



Institute of Agricultural
Engineering



Real-time animal response to climate changes Research and application

PLF Lab - ARO - Israel

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Fifth DairyCare Conference, Thessaloniki, March 19th and 20th 2018





Agenda:

1. Project goals
2. Sensor base cooling results
3. Conclusions and discussion

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Project goals:

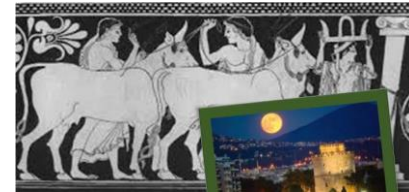


1. Study the individual cow heat stress response –
sensor based
2. Transforming rumen temperature to vaginal temperature (**Statistic model**)
3. Design sensor base cooling method for **forced cooling** purposes (production/welfare)



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Materials and Methods

2016: 8 cooling vs. 5 cooling per day

2017: Sensor-based cooling vs. pre-defined, fixed timing cooling (3 cooling)

1. ARO, Volcani, research dairy barn



A cooling is: 1 min. shower and 4 min. fan x 9 times = 45 min
"good days".

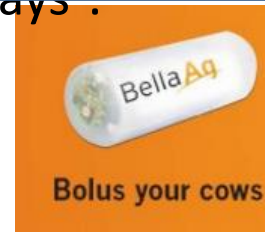
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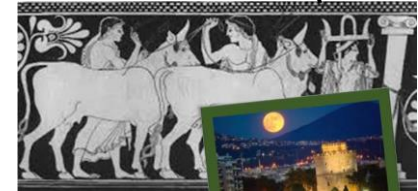
Eating behavior (kg, duration)

Thermal humidity index (temperature, humidity, radiation, wind).

Severino Pinto ATB Germany (respiration, rectal temperature, heart rate)



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Results

(Summer 2016, Summer 2017)

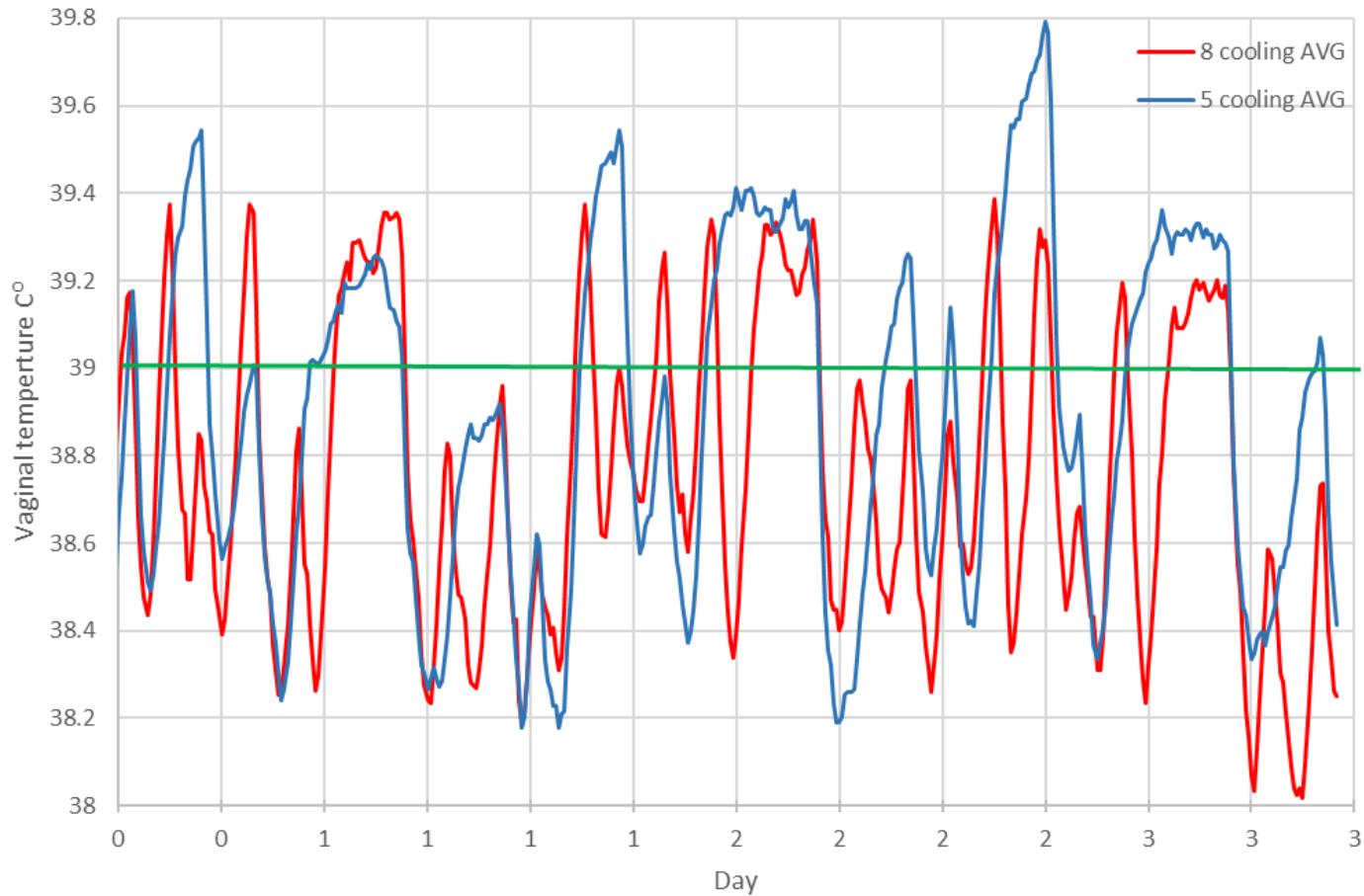
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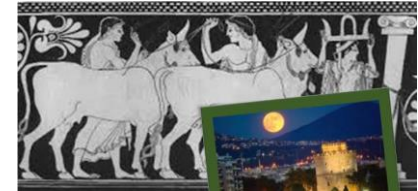
Results :Vaginal temperature (2016)

