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Did Romanization impact Gallic pig morphology? NEW insights from molar geometric morphometrics

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1 **DID ROMANIZATION IMPACT GALLIC PIG MORPHOLOGY? NEW INSIGHTS**
2 **FROM MOLAR GEOMETRIC MORPHOMETRICS.**

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16 **1. Introduction**

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18 In recent years, the changes in growth and form of domestic herds from the Roman Empire
19 have been extensively investigated by zooarchaeologists (cf. for example Albarella *et al.*
20 2008; MacKinnon 2010; Colominas *et al.* 2013). In Gaul, these morphological changes are
21 attested long before the Roman Conquest, as early as the end of the Iron Age (between the 4th
22 and the 1st century BC). During this period, the livestock's morphology appeared to differ
23 from one region to another (administrative regions or valleys – see Duval *et al.* 2012) and, at
24 least for the Northern Gaul (Duval *et al.* 2013), phenotypic changes happened as early as La
25 Tène C (about 260-150 BC). Later (between the 2nd and the end of the 1st c. BC, depending on
26 the region), according to studies mainly performed on cattle and horse, the emergence of the
27 Roman economic and agropastoral practices will lead to the acceleration of morphological
28 changes and the emergence of a new diversity of forms and growth patterns (cf. for exemple
29 Johnstone 2004; MacKinnon 2010; Duval *et al.* 2012). Unfortunately these studies were
30 unable to provide answers about the precise causes and mechanisms of this phenotypic
31 differences and changes and overlooked one of key component of Gaul's domestic livestock:
32 the pig.

33

34 The morphological change in Gallic pigs over time is still poorly documented due to the lack
35 of large conducive samples (although this could be overcome by the use of the LSI method –

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