

UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

Quantidoc

## **SKIN, GILLS AND GUTS OF FISH: slimy barriers protect against lice and other pathogens or irritants**

Karin Pittman  
Universitetet i Bergen

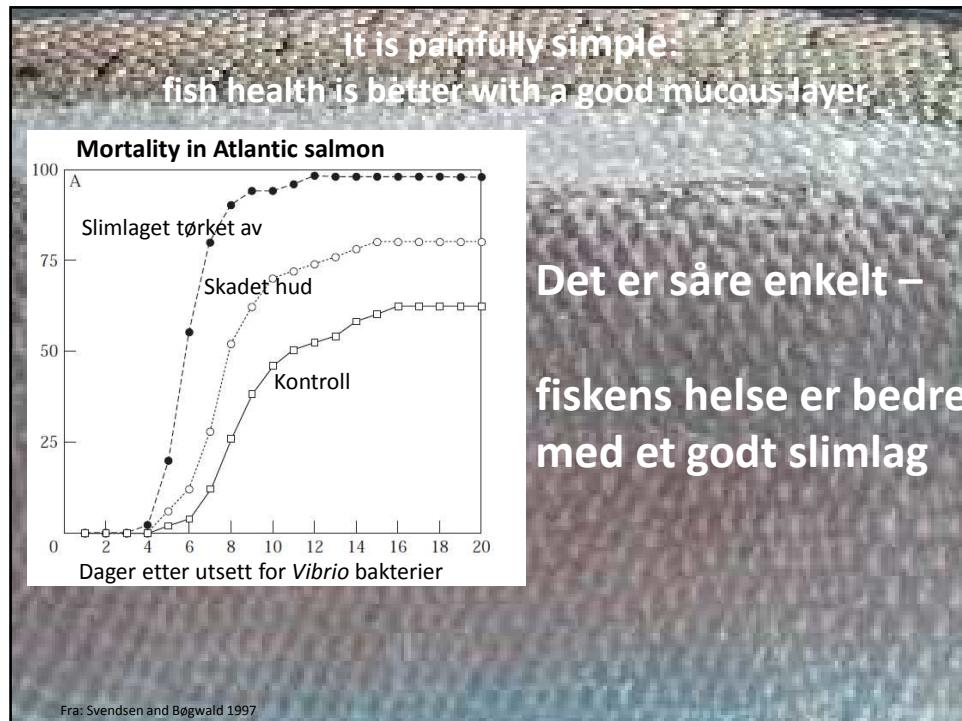
Based on talk first given at EAS Rotterdam 2015