Differences in two groups for three days

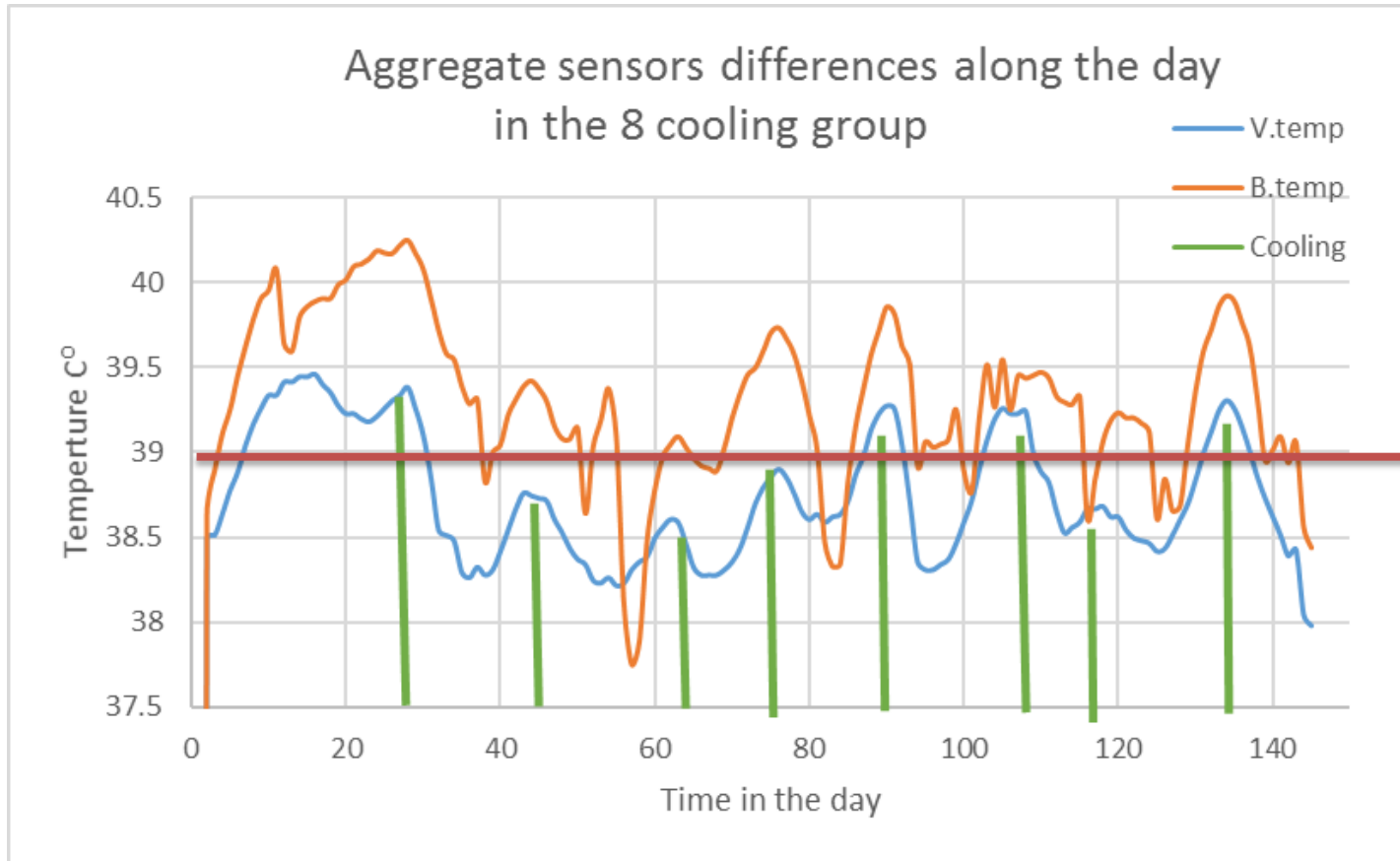


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Rumen VS vaginal temperature (2016)



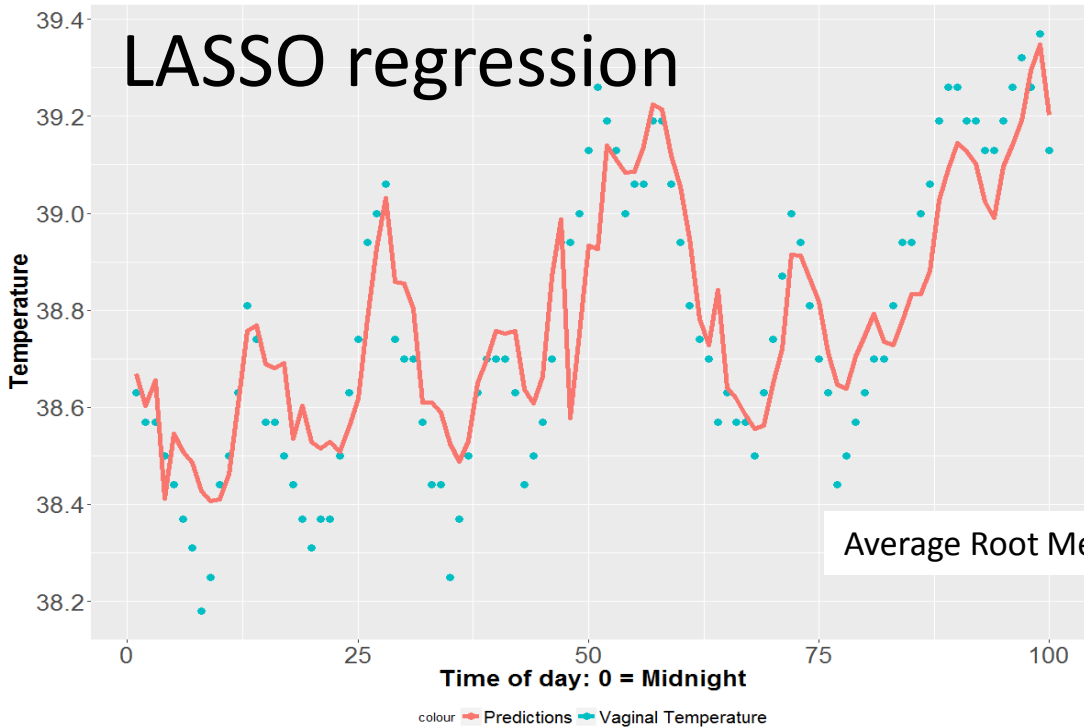
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How to “exchange” vaginal with bolus temperatures ?

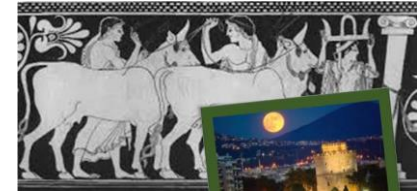
$$\sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - (\beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j x_{ij})]^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^k |\beta_j| = \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_1$$



