

Effects of sire lineage on maintenance and abnormal behavior



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Pic. 1.: Fight



Pic. 2.: Licking genitals of other bulls



Pic. 3.: Screaming as expression of the most aggressive bulls



Pic. 4.: Mounting



AIM

Summary

The goal of this research was to monitor the daily activities occurring in the housing of fattening bulls. Bulls spent their day by: standing, lying, moving, eating and ruminating. Later, we described how many times during the measurement occurred comfortable, playful and aggressive behavior. We selected five bulls from the group, in which showed abnormal behavior and it amounted to 15.6 %.

These bulls were after 3 fathers.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Observed time for normal bulls: 5 days of 10 hours daily

Observed bulls: 32 Holstein bulls

Observed time for abnormal bulls: 5 days of 10 hours daily

Observed bulls: 5 Holstein bulls

Animal live body weight: 500 - 550 kg.head⁻¹

Live in: loose housing barns

observing the behavior of bulls with behavioral disorders- direct, individual observations as like as in the observation group

recording of abnormal behavior- in the 3 days- total average duration the duration of behavioral elements was recorded in particular hour of the day.

Pic. 5., 6.: Comfortable behavior



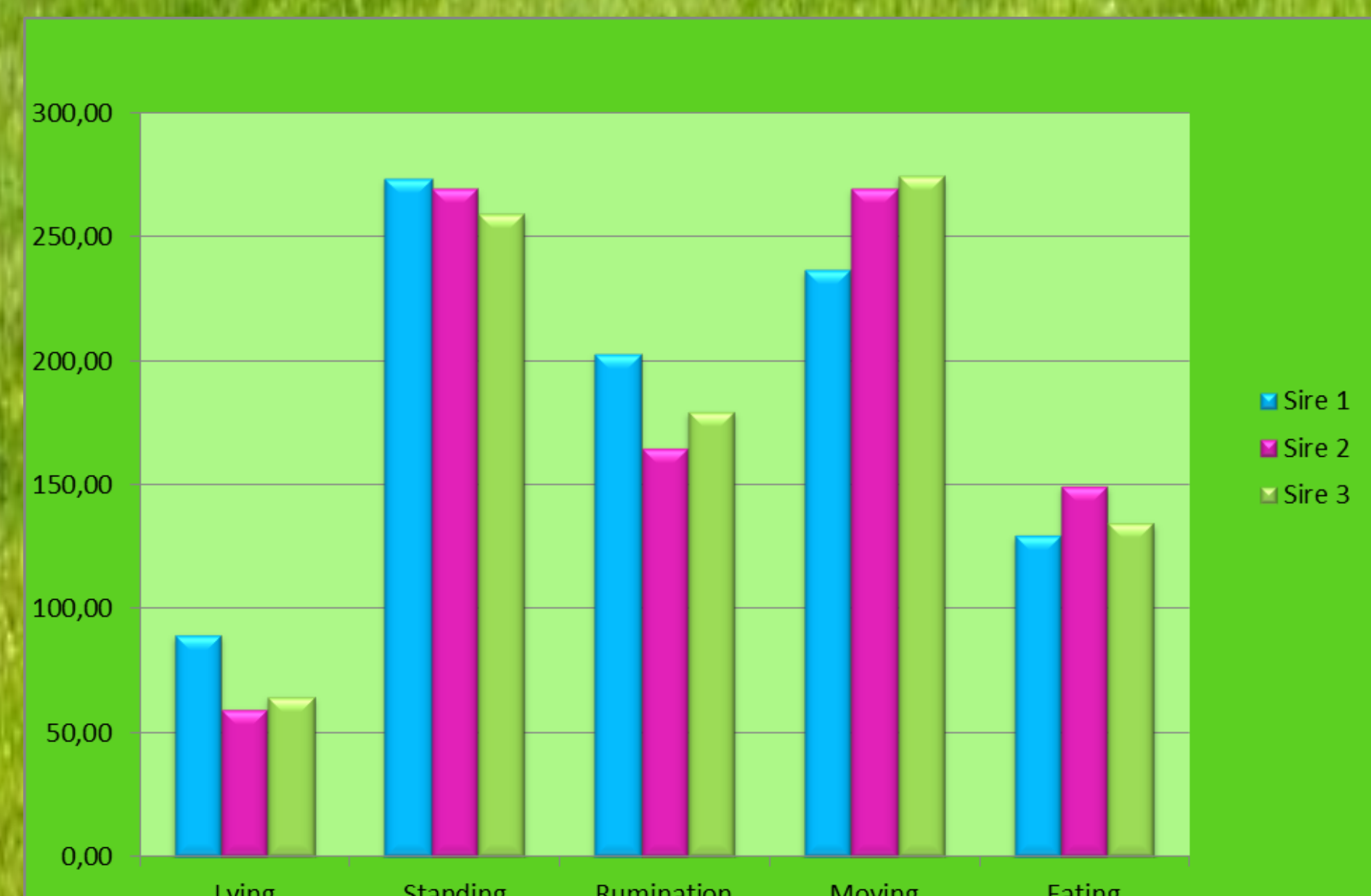
RESULTS

No significant differences- sires in maintenance behavior.
abnormal behavioral problems:- the fight between two or more bulls,
- licking genitals of other bulls,
- jumping on other bulls
- screaming as expression of the most aggressive bulls