**Mucosal Mapping**

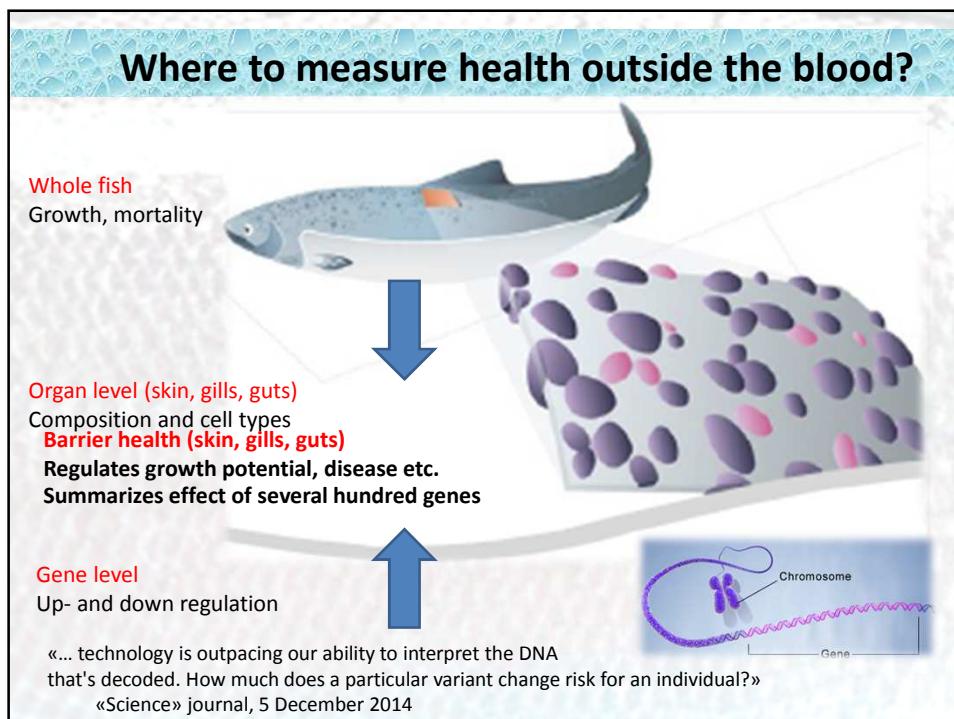
## Co-conspirators

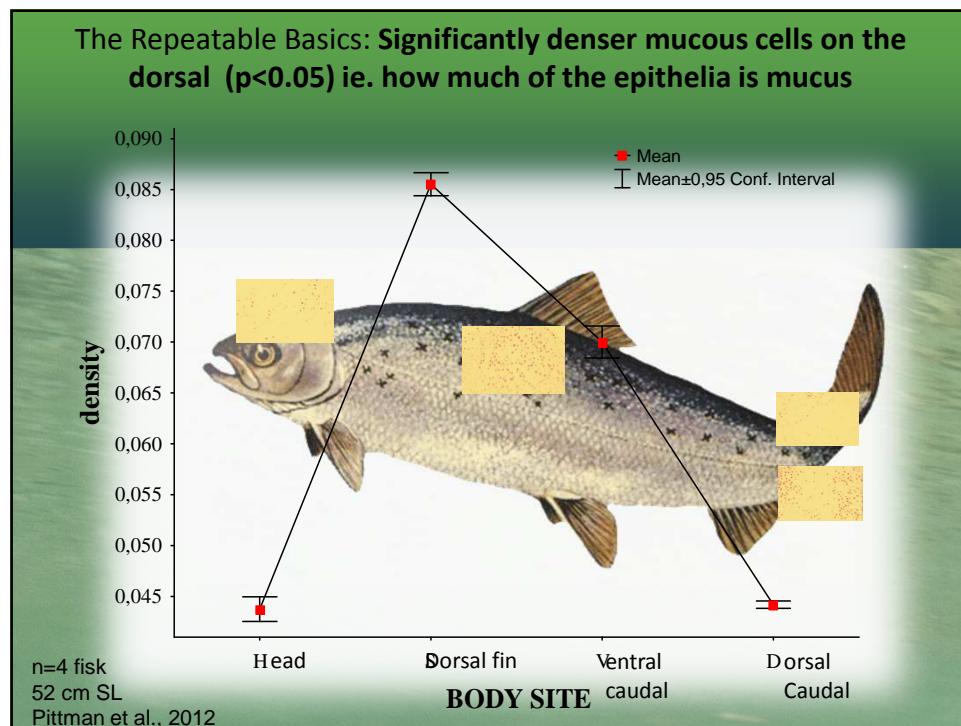
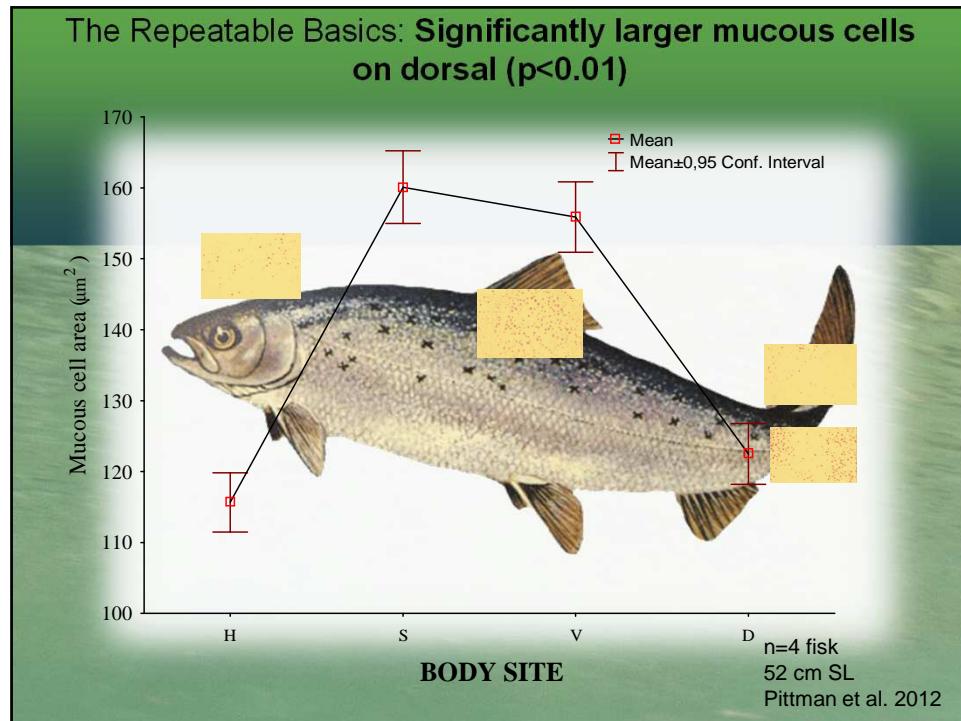
- Bjarne Ravnøy, Produs AS
- Johan Johansen, Gildeskål forskningsstasjon
- John Sweetman, Alltech Aqua
- Sulefisk A/S
- Ingrid Uglenes, IMR
- Tine Oen, BIO UiB/Fiskeridirektoratet
- Amanda Pittman, UiB/U Copenhagen
- Kirsten Redmond, BIO UiB/UiStavanger
- Stine Karlson, BIO, UiB/IMR
- Aurora Campo, Quantidoc, Bergen
- Stanko Skugor, Nofima Averøy
- Elizabeth Sweetman, Ecomarine
- Marco Custodio, U Algarve, Portugal
- Imelda Rantti, BIO UiB
- Hugo Maxwell, BIO UiB
- Kåre Thorsen, BIO UiB
- Silvia Torrecillas, Univ of Gran Canaria, Spain
- Marisol Izquierdo, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria University
- Philippe Sourde, Vet'eau/Aquativ, France
- Katerina Koutsoulakis, Nofima, Norway
- Arne Skorping, BIO UiB
- Mathias Ugelvik, BIO UiB
- Mark Powell, NIVA/BIO UiB
- Salmon Group
- Salmobreed
- ILAB, Bergen
- Alltech Japan
- Cooke Aquaculture, Canada