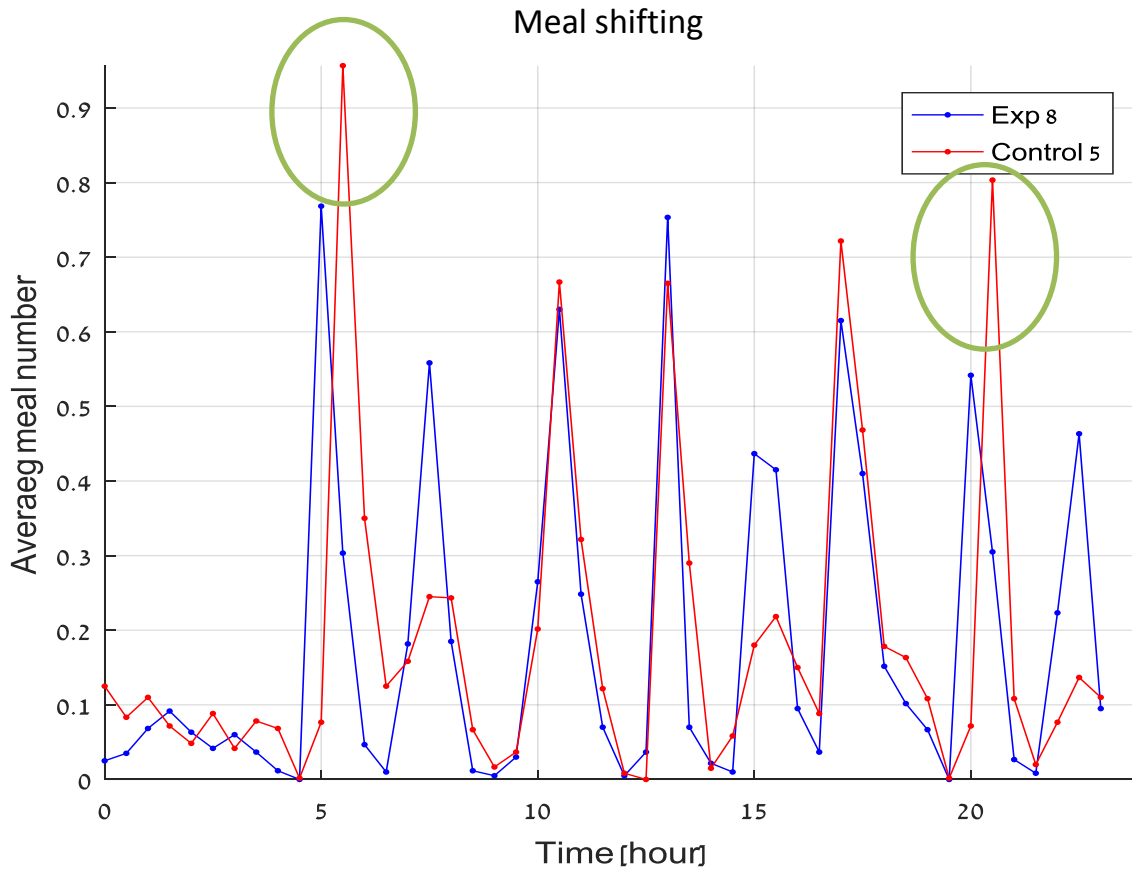
- Cow: 3304
- RMSE: 0.128

Borrowed from
Shlomi Goldshtain
Master work

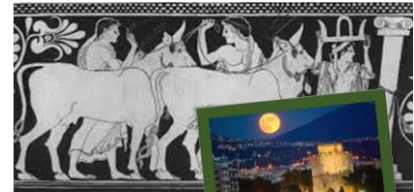
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Meals along the day (2016)



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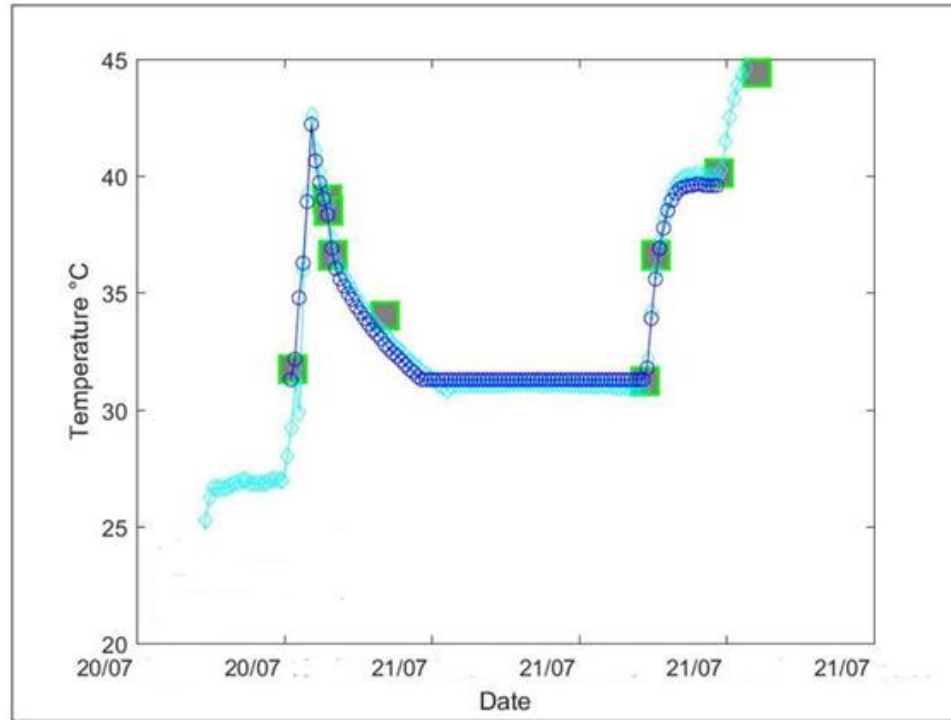


