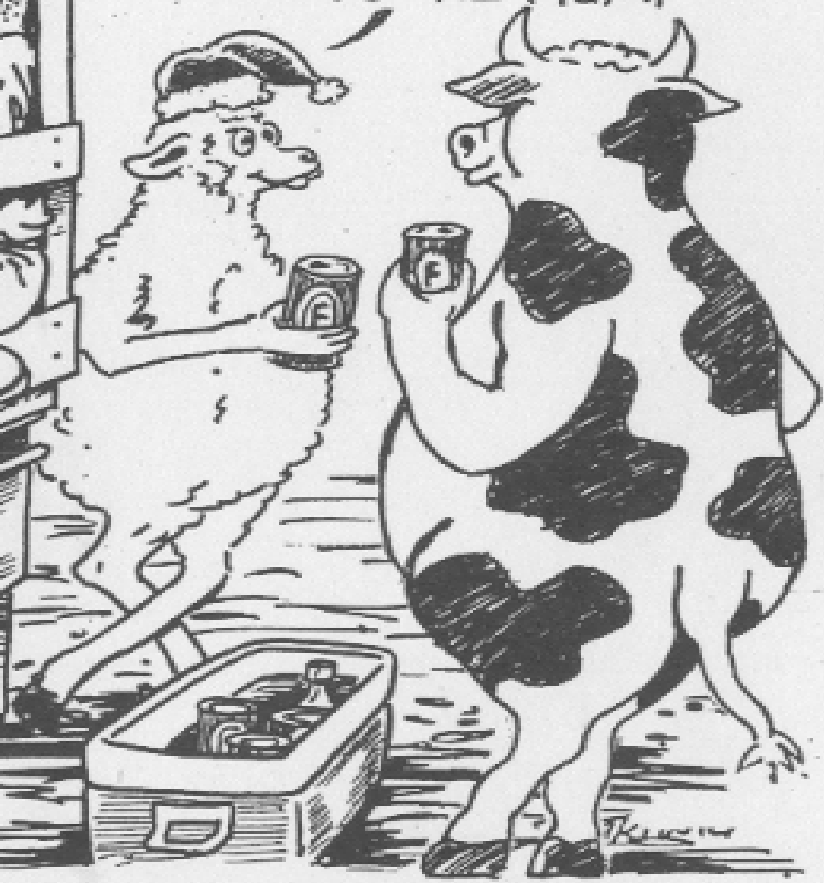


Johari window

- Veterinarian
- Epidemiologist
- Production economist
- Transporting pigs: Mondays at 4:00 am
- Synthesized thanks to work of Chris Rademacher, Terry Whiting, Charles Haley, Alejandro Larriestra



THEY'RE PERFECTLY
OK...THEY'RE NOT
THIRSTY AND THEY'RE
USED TO THE HEAT



THE END



Challenges

- Cost minimization vs profit maximization
 - Weighing costs vs benefits
- Local vs global optima
 - Is it just a transportation problem?
 - Are pigs “made to ship”?
- Is a problem of average pigs or outliers?
 - Is the focus all pigs or problematic pigs?
- How is it evaluated?
 - Incidentally or thoroughly?
- Animal transportation a pejorative



Benefits of transportation

- Livestock have been transported for centuries
 - Supply vs demand
 - Feed sources vs consumption centers
 - Labor availability
 - Utilization of byproducts
 - Hybrid vigor
 - Biosecurity
 - Legislative restrictions



Costs of transportation

- Costs of trucks/facilities/labor/insce/fuel
- Costs on image of animal agriculture
- Effects on product quality
- Effects on well-being of pigs
 - Used based on a pre/during/post analysis



Analytic focus

- Morbidity/mortality rates
 - Commonly used for benchmarking human welfare
- Short term exposure
- Not a real focus on naïve/anthropomorphic evaluation



Variables

- ❑ Size of pig
- ❑ Temperature/humidity
- ❑ Facilities
- ❑ Handling
- ❑ Distances
- ❑ Source
- ❑ Within group pig characteristics
- ❑ Interactions



The problem:

Transport of early-weaned pigs has come under increased scrutiny.

Distance and time limitations are being introduced in Europe, with little substantiation.

