#### **Topic Topic**

# Insemination strategy - inseminate with the right straw

Technical efficiency Economic resilience



**Background** 

As a dairy farmer, you make daily decisions that have an impact on the final farm result. Making the right choices is therefore hugely important. Six dairy farmers took the initiative to help the sector move forward by offering practical tailor-made tools for the dairy sector. The development was done together with Boerenbond and ILVO through an Operational Group and with support from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. This tool aims to support the dairy farmer in making his insemination strategy. It shows in a simple way what the financial additional yield can be if a dairy farmer uses sexed semen and utility crosses. Through this tool, the optimal situation for his farm can also be simulated.



## How does the strategy work?

Via an (online) management tool, all necessary business key figures are entered. Via simple sliders, 3 scenarios can be compared. In the scenarios, you can vary the proportion of sexed semen and the proportion of user crosses. The graphs below the scenarios visually illustrate the effect on the heifer calves balance and the economic balance.

Inseminate with the right straw (ilvo.be)

### **Equipment involved? Investment?**

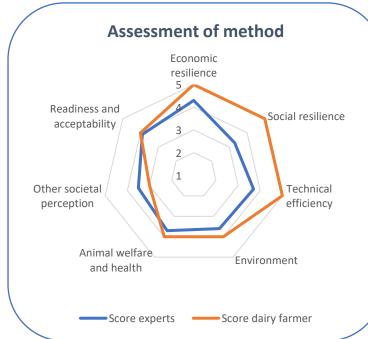
- Internet and web-based tool to work anywhere and securely.
- Know and track your own key figures,

#### **Positive features**

- It works with proprietary key figures
- o The tool is user-friendly and requires little input
- The results are presented very visually
- o The tool contains both a technical and an economic component
- o Dairy farmers are made aware of the economic benefits of using sexed semen and utility crosses
- o Dairy farmers can trace the limits for their own farm with this tool

#### Be careful, especially on these points

Basic information is very important. Careful attention must be paid to ensure that the various parameters are entered correctly so that no wrong conclusions are drawn.



#### Quote of the farmer:

"Conscious insemination makes future choices easier and prompts thinking about operations and planning."



