



Pilot farm name: Mäntykangas

Pilot farm location: Joroinen, South Savo, Finland.

Names of farmers: Sari & Jouni Sikanen

The herd

- **87 dairy cows and 90 dairy heifers**
- **Breeds:** Holstein and Ayrshire
- **Age at calving:** 27.6 months
- **New barn** built in 2014
- **Automatic milking system** (two robots)
- **Milk to dairy:** 750 000 kg
 - 10 000 kg ECM/cow/year
 - Milk fat%: 4.33
 - Milk protein%: 3.6

The farm

- **Arable area 115 ha** of which **66 ha on grass**
- **3 grass silage cuts** typically per year
 - mixture of timothy, meadow fescue, perennial ryegrass and clover
- **Silage contracted** by neighbour (forage harvester and concrete silos)
 - Heifer feed in round bales
- **Whole crop silage and maize** used also in the feeding
- **Workforce:**
Field work managed by Jouni and paid workers; barn work managed by Sari

Innovations

- **Cooperation with contractors in silage and maize harvesting**
 - Less need to invest into own machinery chain
 - saves costs
- **Innovative automatic feeding system**
 - Stationary mixer wagon mixes TMR automatically nine times / day
- **Efficient use and management of workforce**
 - With a small workforce good economic results
- **Use of maize in feeding**
 - a good addition for dairy cows' feeding and crop rotation (?)
- Cows have **an automatic system for heat and rumination time measurements**
 - Helps with heat and health monitoring

Themes of interest:

Resource efficiency
Socio-economics
Animal care