Materials and Methods

sensor validation



Two different manufactures - in the lab



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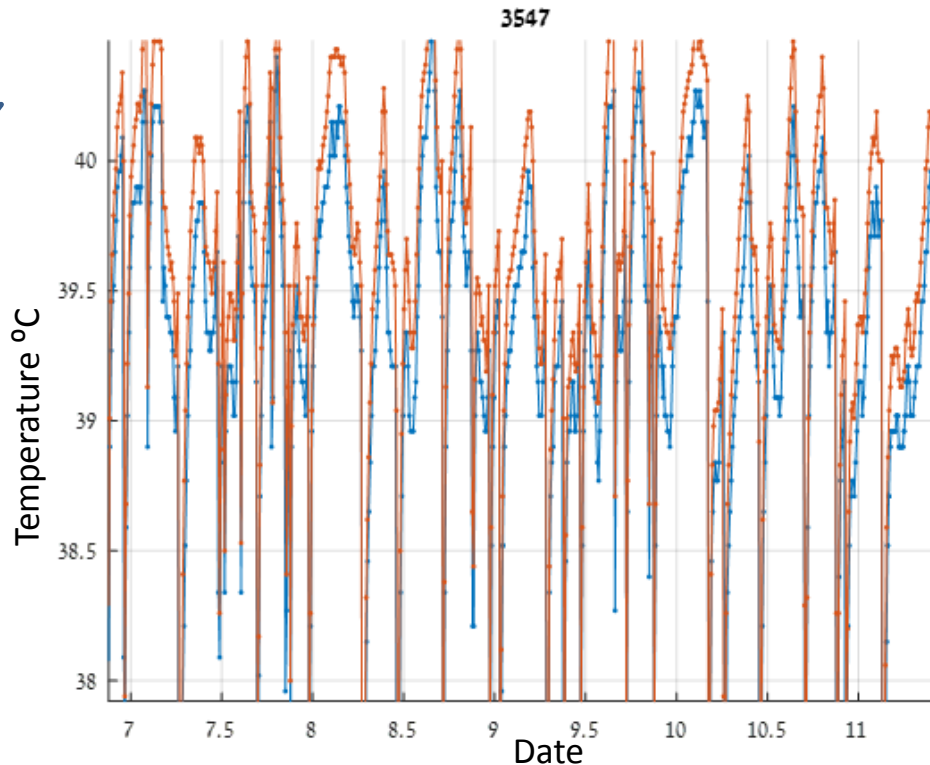
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Materials and Methods sensor validation

