

Digiwei; Bluetooth system measures grazing hours

Mts Lensink

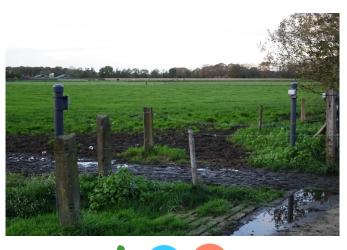


Description of the innovation

Johnny and Rianne Lensink, living in Aalten, recently started using a Bluetooth system to register the hours of grazing of their milking cows. At the farm 55 cows are milked by a milking robot. Free cow traffic is applied on the farm and it is therefore difficult to prove that the milking cows have at least 6 hours to 120 days of grazing. In coming years, it will probably be obliged by the milk processors, to prove that the cows walk outside sufficiently, Johnny said. By means of the Bluetooth system, it is possible to determine how many hours an individual

cow is outside for grazing. There are four receivers that register a cow is walking inside or outside the barn.





Farmer's strategy

The farmer offers his farm for testing the innovation by the company called Dorset

Achievements: The systems works good and has no failures. But the farmer has no added value by the system, his farm is just a 'test location'.

Sugestions: Beter onlaying the innovation



Farm description

ENVIRONMENT	STRUCTURE	
Soil: Sandy		
Climate: Temperate oceanic	Agricultural Area	23 ha UAA
Altitude: ±sea level	Permanent grassland	19 ha
Slope: flat	Herb-rich grassland	4 ha
GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT	Production method	Conventional
Grazing: Yes	Stock	55 dairy cows
Grazing management: Rotational set		6 young stock
stocking	Breed	Mainly:
Length of grazing periode: 200 days/year		Fleckfieh and
Main composition grassland: Perennial ryegrass, timothy grass, meadow fescue		Holstein-Friesian
	Milk production	9100 kg/year

Annual Work Unit

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WHY IT IS WORKING

The innovation is successful on this farm because:

- The farmer can register the hours of grazing
- This results in a grazing premium for the milk
- The efficiency of grazing system is better now, because the farmer have a easier management tool for the grazing premium
- The Digiwei system is in development to get also health– and heat monitoring. This will give additional information to the farmer in the future