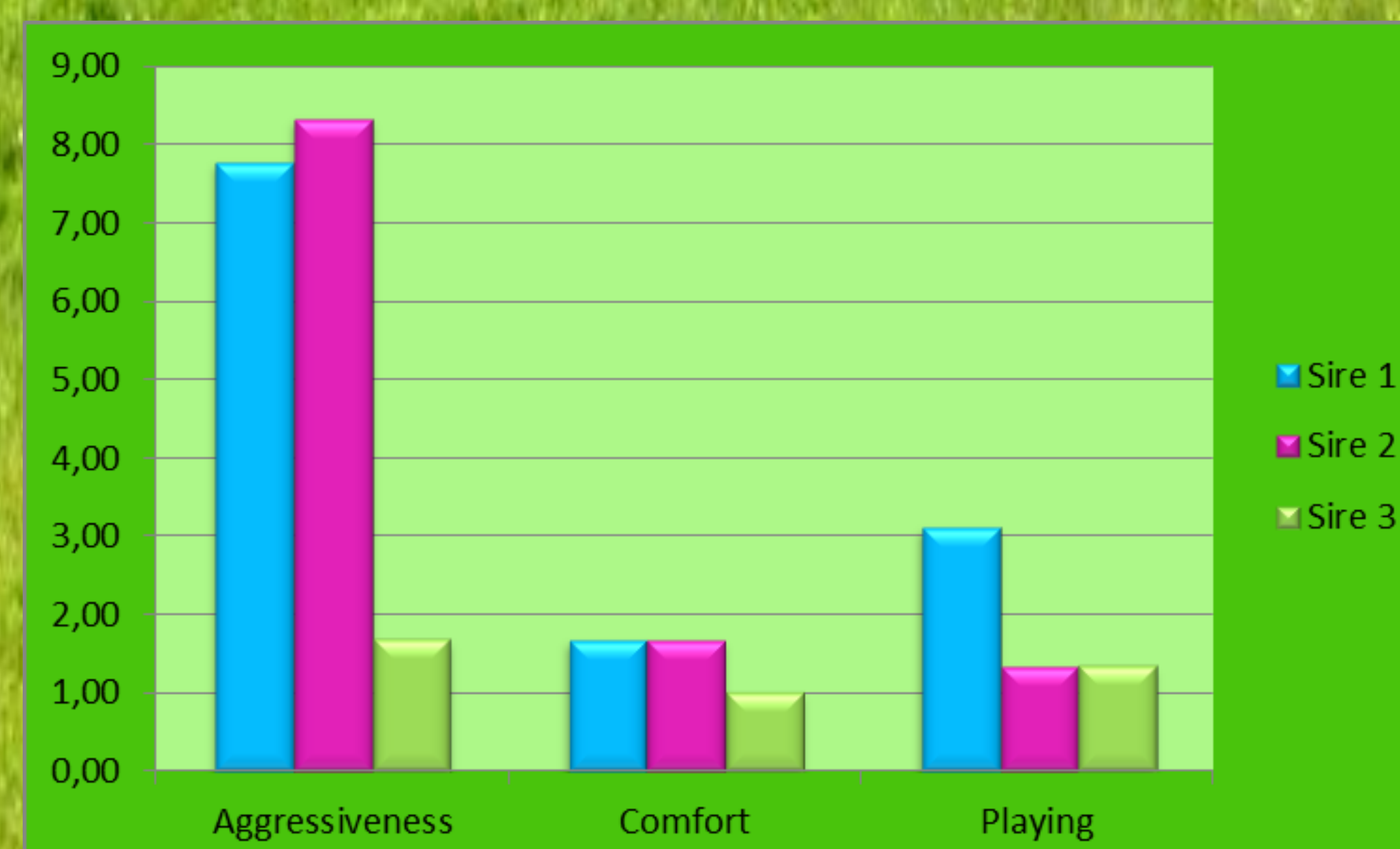
effect of sire- in the frequency of aggressiveness and playing

Descendants of II. father showed a significantly higher number of aggressive expression compared with the descendants of the III. father (second father vs. third father: 8.33 ± 0.75 vs. 1.67 ± 0.75 , $P < 0.05$).