Two different bolus manufactures in a one single cow

0.3°C
difference

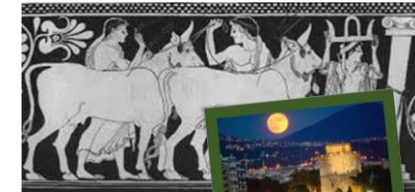


Repeat in 6 cows



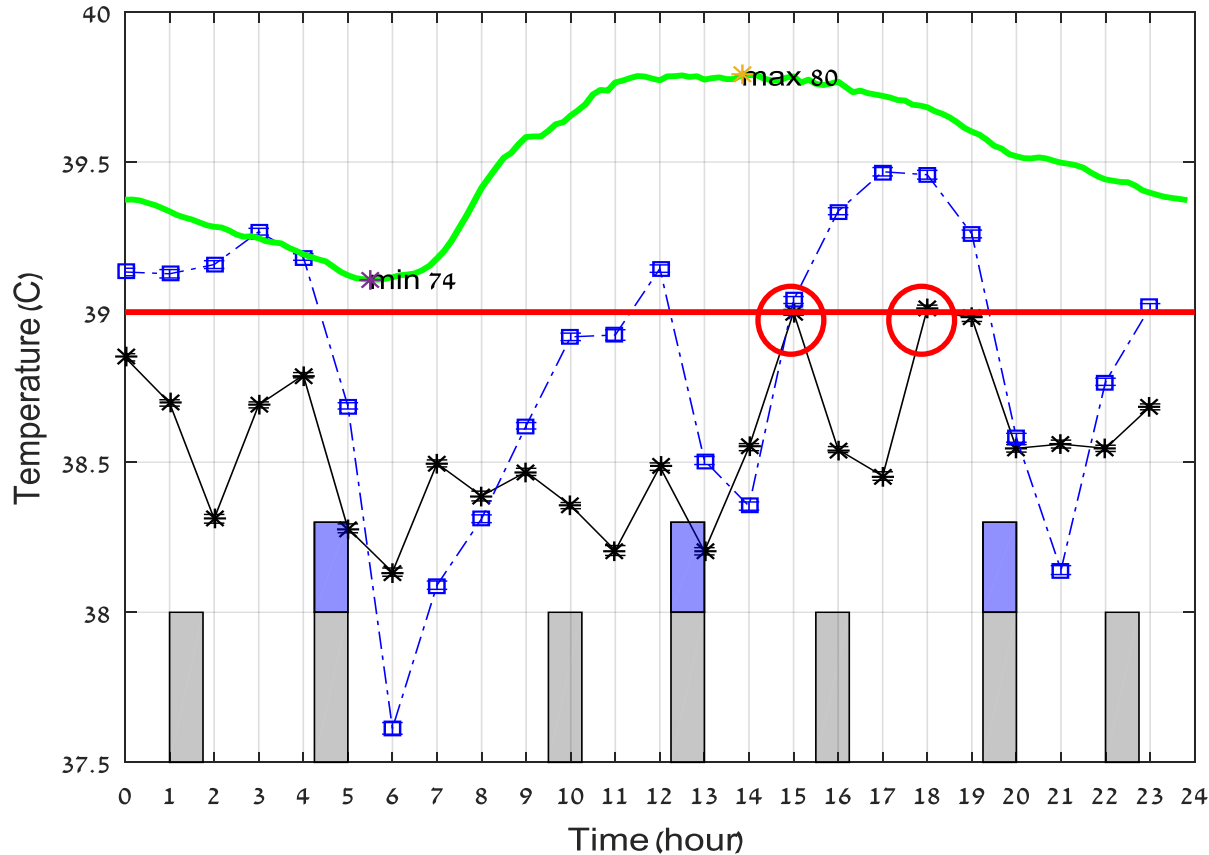
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Animal