Hay drying with warm air under the roof

**1 Description of the innovation**

The farmer currently builds his own system to dry hay. The space underneath the roof is used to warm up the air. The warmed air is heated even more and is afterwards blow through the lose hay to dry it.

The framer expects high quality hay, even under the circumstances in his region (high level of precipitation).

**Economic results**

- Grassland quality (species, composition, feeding value)
- Animal health and welfare

Solving a problem, decreasing costs and processing products

The farmer expects the system to be ready to use for the first cut 2018; thus the system is still to be tested.

The organic farmer aims to increase energy efficiency in hay production.
Farm description

ENVIRONMENT
Soil types: Loam and peat
Climate: Temperate oceanic climate
Altitude: 1 m a.s.l. No slope

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT
Grazing: Yes
Continuous stocking for dairy cows
Rotation and rotational stocking for cattle rearing
Mowed area: five cuts per year

STRUCTURE
Annual Work Unit: 2 AWU
Agricultural Area: 215 ha UAA
15 ha arable land
200 ha permanent grassland
Holstein Friesian and Holstein Friesian Fleckvieh cross breeds
Stocking rate:
1.4 LU/ha

ANIMAL PERFORMANCE
7000 l/year/dairy animal
Average carcass weight of old dairy cows after fattening: 350 kg

WHY IT IS WORKING
The farmer has the possibility to use this system to dry his hay and reduce the energy demand of the drying process. Additionally the farmer has the possibility to sell hay based raw milk cheese.