

Cattle welfare – when access to trees

**Seminar: Organic milk
production in Nordic
countries**
Ellinglund, 5/9 2023

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www.frilandsdyr.dk/skovlandbrug**



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Project ROBUST

Purpose:

Study the impact of trees on cattle animal welfare

The effect of trees on microclimate and cows' heat stress

Record cattle behaviour:

Trees provide shade and shelter

Trees provide the opportunity to eat leaves

Trees provide good opportunities to scratch

(Measurements by GPS, camera and thermologgers)



Photographer: Marendine Ladegaard, Organic Denmark

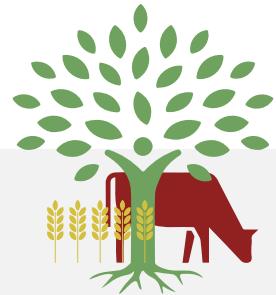


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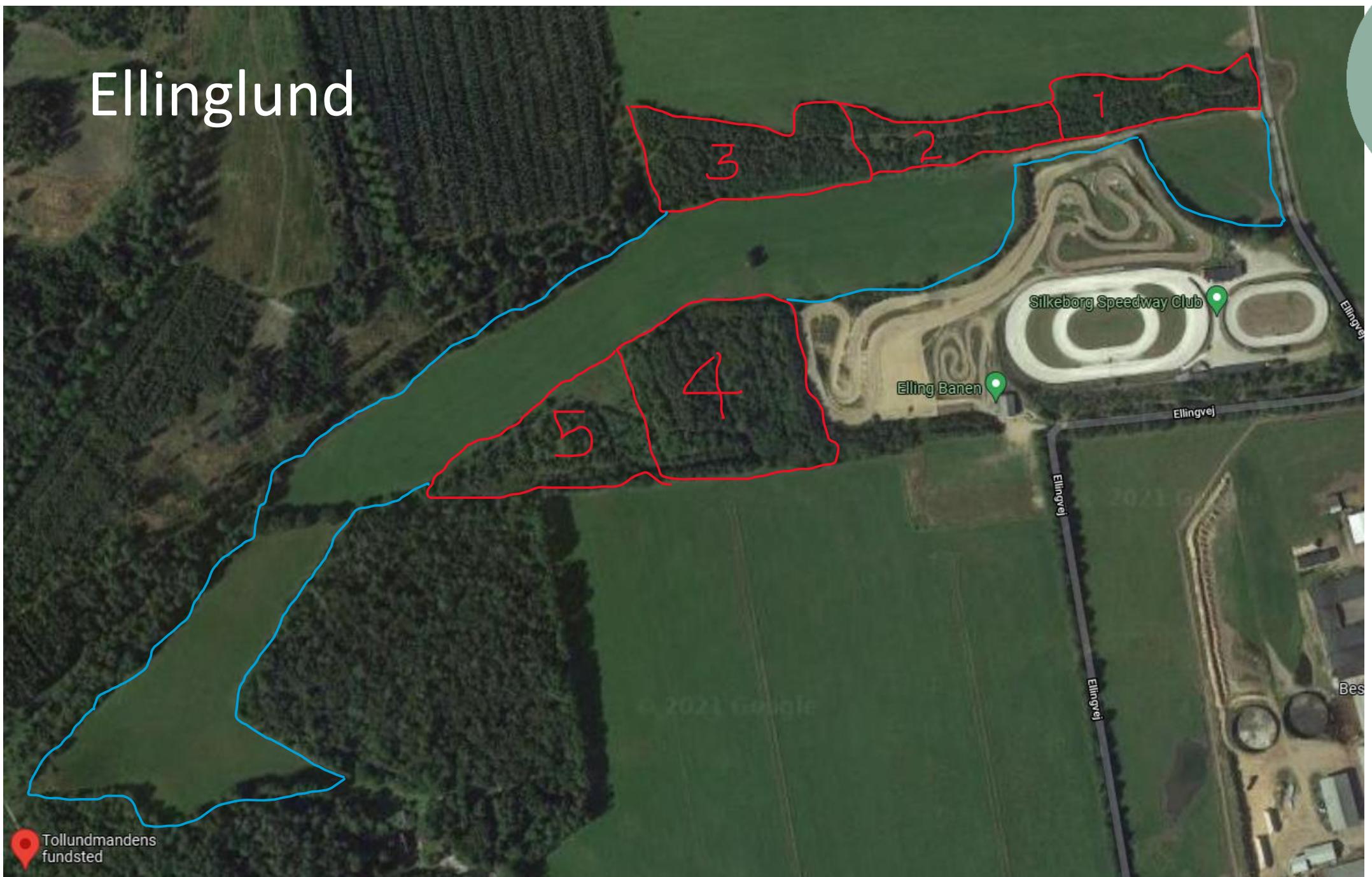
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Klima- og
Fædrelandsmidler
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Inclusion of hedge row, Sommerbjerg



