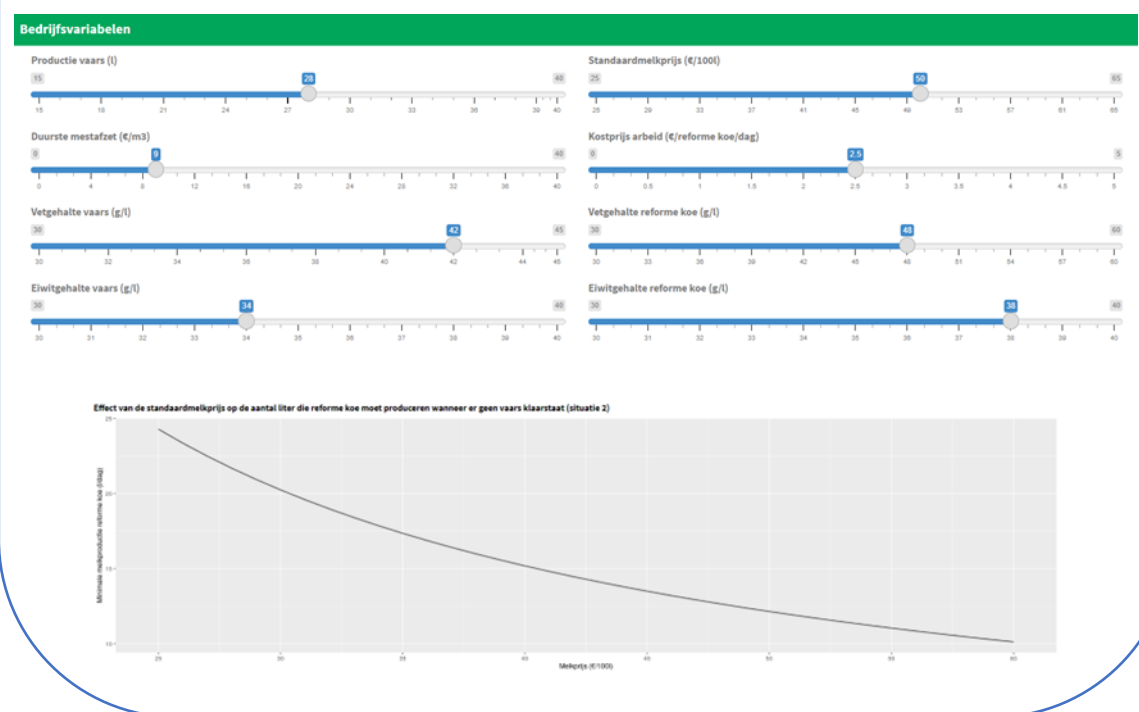
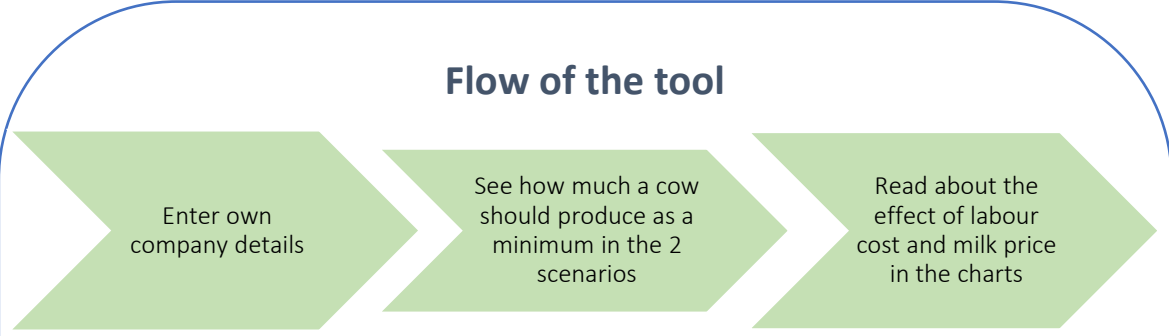


Replacement strategy – when is my cow now longer profitable?

Topic	Topic
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 decisions regarding replacement strategy. It easily calculates the minimum production of a (reformed) cow to break even. And this is always for two possible situations: comparison with an upcoming heifer and calculation of the minimum production to break even.



How does the strategy work?

Via an (online) management tool, all necessary farm-specific key figures are entered. Via a limited number of parameters, you get an idea of the minimum production a cow should achieve. This is calculated for 2 scenarios: cost-effective production and comparison with an upcoming heifer.

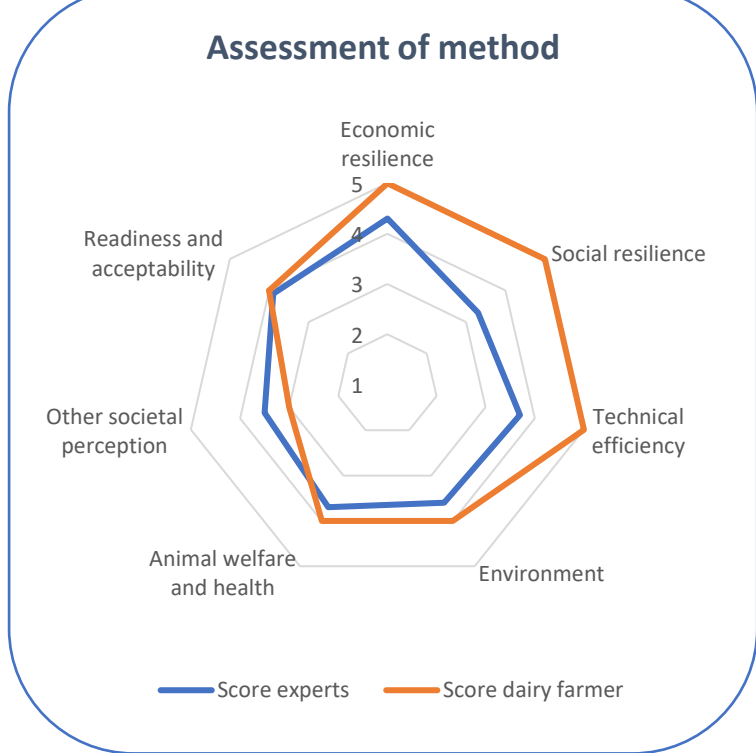
<https://shiny.ilvo.be/LM/Vervanging/>

- 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
 - The tool is user-friendly and requires little input
 - Being able to make a correct economic choice between cow and heifer-to-be
 - You get a correct picture of the effect of labour costs on cost-covering production
 - You get a correct picture of the effect of the milk price on cost-covering production

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:
"It is important to know if a cow is at least yielding itself"



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