**Funding sources:**  
**Industry**  
**Regional Research Fund**  
**Innovation Norway**  
**Norwegian Research Council**



substance	antibacterial	antifungal	antiviral	antiparasitic
H2A peptider	✓	✓		
H1 oncorhyncin2	✓	✓		
H6 oncorhyncin3	✓	✓		
pleurocidin	✓	✓		
Sal-2	✓	✓		
complement factors	Antigen- antibody	Antigen- antibody	Antigen- antibody	Antigen- antibody
hydrolytic enzymes (proteases etc)	degrade	degrade	degrade	degrade
IgM, IgT	basic antibodies	basic antibodies	basic antibodies	basic antibodies
lectins	pathogen recognition	pathogen recognition	pathogen recognition	pathogen recognition
mucus extract			✓	✓
interferon			✓	

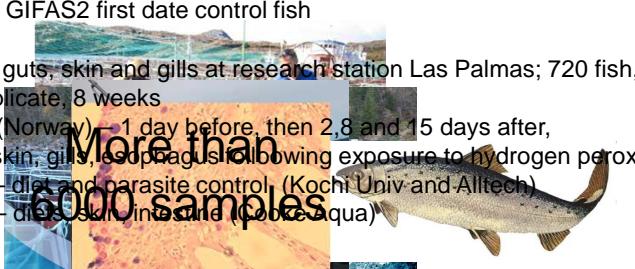




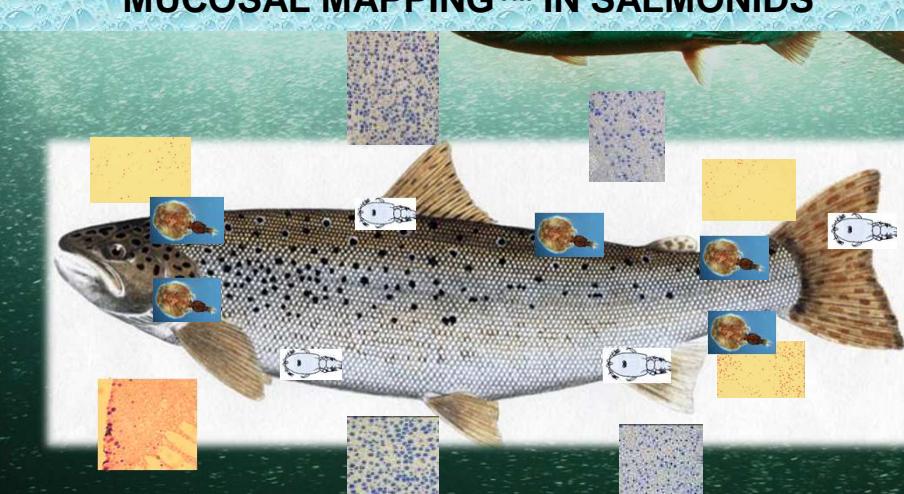
## International On-farm Trials

1. Sulefisk - field trial on commercial farm, 4 cages with 2 control 2 Aquate-fed groups  
- 280 000 salmon (about 50 m tons), 4 sampling dates, 7 months duration
2. Gifas1 - field trial on research station, 60 000 salmon, 12 cages with 3 cages for each of 4 diets (control, plus three other diets), 5 sampling dates over 4 months
3. Gifas2 - field trial on research station, 60 000 salmon, 12 cages dose-response to 2 levels of trial diet plus control diet, 3 sampling dates over 2 months
4. Averøy - controlled trial at Salmobreed, two specially bred families  
- 1 sampling date
5. Gill test - gills from GIFAS2 first date control fish
6. Seabass (Spain) – guts, skin and gills at research station Las Palmas; 720 fish, 4 diets in triplicate, 8 weeks
7. Delousing salmon (Norway) – 1 day before, then 2,8 and 15 days after, samples of skin, gills, esophagus following exposure to hydrogen peroxide
8. Yellowtail (Japan) – diet and parasite control. (Kochi Univ and Alltech)
9. Salmon (Canada) – diet and parasite control (Cobe's Aqua)