Ellinglund



GPS on the cattle





Camera follows cattle's use of the forest



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What are they doing in the forest? Eating...



Video of cow eating ☺



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What are they doing in the forest? Scratching



Video of calf scratching ☺



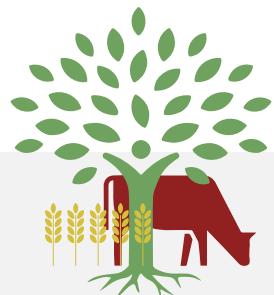
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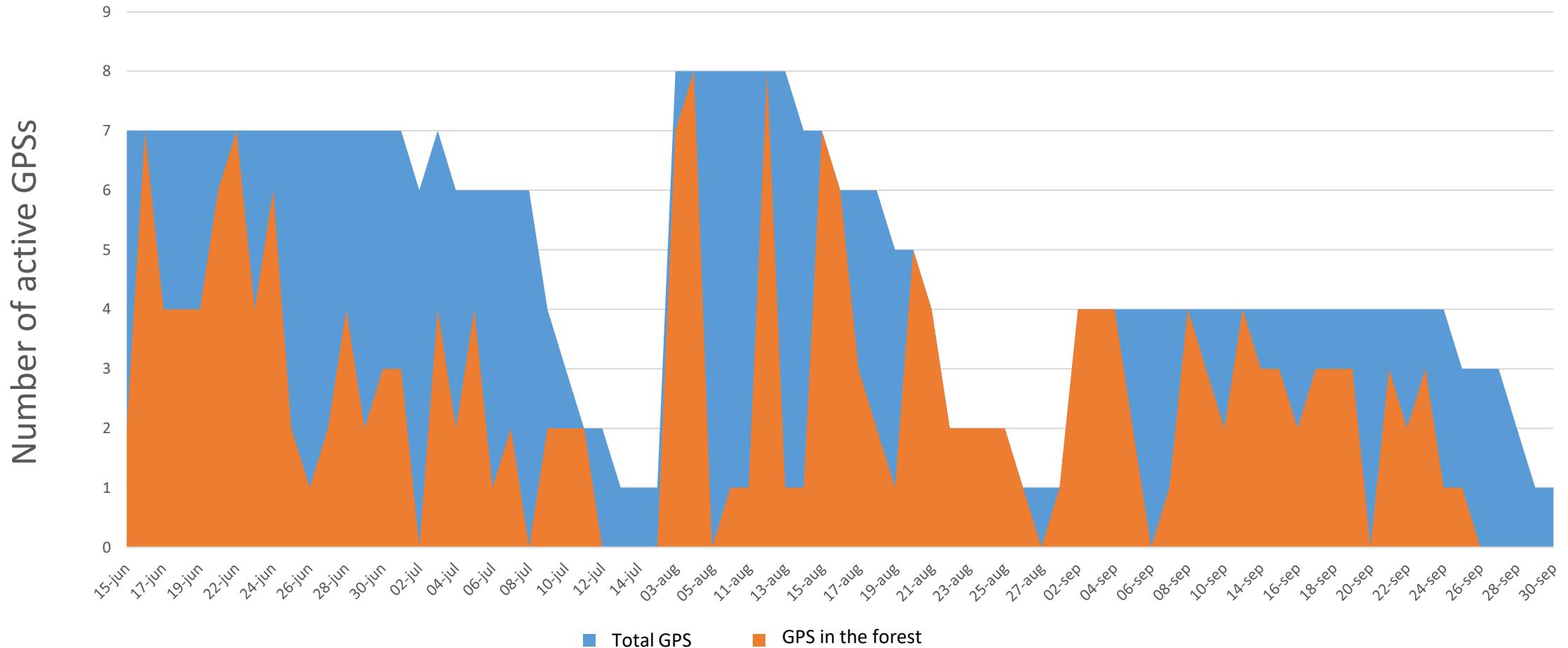
Especially the calves were happy to use the forest area
(Material from video from forest 4)