response to sensor-based cooling changes (2017)



Black- sensor base
Blue- time base
Green- THI

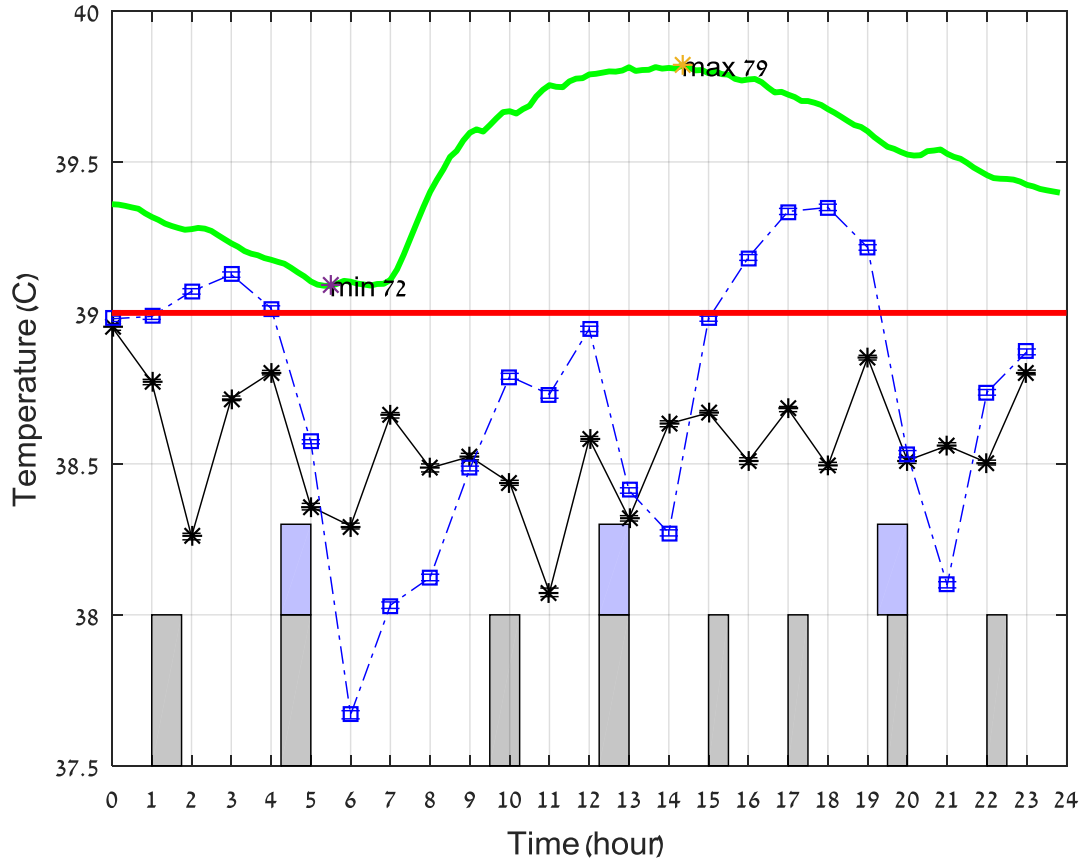
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The preferred sensor-based cooling regime (2017)



