

Time

Tuesday - June 09<sup>th</sup>, 2026

13.00 - 13.15

Welcome

13.15 - 14.00

Physiological and management implications of highly prolific sows and strategies to optimize reproductive efficiency

*Prof. Fernando Bortolozzo, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil* 🇧🇷

14.00 - 14.40

Quality control and benchmarking results from a reference lab

*Rodrigo Morales, Minitube México* 🇲🇷

14.40 - 15.25

Logistical challenges of running a boar stud in one of the largest countries of the world

*Rodrigo Moreira, BRF, Brazil* 🇧🇷

15.25 - 15.45

Break

15.45 - 16.30

5°C storage of boar semen – current state of the art

*Prof. Dr. Waberski, Tierärztliche Hochschule Hannover, Germany* 🇩🇪

16.30 - 17.15

Developing a global semen supply chain

*Peter Berkvens MSc, Topigs Norsvin, The Netherlands* 🇳🇱

LECTURES

June 09, 2026



**Prof. Dr. Fernando Pandolfo Bortolozzo** graduated in Veterinary Medicine from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS, 1987) and obtained his PhD in Physiopathology of Animal Reproduction from TiHo Hannover (1992), under the supervision of K.F. Weitze. Currently, Dr. Bortolozzo is a Full Professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (since 1994). Dr. Bortolozzo focuses his research on swine reproduction and management, working with a group of approximately 30 undergraduate and graduate students.



**Rodrigo Morales, DVM** graduated as a veterinarian from the Autonomous University of Querétaro and is a third-generation swine veterinarian, following both his father and grandfather. With 14 years of experience in the pork industry, he began his career managing large-scale commercial production systems in central Mexico. Later, he worked in technical advisory roles in animal nutrition. Since 2020, Rodrigo Morales has served as Technical Service Manager at Minitube Mexico, leading a third-party quality control laboratory for boar semen doses, focusing on semen quality, benchmarking, and process optimization in genetic transfer centers.



**Rodrigo Moreira** graduated in 2002 from the University of Passo Fundo. He holds a postgraduate degree in Business Management and Leadership from the Brasiliense Association of Education College. He has been working as a veterinarian at BRF S.A. since 2003 in the pig production area. Currently, he works as Corporate Reproduction Manager and is responsible for the technical and operational management of semen collection and processing centers, as well as the technical and strategic coordination of reproduction at BRF production units, encompassing 22 breeding farms, 13 semen collection and processing centers, and 377,000 commercial females.



**Prof. Dr. Dagmar Waberski, DVM, Dipl. ECAR\***, is Professor for Animal Reproduction and Biotechnology at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Germany. She is the leader of the Pig Reproduction section in the Unit for Reproductive Medicine and the quality manager of the accredited spermatology laboratory. Her research topics include spermatology, semen preservation, as well as the interaction between semen components and the female reproductive tract using in vitro and in vivo models. Her current research focus lies on alternatives to antibiotics in semen extenders. *\*Diplomate of the European College for Animal Reproduction (ECAR)*



**Dr. Peter Berkvens, MSc** is the Global Semen Supply Chain Manager at Topigs Norsvin International. He is responsible for the development of the semen supply structure for Topigs Norsvin genetics. Peter has 30 years of experience in boar stud management, technical support, marketing, and innovation, and has been involved in building more than 20 boar studs in various countries. He graduated from Wageningen University with a Master's degree in Swine Reproduction.

# SPEAKERS