



Digiwei; Bluetooth system measures grazing hours



Mts Lensink

1 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'.

Suggestions: Beter onlaying the innovation



2 Farm description

ENVIRONMENT

Soil: Sandy

Climate: Temperate oceanic

Altitude: ±sea level

Slope: flat

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing: Yes

Grazing management: Rotational set stocking

Length of grazing periode: 200 days/year

Main composition grassland: Perennial ryegrass, timothy grass, meadow fescue

STRUCTURE

Agricultural Area 23 ha UAA

Permanent grassland 19 ha

Herb-rich grassland 4 ha

Production method Conventional

Stock 55 dairy cows

6 young stock

Breed Mainly:

Fleckfieh and

Holstein-Friesian

Milk production 9100 kg/year

Annual Work Unit 1

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