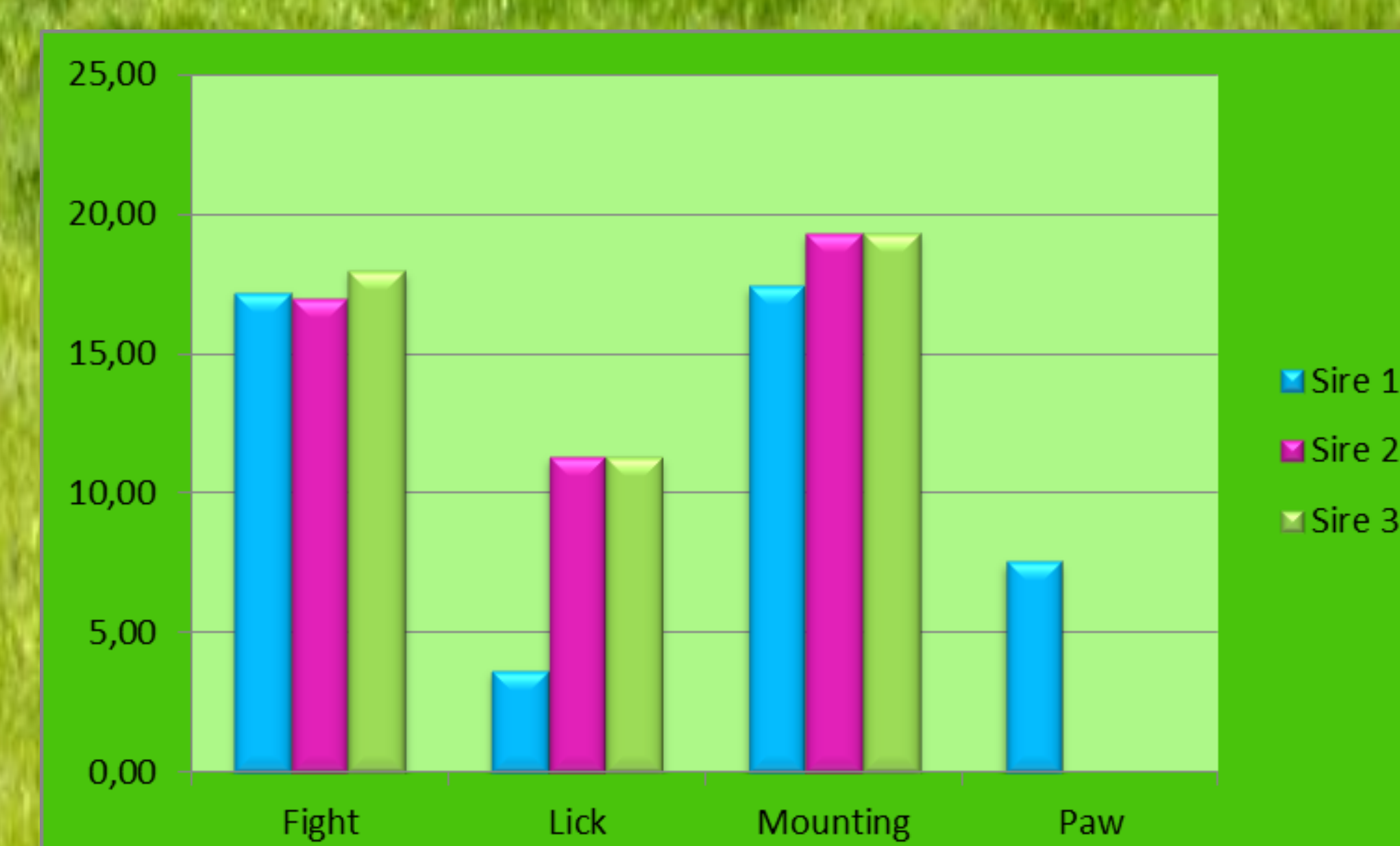
Graph 1.: Times of maintenance behaviour according to sire lineage



Graph 2.: Frequency of observed behaviours according to sire lineage



Graph 3.: Frequency of abnormal behaviours according to sire lineage



CONCLUSIONS

Maintenance behavior: Descendants of sire I. - the longest time among other, spent by lying, standing and rumination

Descendants of sire II. - the most minutes among other, spent by eating

Descendants of sire III. - the longest time among other, spent by moving

Observed behavior: Most aggressive bulls- offsprings of sire II., comfortable behavior- offsprings of sire I. and II., playful behavior- offsprings of sire I.

Abnormal behavior: Fight- most active descendants of sire III.

Lick- most active descendants of sire II. and III.

Mounting- all bulls, but most active offsprings of sire II. and III.

Pawing- the most aggressive bulls- descendants of sire I.

