

# Characteristics of the Swedish cattle movement network 2005 - 2022

# CONCLUSIONS

- Increase in reported movements, not necessarily increased risk of disease spread
- Structural changes in the sector may partly explain changes in the network
- Drought in 2018 may have led to fewer movements and a decrease in the cattle population

## **BACKGROUND & AIM**

Movements of livestock between holdings is important for the spread of infectious diseases

**Aim:** Analysis of all reported Swedish cattle events 2005 - 2022, to help prevent disease spread

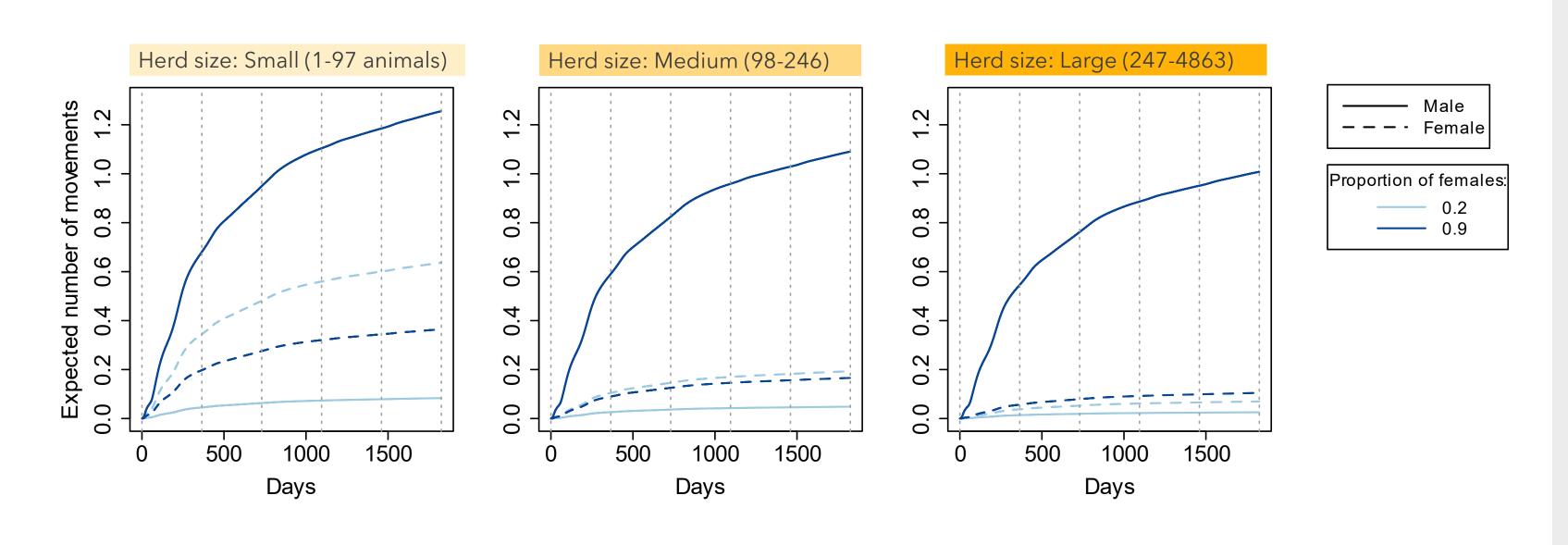
#### **COX PROPORTIONAL HAZARDS MODEL**

Outcome: Time-to-movement

#### Covariates:

- birth year
- ingoing & outgoing animals
- indegree & outdegree
- sex<sup>◊</sup>
- proportion of females<sup>◊</sup>
- herd size<sup>◊</sup>

<sup>♦</sup> Interaction effects shown in **Fig. 2** 



**Fig. 2** Expected number of movements for Swedish cattle per age in days, derived from a multivariable Cox proportional hazards model. The covariate birth year is set to be 2022, and in- and outgoing animals as well as in- and outdegree are set at the lowest categories. The dotted vertical lines divide the age by year.

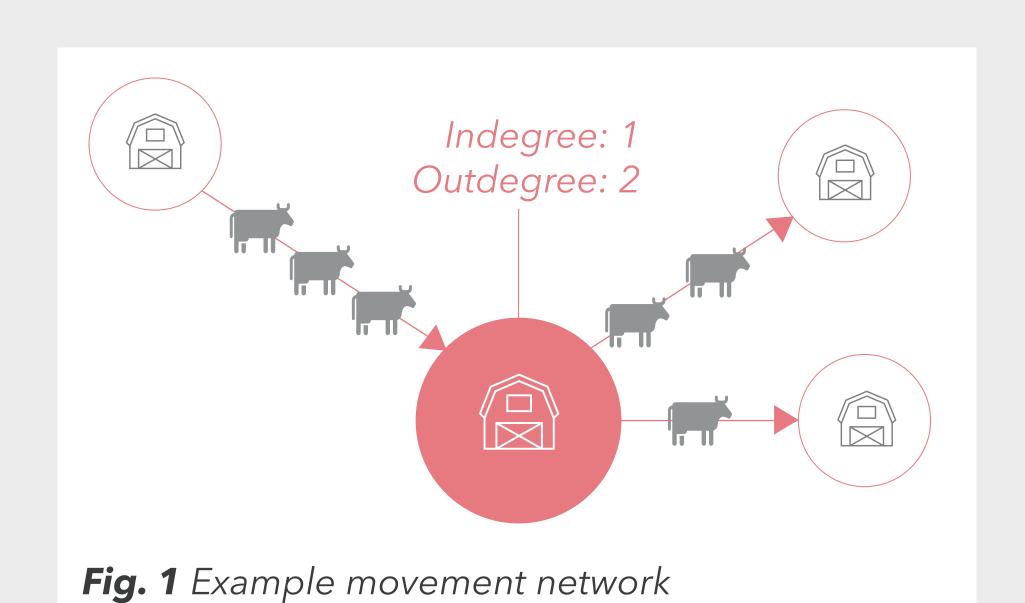
## **RESULTS**

- Increase in reported movements
- Decrease in no. of cattle and holdings
- Increase in average herd size

#### **NETWORK METRICS**

More common now with a yearly indegree or outdegree of 1, less common with 0 or > 1

Fig. 1



#### **LOCATION CHANGE PATTERNS (LCP)**

	Birth year	
	2005	2017
Male	276 k	251 k
<b>1</b> → <b>2</b>	54 %	55 %
1	41 %	35 %
<b>1</b> → <b>2</b> → <b>3</b>	3 %	5 %
Female	264 k	243 k
1	71 %	65 %
<b>1</b> → <b>2</b>	19 %	17 %
<b>1</b> → <b>2</b> → <b>1</b>	5 %	9 %

Construction
of LCP:

For each individual, enumerate each visited holding in order of visit

LCP of home-comers\*
significantly more common
in 2022 vs. 2005

 $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1$   $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2$   $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3$   $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1$ 

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