



M.P.T.M. Derks

Marcel Derks

Rijkevoort

The herd

- 61 milking cows with 46 young stock
- 7,6 young stock per 10 milking cows
- Holsteins
- 7.542 liter per cow per year
- 4,58 fat and 3,44 protein
- Age at first calving: 25
- 14.911 liter per ha
- Calving year round
- Traditional cubicle stable
- Robot

The farm

- Marcel is an interested farmer for new topics
- He is running the farm by his own in a working week with 50 hours
- 30,60 ha total
- 20,13 ha production grass
- 7,43 ha maize
- 3,04 ha arable land

Innovations

He is a farmer who likes to put his focus on efficient nutrient utilisation. According to him is the soil is the motor of the farm. To enhance the quality of the manure he aerates his manure in the storage tanks. Avoidance of anaerobe conditions in the manure tank means optimum nutrient availability for the plant. Therefore he prefers to apply the aerated manure to the fields instead of artificial fertilizers. The maize is seeded in diamond seeding allowing for a better nutrient use efficiency.

He is aiming for a reduction of nitrate losses by leaching. To get more support in the understanding and management of cows, he is making use of sensor technique. The sensors monitor the cows behaviour. If the cows behave differently the sensors help to interfere. Monitoring of cows behaviour leads to improved cows health. He is also milking with a milk robot to get more data of his cows.

Theme(s) of interest:

Socio-economics