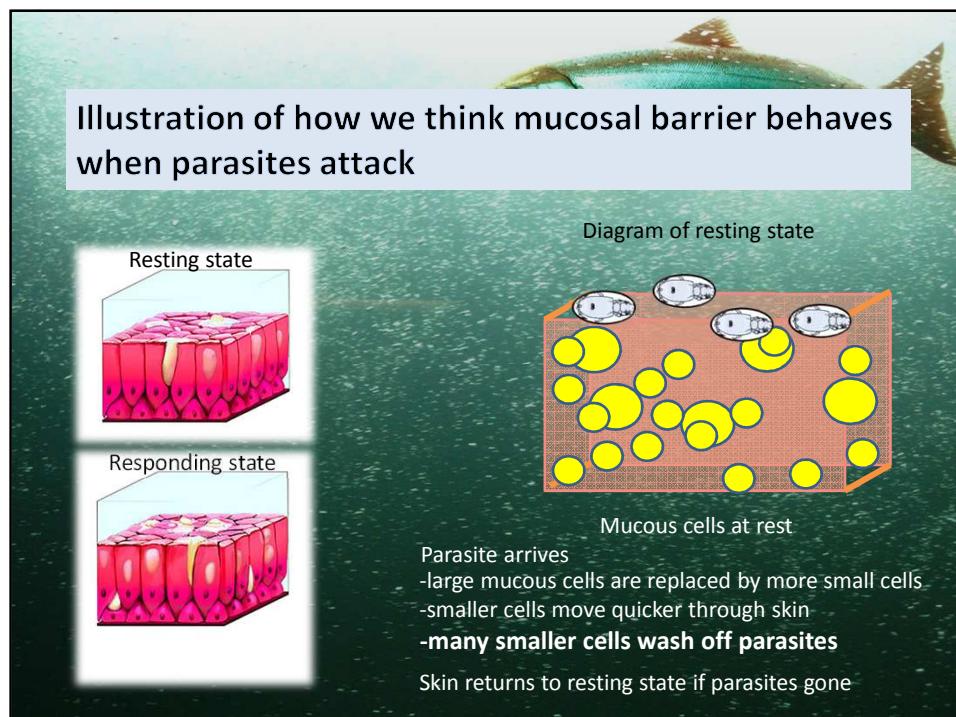
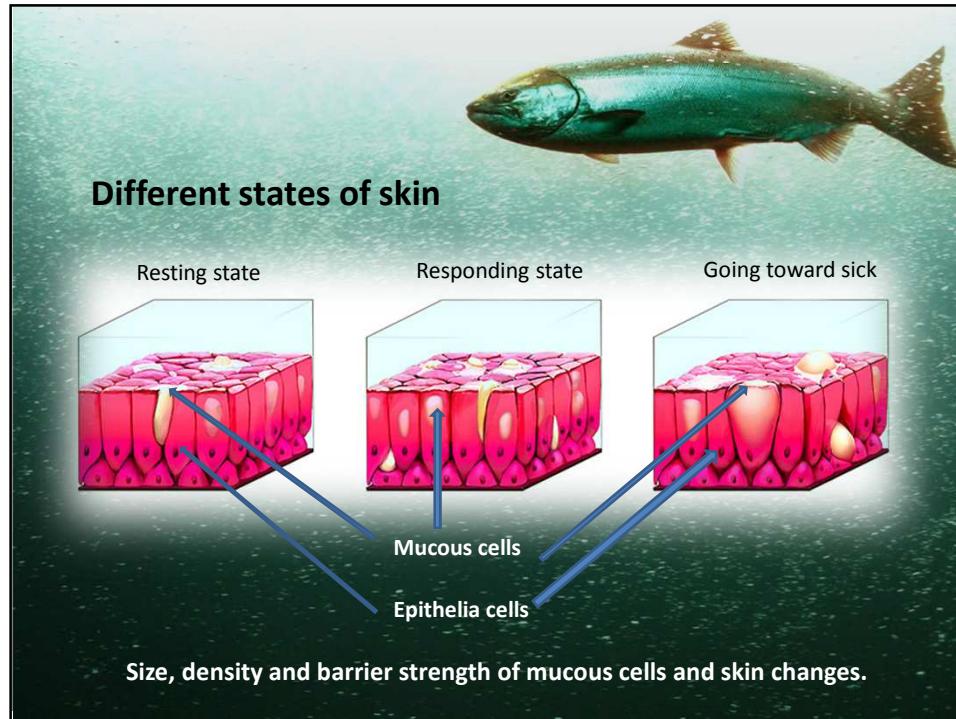
**More than 6000 samples**



## MUCOSAL MAPPING™ IN SALMONIDS

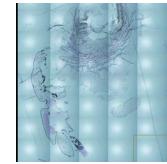


**Parasites go where mucosal cells are small and few**

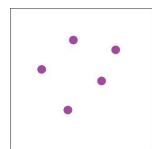


## Mucosal Mapping™ vs salmon lice infestation

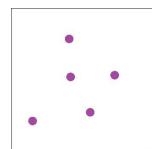
Adult attached lice repress mucous cell production at site and  
repress general mucosal immunity (Thorsen, in prep, N= 45 fish)  
Attached adult lice clear the way for higher levels of new copepodites (Mo, 2015)