NAHMS 2000 survey reported that most producers with inventory above 10,000 head used segregated early weaning

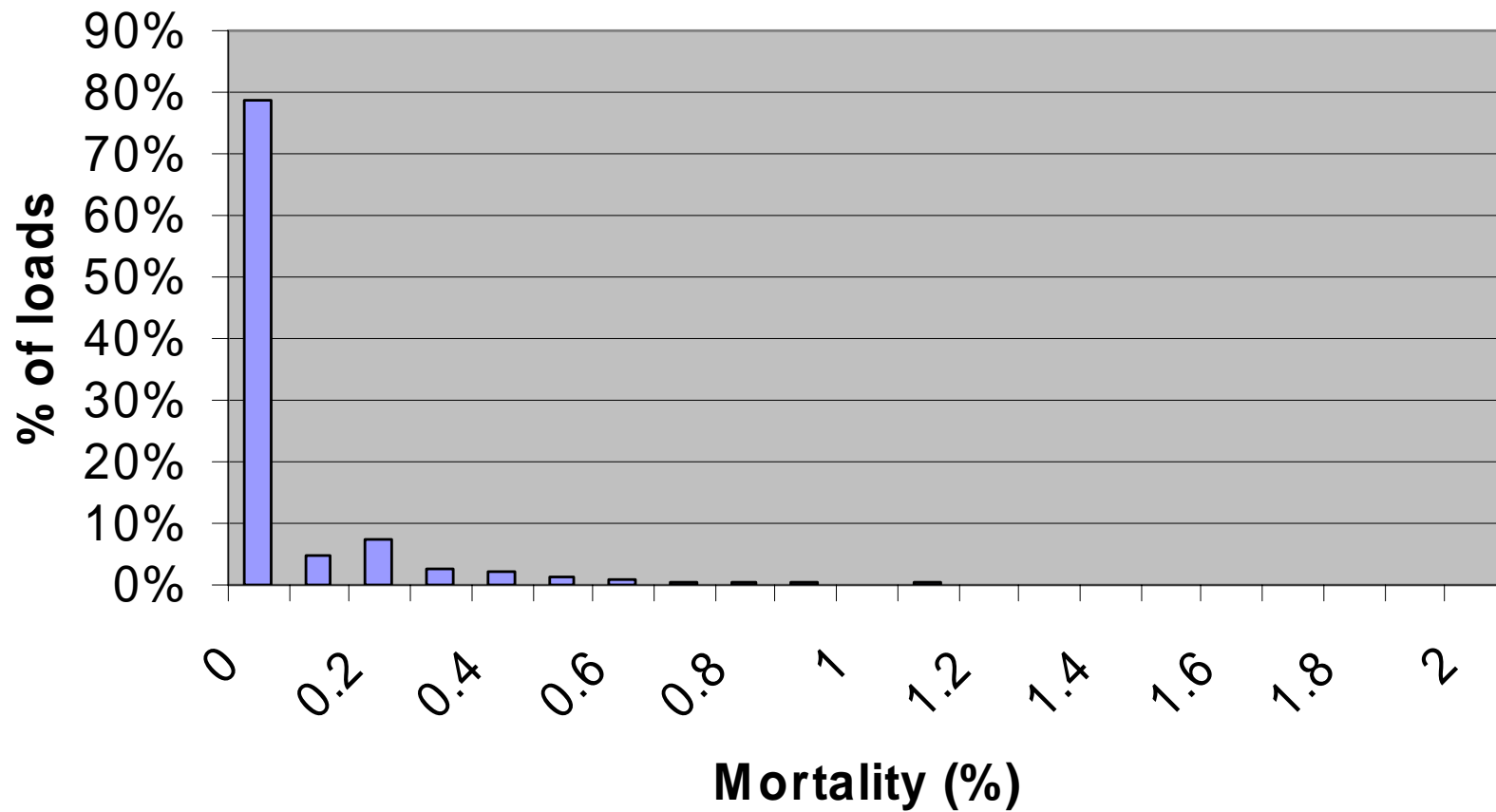
Assumption that early-weans are more fragile



An analysis:

- 2,079 truckloads (1,803,745 total) of early-weaned pigs
- The truckload rate was calculated as the number of dead/euthanized pigs on arrival divided by the number of pig in the truckload.

Mortality rates





Observations

- Low rates over long distances
 - Sow more dangerous than the truck
- Most affected pigs had pre-existing conditions
 - Lameness/size/ruptures
- Over dispersed by clustering of problem pigs plus 2 transportation failures
- Only a high temperature effect



