



Anna and Jussi Lappalainen, Juha-Pekka Lappalainen

MTY Lappala
Siilinjärvi
North Savo
Finland

The herd

- **230 dairy cows and 100 heifers**
- **Breed:** Holstein
- **Age at first calving:** 25 months
- **Automatic milking system** (four robots)
- **Milk to dairy:** 1,510,000 kg
 - 11,800 kg ECM/cow/year
 - Milk fat%: 4.29
 - Milk protein%: 3.51

The farm

- **Arable area 302 ha** of which **224 ha on grass**
- **3 grass silage cuts** per year
 - Silage stored in silos and round bales
- **Workforce:** Five family workers and 1 hired

Areas of interest/Aspirations

Resource efficiency,
Socio-economic resilience,
monitoring of working hours,
Animal care

Innovations

- **Co-operation with contractors improves efficiency**
 - Grass silage harvesting and manure spreading
- **Umbilical slurry system**
 - In the spring slurry can be applied earlier to the grass
- **Heifers in a separate building**
 - More space and possibilities for grouping in the dairy barn
→ Adequate facilities increase cows' welfare; e.g. own department for cows in transition period
- **Long-term health breeding** in cattle
 - Focuses e.g. udder health management and genetic progress
- **Recycled manure solids (RMS)** used as bedding material
 - Own separator -> cost savings in bedding material
 - The spreading of the slurry is easier when it is mostly separated
- **Deep bedded free stalls**
 - Less skin ulcerations and clean cows, improved cow comfort
- **Colostrum quality testing**
 - Only good quality colostrum for the newborn calves
→ Good base for growth and development