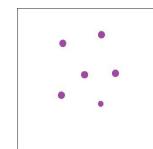
**13.2 % density**  
AVG M 176  $\mu\text{m}^2$



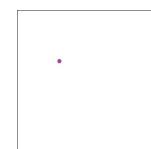
**12.3 % density**  
AVG MC 182  $\mu\text{m}^2$



**11 % density**  
AVG MC 157  $\mu\text{m}^2$



**0.4% density**  
AVG MC 109  $\mu\text{m}^2$



**Control**

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From: Thorsen, in prep

Controlled infestation with salmon lice copepodites

2nd infestation  
**With adult lice**

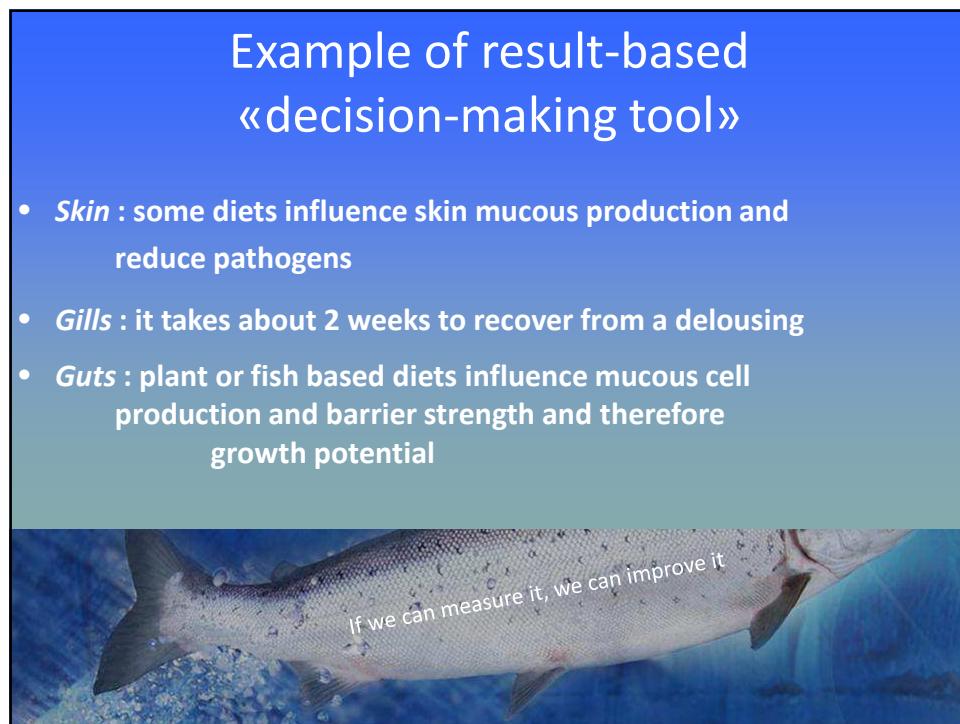
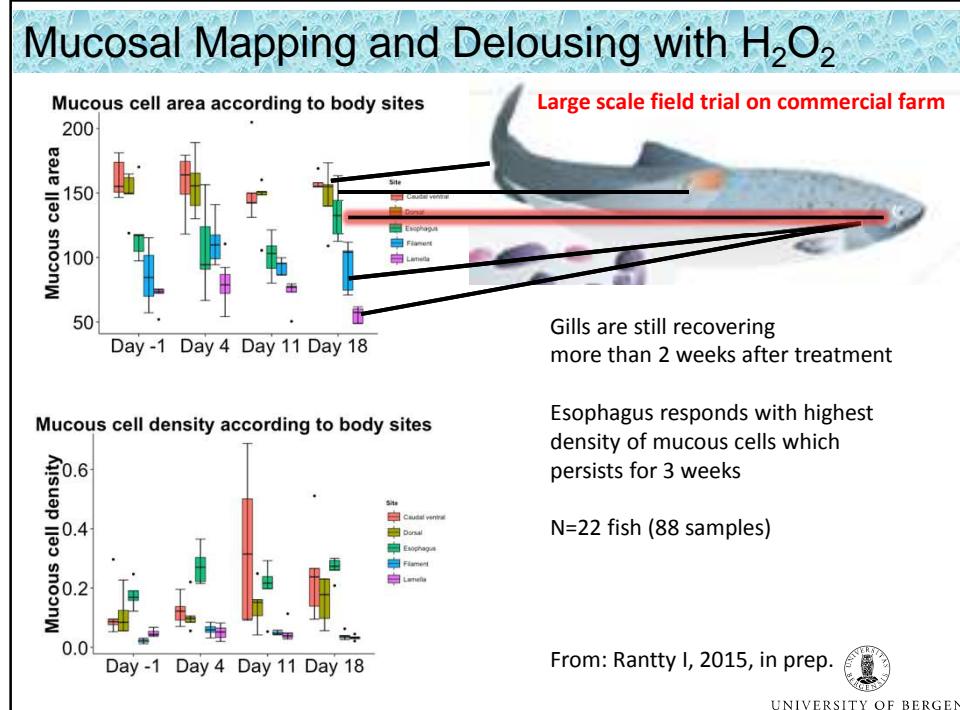
2nd infestation  
**No adult lice**