VIDEO 😊





GPS activity in Summer 2021. Ellinglund





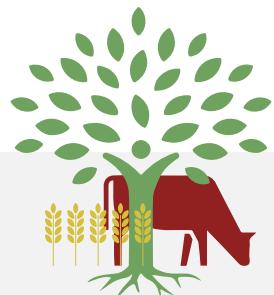
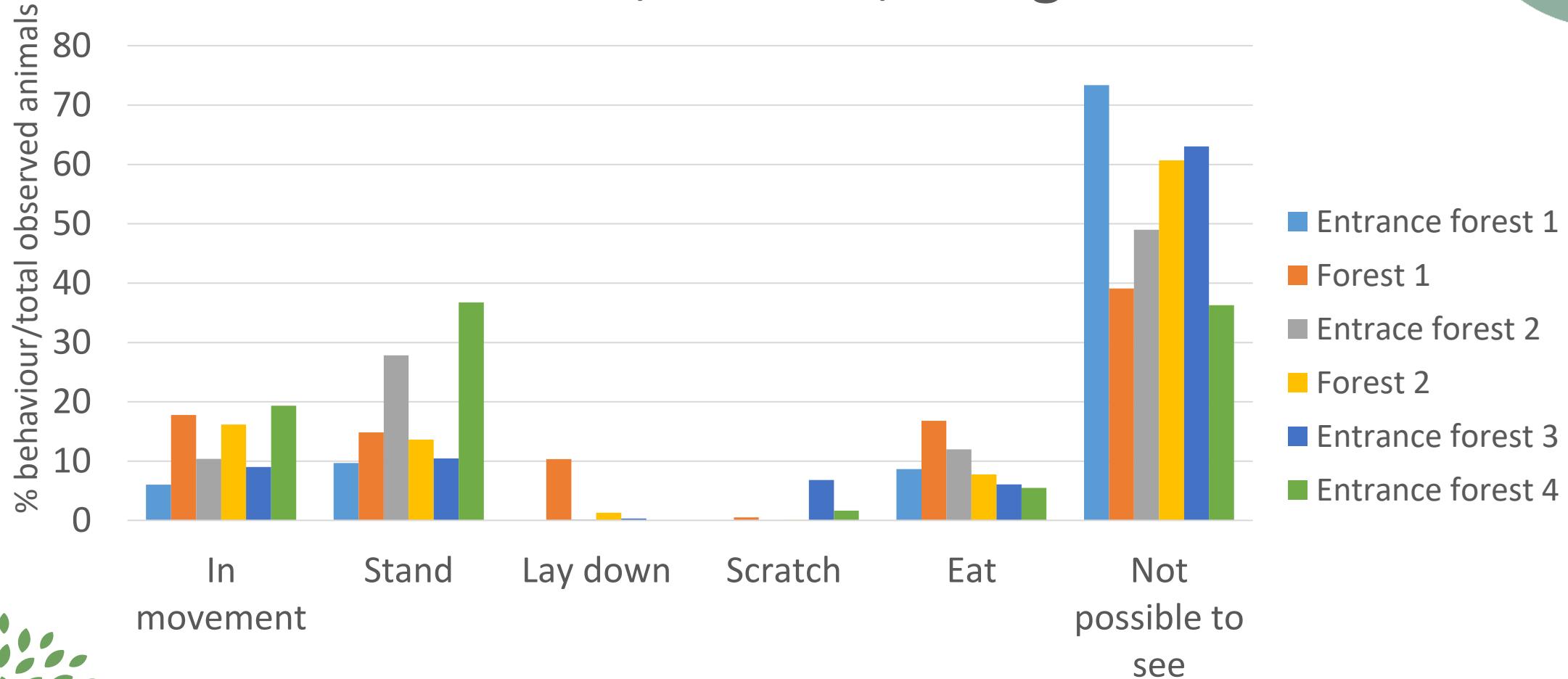
What time of the day are the cattle in the forest? (Ellinglund 2021)

