



Robotic milking and grazing



Groot Koerkamp

1 Description of the innovation

The farm from the family Groot Koerkamp is located in the eastern part of the Netherlands, in the province Gelderland. The 145 cows are robotic milked combined with grazing. A grazing gateway with a grazing time registration and the participation of the project 'robotic milking and grazing' made it a successful combination.

A grazing gateway determines if a cow get permission to graze. This specific grazing gateway also registers the grazing time of every single cow. The cows are registered in two directions: going out and going in the cowshed.

The project 'robotic milking and grazing' from the dairy industry gave a lot of knowledge about the do's and don't. A special coach guided the farmers with the grazing management.



Jasper Groot Koerkamp



Economic results

Knowledge

Strategy implementation

The farmer is successfully grazing his cows with robotic milking. The grazing management is done by a grazing gateway with a special grazing time registration.

The data from the registration gives more insight in the grazing time and grazing behaviour of the cows. Also, with the registered grazing time of the cows the farmer is able to evince the grazing time to the milk collector for a bonus payment.

The grazing management combined with the robotic milking gives a high production.



2 Farm description

ENVIRONMENT

Soil: Sandy

Climate: Temperate oceanic

Altitude: \pm sea level

Slope: flat

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing: Yes

Grazing management: Rotational

Length of grazing period: 6 months/year

Main composition grassland: Perennial ryegrass

STRUCTURE

Agricultural Area 93 ha UAA

Permanent grassland 75 ha

Corn silage 18 ha

Production method Conventional

Stock 145 dairy cows

70 young stock

Breed Holstein-Friesian

Milk production 10.000 kg/year

Annual Work Unit 2

WHY IT IS WORKING

The innovation is successful on this farm because:

- grazing is self-evident for the farmer so with the introduction of the robotic milking he wanted to continue the grazing.
- grazing is important for the license to produce, so the milk collector is paying a bonus.
- the knowledge and the experience from the project and the coach.
- the cows were familiar with grazing.