



Irish grazing system on education farm



Aeres education farm

1 Description of the innovation

The educational farm from Aeres Hogeschool in the city of Dronten in the Netherlands is a biological farm with a grazing system based on the Irish system: more milk from fresh grass with maximum grazing.

Maximum grazing and more milk from fresh grass is realized through an intensive grazing management, strip stocking, and a spring calving herd.



Economic results

Education

Strategy implementation

The strategy of the farmer is based on more milk from fresh grass with grazing.

Achievements: more milk from fresh grass

Failures: intensive grassland planning

Results: efficient and intensive grazing system, spring calving herd and less costs



2 Farm description

ENVIRONMENT

Soil: Clay

Climate: Temperate oceanic

Altitude: \pm sea level

Slope: flat

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing: Yes

Grazing management: Strip stocking

Length of grazing period: 8 months/year

Main composition grassland: Perennial ryegrass and red and white clovers

STRUCTURE

Agricultural Area 37 ha UAA

Permanent grassland 37 ha

Production method Biological

Stock 70 dairy cows

35 young stock

Breed Holstein-Friesian

Milk production 7800 kg/year

Annual Work Unit 1

WHY IT IS WORKING

The innovation is successful on this farm because:

- it is an education farm with students. The farm/innovation has multiple purposes: a normal economical farming purpose but also a purpose for learning processes. The combined functions create the opportunity to innovate.
- The curiosity of the farm management and the students to try new methods.
- The availability of (scientific) knowledge.