	Morning	Late morning	Noon	Afternoon	Average
% of time in forest	18,6	5,7	2,2	2,1	7,5
% of time in the field	81,4	94,3	97,8	97,9	92,5



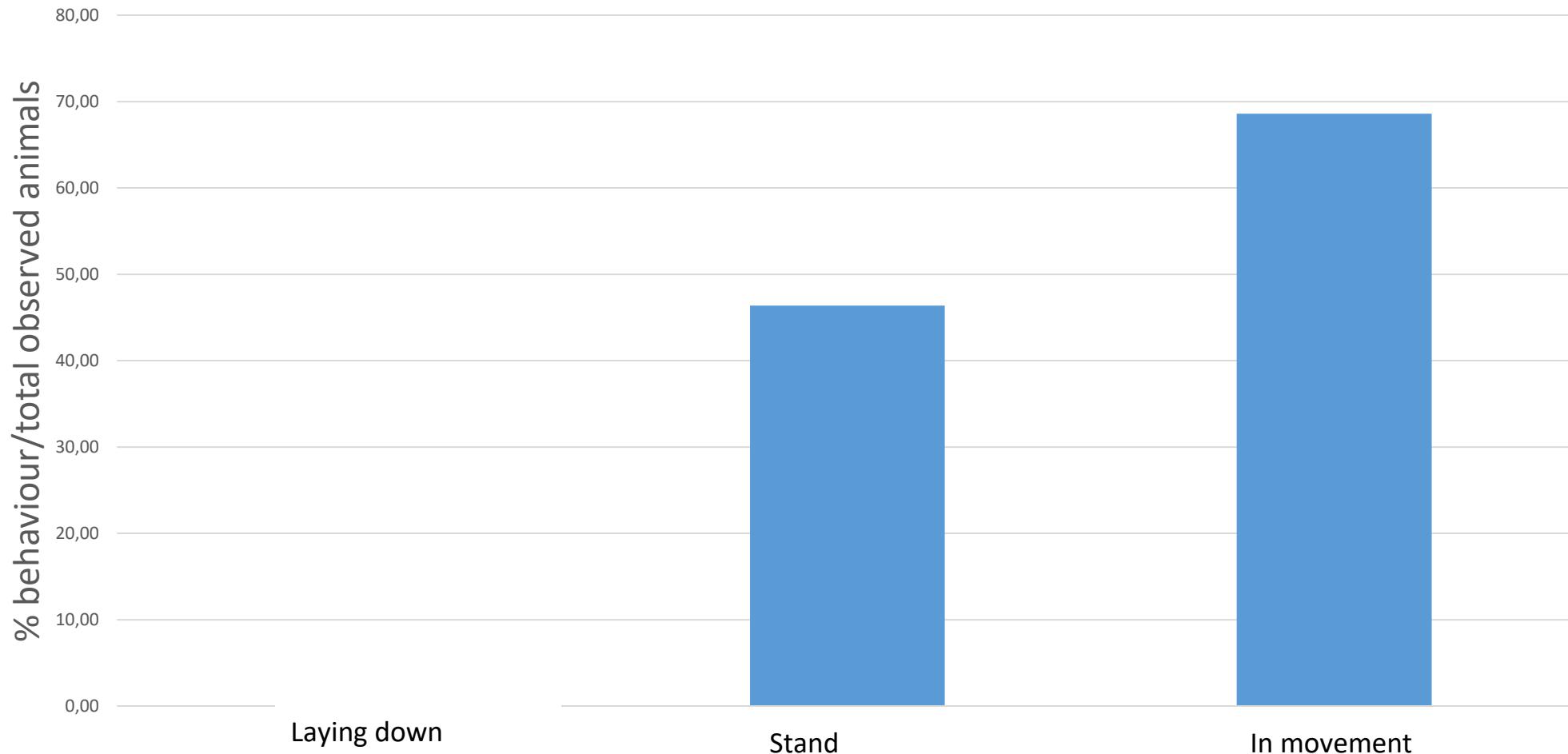


Behavior cattle, camera, Ellinglund 2021



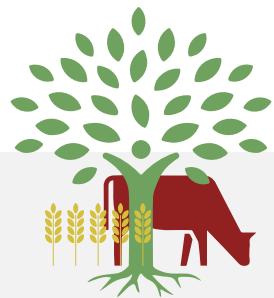
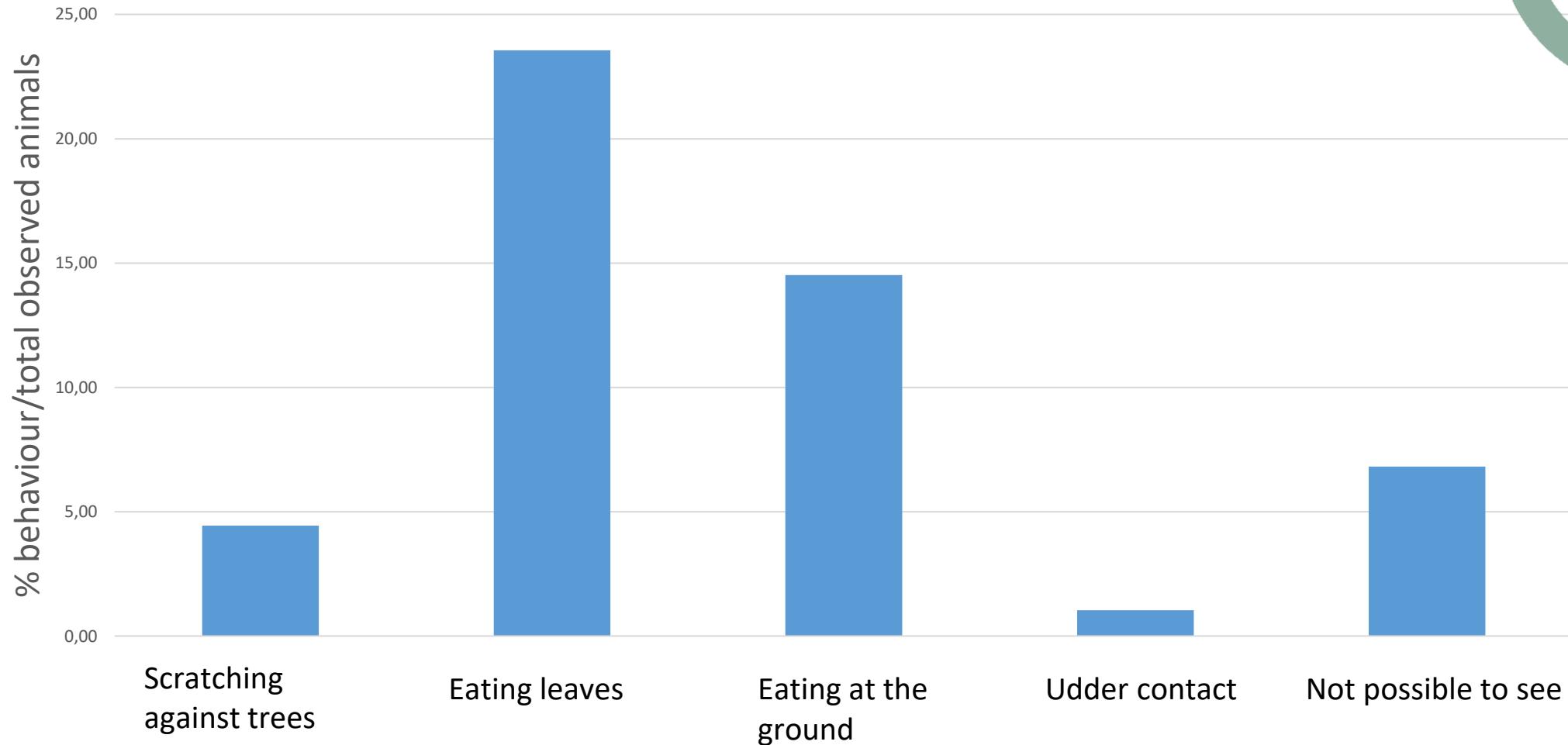