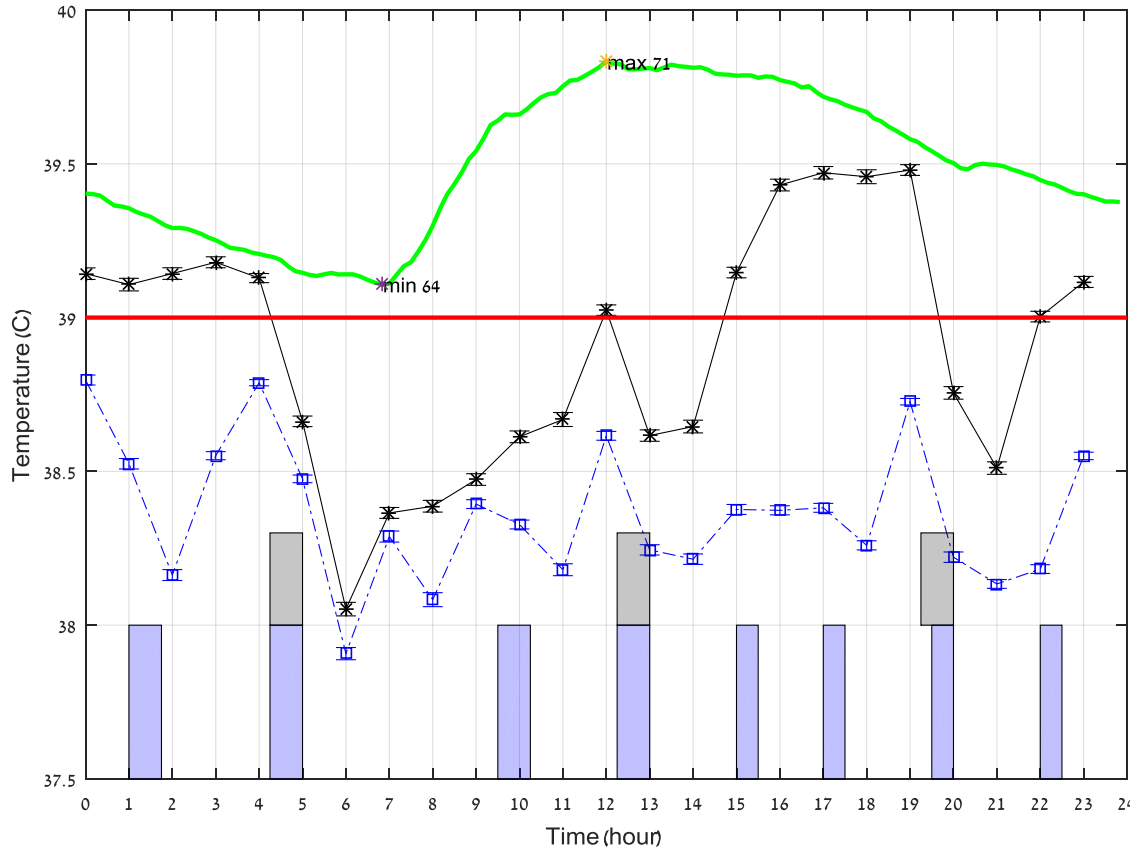
Black- sensor base
Blue- time base
Green -THI

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Animal response to crossover experiment (2017)



Black- time base
Blue- sensor base
Green -THI

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Production performance

	Experiment (Sensor base)	Control (Time base)	SEM	P-Value
Fat (%)	3.65	3.43	0.01	<0.01
Protein (%)	3.23	3.13	0.00	<0.01
ECM (KG/day)	42.84	41.48	0.15	<0.01
FCM 4% (KG/day)	42.76	41.34	0.16	<0.01
Milk (KG/day)	45.33	45.40	0.19	0.67
DIM (days)	149.80	144.99	1.85	0.16
DMI (KG/day)	28.31	26.47	0.11	<0.01

Milk solids
(fat, protein) were
more affected than the
milk volume.





