CONTEXT PROFILE

THE NETHERLANDS

FARMER
Rudi de Wilde

INNOVATION
Efficient cow fetching using Border Collie herding techniques

Video

MAIN DOMAIN OF THE INNOVATION
Workload reduction

SOIL TYPE
Sand

FINANCE/INVESTMENT
Low

AGROCLIMATIC AREA
Atlantic central

MANAGEMENT
Pasture dairy

MARKET
Global

CLIMATE
Moderate rainfall

TECHNICAL
Difficult

SOCIAL
Full-time farmer

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

CONTEXT PROFILE

THE NETHERLANDS

Case Study: NL_09	Agroclimatic Zone								
Item (Key Innovation Elements)	**Alpine**	**Atlantic Central**	**Atlantic North**	**Atlantic South**	**Boreal**	**Continental North**	**Continental South**	**Mediterranean North**	**Mediterranean South**
Integration of automatic milking with grazing practices	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Utilising a trained dog for efficient cattle herding	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Cost-effective labour management through streamlined processes	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++

+++ **Strong transferability**

++ **Slightly limited transferability**

\+ **Very limited transferability**

✕ **Generic information/not relevant**

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Implementation Gaps

- Limited availability of grassland near the farm
- Access to a suitable dog

Research Gaps

- Evaluating the long-term impact of herding dogs on cattle welfare, milk yield, and overall productivity
- Exploring possibilities of virtual electronic herding

Suggestions to Adapt

- Use other dog breeds, depending on availability in different regions

Grazing4AgroEcology

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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	low
• Initial buildings and machineries	low
• Initial certification costs	not applicable/not known
• Initial working capital (personal qualification, marketing and promotion, etc.)	low

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	low
On-going working capital	low

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	not applicable/not known
Biodiversity increase	not applicable/not known
Improved nitrogen cycling	not applicable/not known
Soil regeneration	not applicable/not known
Animal health and welfare improvement	not applicable/not known

- **Social**

Workload reduction	none or low
Engagement of young generation	none or low

Grazing AgroEcology 4.0
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Literature

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