



Mob-grazing with a large herd



GAEC du Tertre de Villeray

1 Description of the innovation



Farmers have implemented mob-grazing with their large herd. The number of cows in pasture fluctuates between 120 and 160 depending on the time of the year. Before, cows have been moved every 3 to 7 days. Now, they are moved in a new paddock every day.



Economic results: managed grazing have benefits on grass using
Better working conditions

FARMER'S STRATEGY

Through grazing, farmers want to decrease feed cost. Dividing pasture into many paddocks allows a more even plane of nutrition compared to classic rotational grazing system.

With a large herd, cattle move easily when animals are drawn by a new pasture.

2 Farm description

ENVIRONMENT

Soils: sandy-loam and loamy soils

Climate : temperate oceanic

Altitude : 200 m

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing : Yes

Grazing management type : mob-grazing

STRUCTURE

Annual work unit : 5

Agricultural area : 330 ha UAA

Herd: 165 Normande dairy cows —280 LU

Forage area:

- 71 ha temporary grasslands
- 78 ha permanent grasslands
- 69 ha corn silage

Stocking rate: 1,3 LU/ha main forage area

ANIMAL PERFORMANCES

Milk production per head : 6 900 L /year

WHY IT IS WORKING

A large area available to cattle grazing: cluster pastures around barn.

Soils well suited to livestock grazing system with a good bearing capacity. Soils allow a long grazing period.

Farmer's state of mind: he wants to see cows grazing and prefers grazing management than driving tractor.