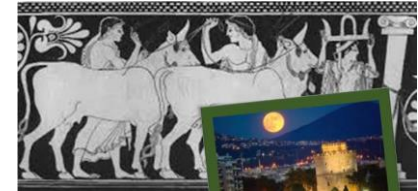
Conclusion Exp. 2017:



1. A sensor based cooling regime results with higher milk solids, and higher feed consumption (DMI).
2. The sensor-based cows changed their eating behavior and consequently their production.
3. The sensor-based cows had better thermoregulation (Av. 38.6°C)
4. The sensor based cooling found to be an effective tool to ease heat stress.

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Thanks:

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- I thank ARO dairy team for their help.
- I thank SmaxTect – ProjectBar for the boluses.



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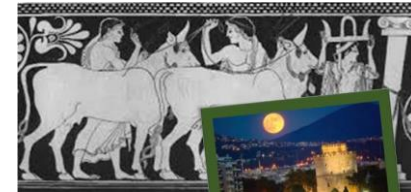
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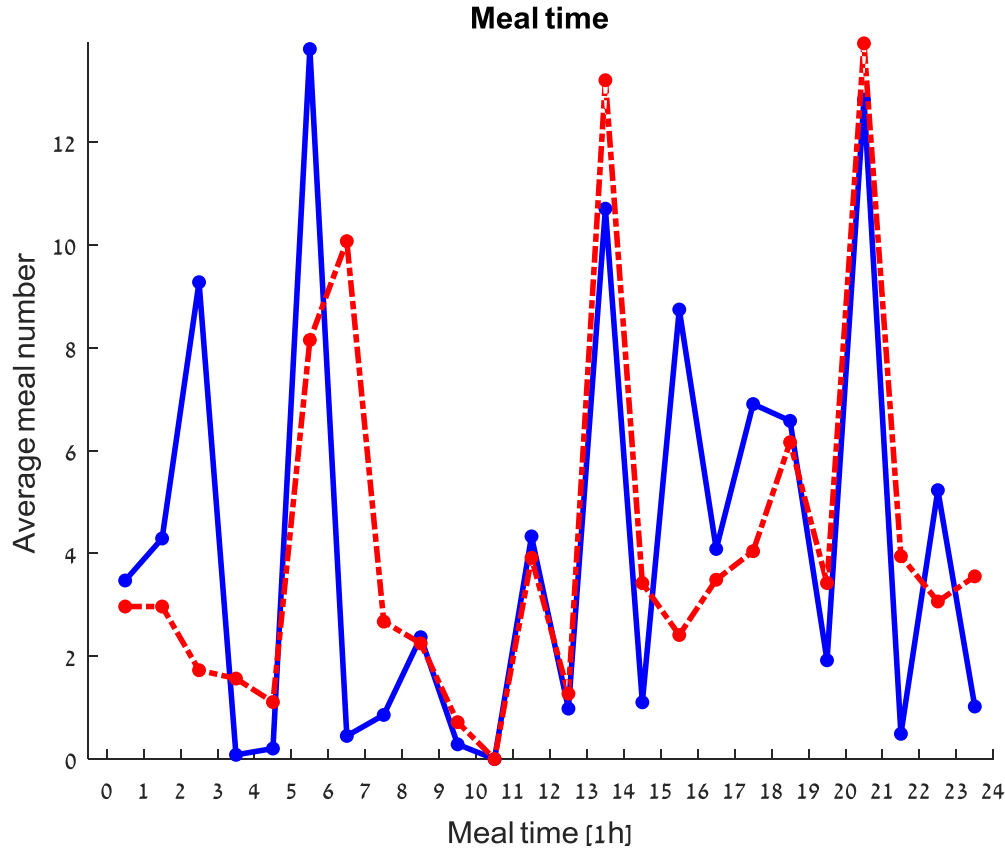


Production performance and Eating behavior

	Experiment (8 cooling)	Control (5 cooling)	SEM	P-Value
N (cows)	20	20		
DIM (days)	112	121.5		0.67
BW (KG)	621.8.84	622.6		0.8
FCM 4% (KG/day)	45.1	44.1	0.21	0.01
DMI (KG/day)	28.3	27.8	0.13	0.07
Time in stall (min./day)	194	188	0	0.06
Meal duration(min./meal)	24.2	23.5	0.0125	0.4
Laying time(min./day)	595	548	2.9	0.001



Meals along the day (group)



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