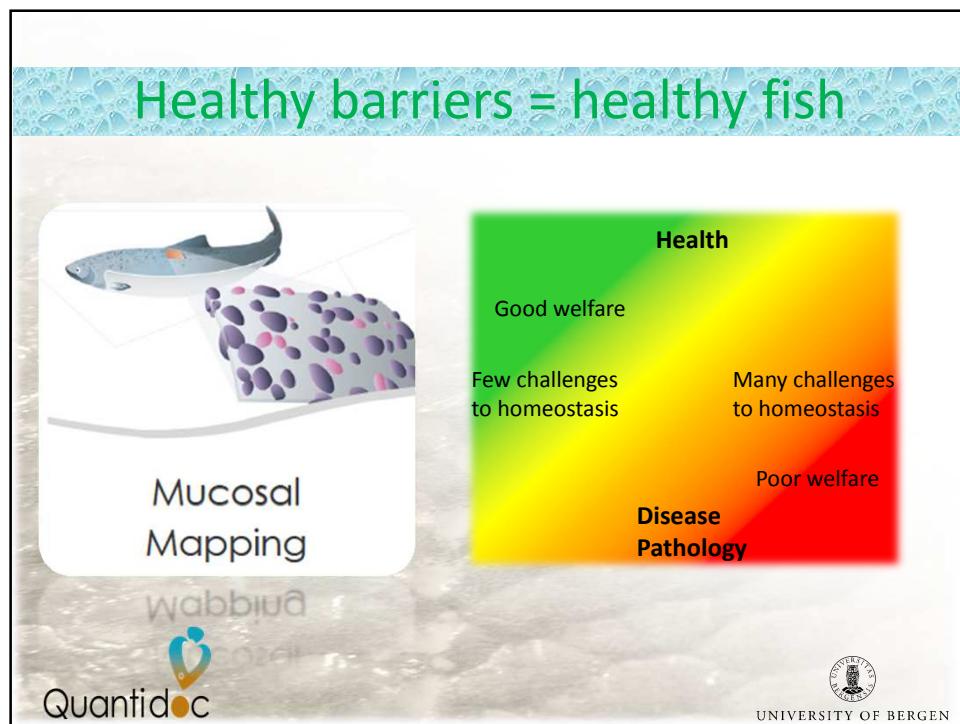
Attachment  
site

## Mucosal Mapping™ on salmon and lice problem

- [proper animation first draft by Egil Paulsen](#)

Skin response to salmon lice is  
stage specific





**MUCOSAL MAPPING™  
(MUCOMAP)**

**Quantidoc owns the IP for this diagnostic method of quantitatively assessing mucous cells and is commercializing the product for industrial application**

- Diagnostic – health status (skin, gills and guts)
- Quantitative, objective & comparable
- Statistically robust
- Links diet & immunity
- Summarises the effects of >200 genes
- Important tool for monitoring and improving fish health and welfare

Quantidoc  
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