CONTEXT PROFILE

GERMANY

FARMER
Jörg Schwarting

INNOVATION
Automatic milk system, selection gate and grazing

Video

MAIN DOMAIN OF THE INNOVATION
Animal management

AGROCLIMATIC AREA
Atlantic central

CLIMATE
Moderate rainfall

SOIL TYPE
Gley

MANAGEMENT
Pasture dairy

TECHNICAL
Difficult

FINANCE/INVESTMENT
High

MARKET
Global

SOCIAL
Full-time farmer

All contents of this document are expert opinions of the G4AE Scientific Technical Working Group

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Case Study: DE_06	Agroclimatic Zone								
Item (Key Innovation Elements)	**Alpine**	**Atlantic Central**	**Atlantic North**	**Atlantic South**	**Boreal**	**Continental North**	**Continental South**	**Mediterranean North**	**Mediterranean South**
Selection gate for grazing in combination with an automated milking system	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Grass availability to move dairy cows	++	+++	+++	+++	++	+++	+++	++	++
Rotational grazing system	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Use of legumes and herbs	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Good farm infrastructure	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++

+++ **Strong transferability**

++ **Slightly limited transferability**

\+ **Very limited transferability**

× **Generic information/not relevant**

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Implementation Gaps

- Grassland management knowledge
- Cost of investment in infrastructure
- Land near farmyard
- Two grazing blocks

Research Gaps

- Grass intake of individual cows

Suggestions to Adapt

- Selection gates could also be used for a three block system (ABC system)
- Choose grass mixtures that fit in the agroclimatic zone

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COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

INVESTMENT COSTS

Total initial investment costs at start up:	low
• Initial authorisation costs (e.g. sanitary, veterinary, etc.)	not applicable/not known
• Initial advisory costs	not applicable/not known
• Initial buildings and machineries	not applicable/not known
• Initial certification costs	not applicable/not known
• Initial working capital (personal qualification, marketing and promotion, etc.)	not applicable/not known

ON-GOING COSTS

On-going advisory costs	not applicable/not known
On-going certification costs	not applicable/not known
On-going buildings and machinery costs	not applicable/not known
On-going working capital	not applicable/not known

BENEFITS RELATIVE TO ORIGINAL SYSTEM

- **Economic**

Reduction in energy consumption (electricity; fuel consumption)	not applicable/not known
Reduction in input use (fertilizers; pesticides; feed) etc.	not applicable/not known
Payback period	not applicable/not known
Product value added	not applicable/not known
Additional farm income through agroecological/agri-environmental payment schemes	not applicable/not known

- **Environmental**

Animal feed self-sufficiency increase	high
Biodiversity increase	not applicable/not known
Improved nitrogen cycling	not applicable/not known
Soil regeneration	not applicable/not known
Animal health and welfare improvement	high

- **Social**

Workload reduction	high
Engagement of young generation	high

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Literature

National Language

https://www.stichtingweidegang.nl/images/downloads/Stichting_Weidegang_RobotWeiden.pdf

English

https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/daily/dairy/getting-the-basics-right--robotic-milking

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