Movement, cattle, forest 4 (Ellinglund), 2022





Behaviour, cattle, forest 4 (Ellinglund), 2022



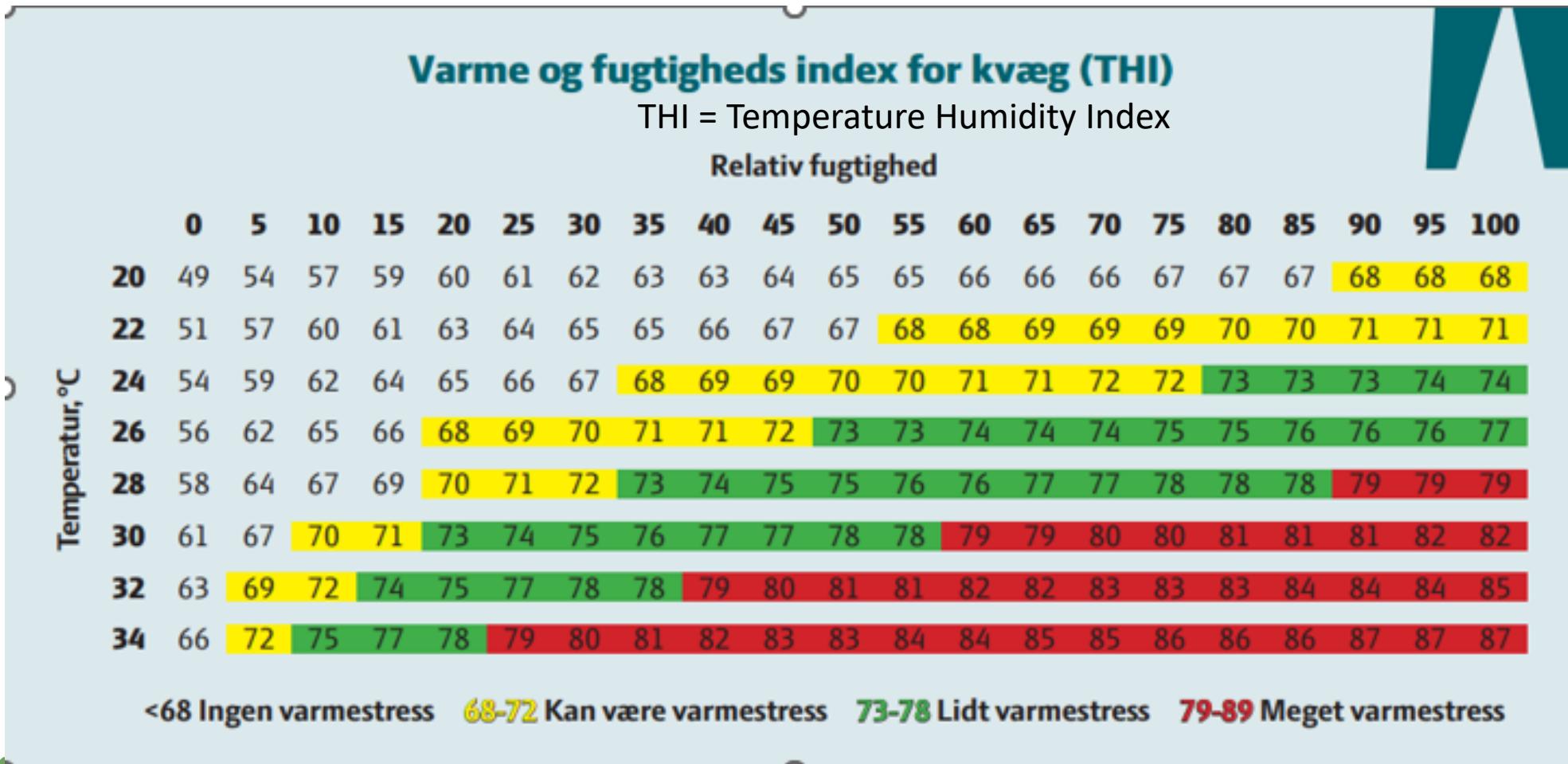


What time of the day are dairy cows in the hedge row? (Sommerbjerg)

	Morning	Late morning	Noon	Afternoon	Average
% of time in the hedge row	1,0	1,6	3,3	18,0	6,0
% of time in the field	99,0	98,4	96,7	82,0	94,0



THI index shows risk of heat stress (>68)



Risk of heat stress hedge row/field (Sommerbjerg)



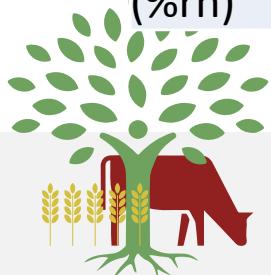
	Measured in sun/field			Measured in shade/forest		
	Small risk of heat stress	Greater risk of heat stress	High risk of heat stress	Small risk of heat stress	Greater risk of heat stress	High risk of heat stress
Number of days	71	40	11	26	4	0
Time period	8-22	9-21	13-21	8-22	11-21	-
Hours per day	1-9	1-8	1-8	1-10	1-11	-
Average temp, (°C)	24,4	29,3	34,9	23,5	27,5	-
Average humidity, (%rh)	56,2	44,7	36,7	63,7	55,3	-



Risk of heat stress forest/field (Ellinglund 2021)



	Measured in sun/field			Measured in shade/forest		
	Small risk of heat stress	Greater risk of heat stress	High risk of heat stress	Small risk of heat stress	Greater risk of heat stress	High risk of heat stress
Number of days	87	54	18	35	9	0
Time period	7:00-00:00	7:00-20:0	8:00-19:00	8:00-23:00	11:00-20:00	-
Hours per day	1-12	1-10	1-11	1-10	1-9	-
Average temp, (°C)	24,3	29,1	34,3	23,6	27,7	-
Average humidity, (%rh)	55,9	43,3	38,9	62,6	57,5	-





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Vurdering af skader på træerne efter kvæg



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NOTAT: Præference test af forsker



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Varmestress hos kvæg med
adgang til skov og vand

eller

2021-
2022



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are only in Danish!
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Center for Frilandsdyr
01-01-2022

Rikke Thomsen
Center for Frilandsdyr
2021-2022

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