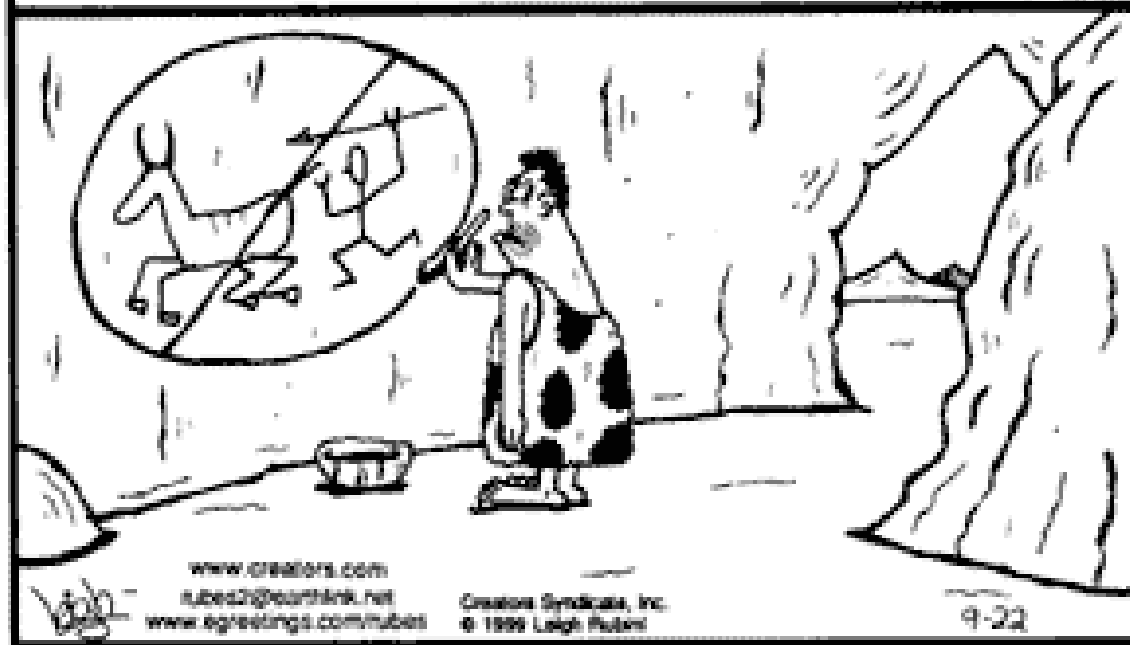
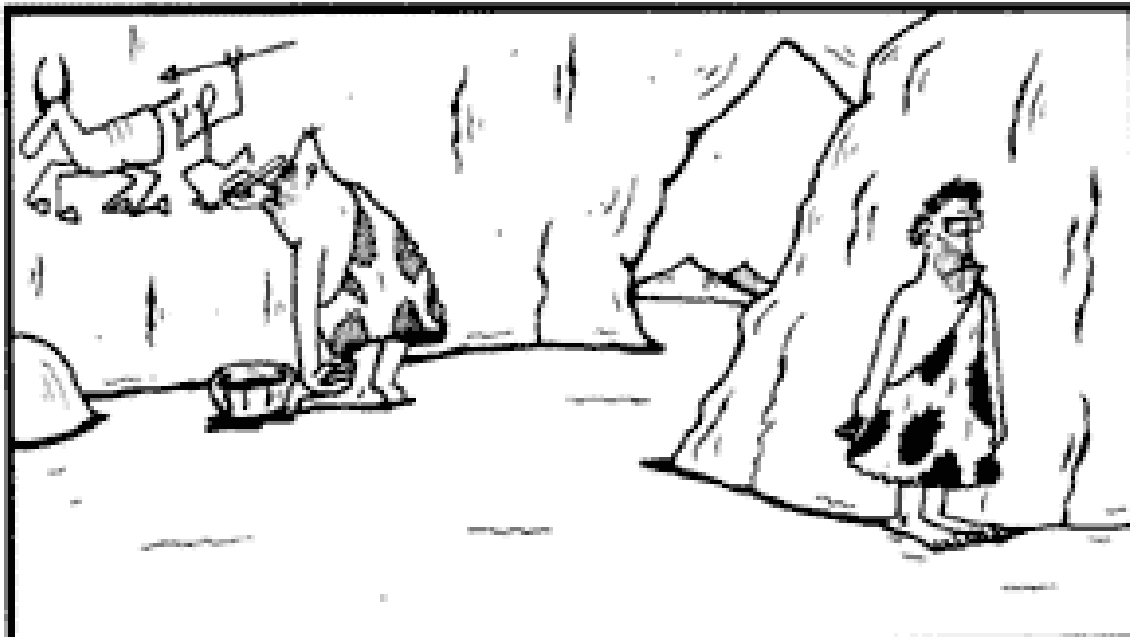
Risks of Morbidity/Mortality

1. Size
2. Temperature humidity
3. Pre-existing conditions
4. Loading ease
5. Distance
6. Truck type
7. Etc...

What if Morb/mort does not matter

- ❑ Human behaviors and appearance
- ❑ Truck design for aesthetics
- ❑ Placement of slaughter plants
- ❑ PR





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Early radicals of the Animal Rights Movement