



Kurzrasen grazing



Van de Voort

1 Description of the innovation

The family Van der Voort has a biological farm located in the central part of the Netherlands in the province Gelderland. The 90 jersey cows get an innovative grazing management: kurzrasen. The milk is processed on the farm to raw-milk cheese and sold by their own brand 'Remeker'.

Kurzrasen is a grazing method with grazing on very short grass. The grass length for grazing is maximum 5 centimetre. The whole growing season the cows graze rotational on the same meadows with a grass length between 5 and 6 centimetre.



Biodiversity

Economic results

Strategy implementation

The strategy of the farmer is based on a total distinctive way of dairy farming to have his own revenue model by making and selling his own raw-milk cheese.



2 Farm description

ENVIRONMENT

Soil: Sandy

Climate: Temperate oceanic

Altitude: ±sea level

Slope: flat

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing: Yes

Grazing management: Kurzrasen

Length of grazing period: 7 months/year

Main composition grassland:

A broad range of different grass and legume species;

Perennial ryegrass, red and white clovers, dandelion, greater plantain, common daisy, soft-grass, smooth meadow-grass and rough bluegrass.

STRUCTURE

Agricultural Area 50 ha UAA

Permanent grassland 50 ha

Production method Biological

Stock 90 dairy cows

60 young stock

Breed Jersey

Milk production 5000 kg/year

Annual Work Unit 7

WHY IT IS WORKING

The innovation is successful on this farm because:

- it fits in the distinctive and biological farm management
- the farmer likes to do his farm management in an unconventional way
- the farmer has a passion for the soil from his grassland as a fundamental part of his farm management
- it contributes to his own revenue model / marketing for his own brand of raw-milk cheese