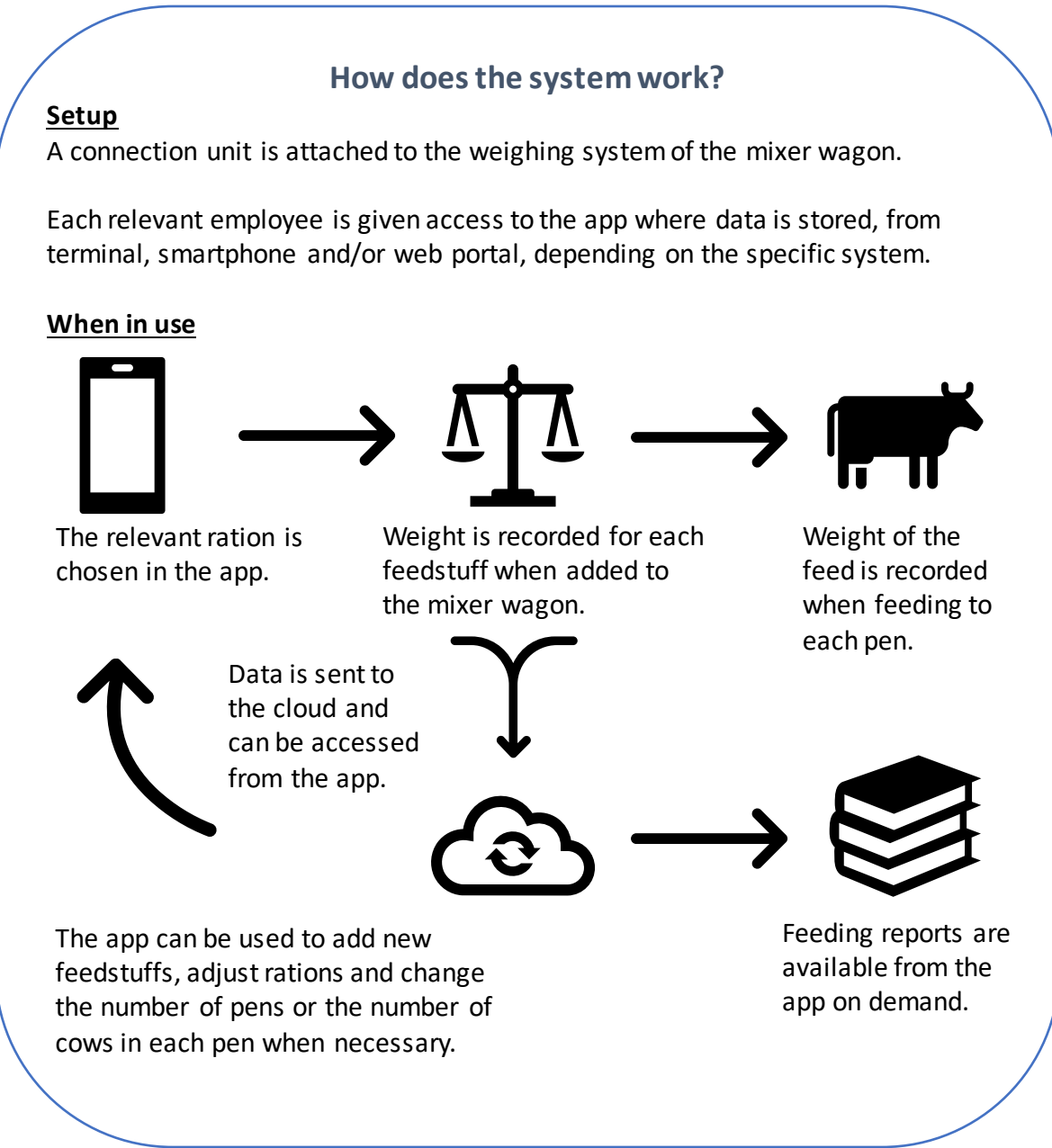| Topic	Topic	System to provide live reports on feed-intake and efficiency based on weighing system on mixer wagon
Technical efficiency	Economic resilience	

Background
Accuracy while weighing and adding the individual feed elements is essential to produce a feed mix that is optimized for the energy and nutritional needs of animals. There are several systems that, by attaching a unit on the weighing system of the mixer wagon, can provide live recording of weight to an app that is accessible on handheld terminals. The app can provide accurate data on consumption of feedstocks, the components of the rations and the ability to monitor feed costs and dry matter intake and more, depending on the specific app.

How does the system work?

Setup
A connection unit is attached to the weighing system of the mixer wagon.

Each relevant employee is given access to the app where data is stored, from terminal, smartphone and/or web portal, depending on the specific system.

When in use

The relevant ration is chosen in the app.

Weight is recorded for each feedstuff when added to the mixer wagon.

Weight of the feed is recorded when feeding to each pen.

Data is sent to the cloud and can be accessed from the app.

Feeding reports are available from the app on demand.

The app can be used to add new feedstuffs, adjust rations and change the number of pens or the number of cows in each pen when necessary.

Positive features
- Saves time as there is no need to record on paper.
- Fewer input errors as the weight is not entered manually into the system.
- Live access to feeding data for employees and advisors.
- More precise feeding can save on feed by minimizing feed waste.

Be careful, especially on these points
- A subscription is necessary as all data are saved to the cloud.
- Employees must have sufficient training in using the app, to avoid using it incorrectly.
- Great care must be taken when feeding the pens, that each pen is marked as separate in the app, and that cows from other pens do not have access to the feed.
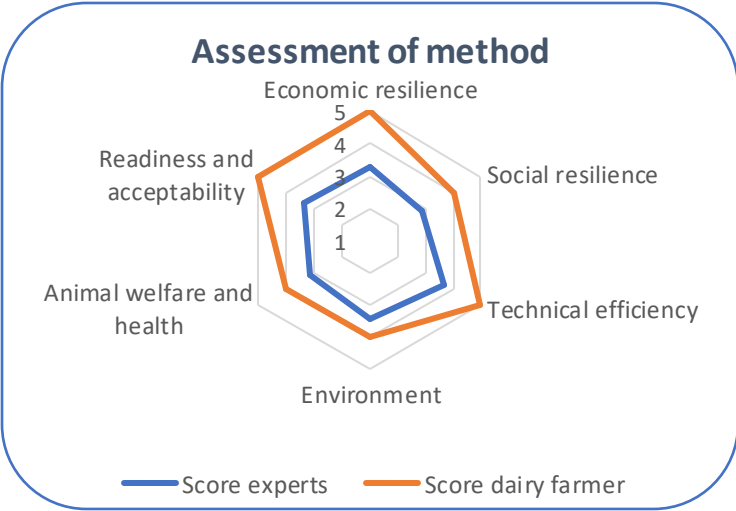
Specific advice
- The terminals can be mounted in the cabin for ease of use.
- The software mentioned here can also have functionality for optimization concerning changing prices for feedstuffs and milk.

Investment
The necessary investment to get started was €3,500-3,700 from one company (price in Denmark in 2024), but it is probably different in different countries.

The necessary equipment includes:
- Connection unit for the weighing system;
- Handheld terminals or smartphones to run the app;
- Subscription to the app software and cloud access.

Assessment of method

Axes: Economic resilience, Social resilience, Technical efficiency, Environment, Animal welfare and health, Readiness and acceptability (scale 1–5)

— Score experts
— Score dairy farmer

Quote of the farmer:
"This system lets you easily adjust a ration on the fly, while the app instantly records the changes so they won't be forgotten"

Resilience 4 for Dairy

More info:
https://www.bvl-farmtechnology.com/en
https://feedlync.com/en-us/