

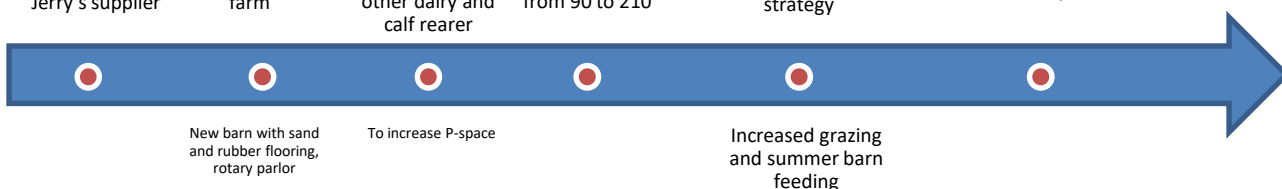
Innovations

Environment /
Resource efficiency



Farming milestones

2008	2015	2015	2016	2017	2021
Participant Ben & Jerry's supplier	(Re)start dairy farm	Cooperation with other dairy and calf rearer	Herd increased from 90 to 210	Start new feeding strategy	Additional land purchase



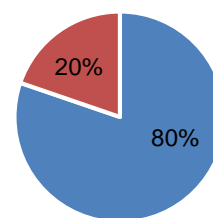
The herd

- 220 dairy cows (28 young stock, 32 calves)
- Breeds : HF + Brown Swiss/Swiss Red
- Calving period : all year round,
- Age at first calving : 24 months

Agricultural Area

Total 119 ha AA

- 95.5 ha grassland
- 23.5 ha corn production
- +5,5 ha grassland to be added



Workforces

- 1,5 labour units (Full Time Equivalent)
- 220 dairy cows & 1426000 l / 1,5 FTE
- Succession guaranteed

Areas of interest

- Energy transition
- More milk from grass
- Complexity of the system (soil/animal)

Main buildings and equipments

- 1 x 36 stall rotary
- 1 main free stall 2+3 with sand bedding with concentrate feeding
- Sand filtering and urine storage



Production / Technical results

- 2140000 liters of milk produced, with 5,7 average present vs 6,8 (average total)
- 4.3 % fat & 3.60 % protein content, 22kg concentrate / 100kg milk
- Stocking rate: 1.85 LU / ha forage area,
- 9737 l of milk /cow /year & 18000 l /ha forage area



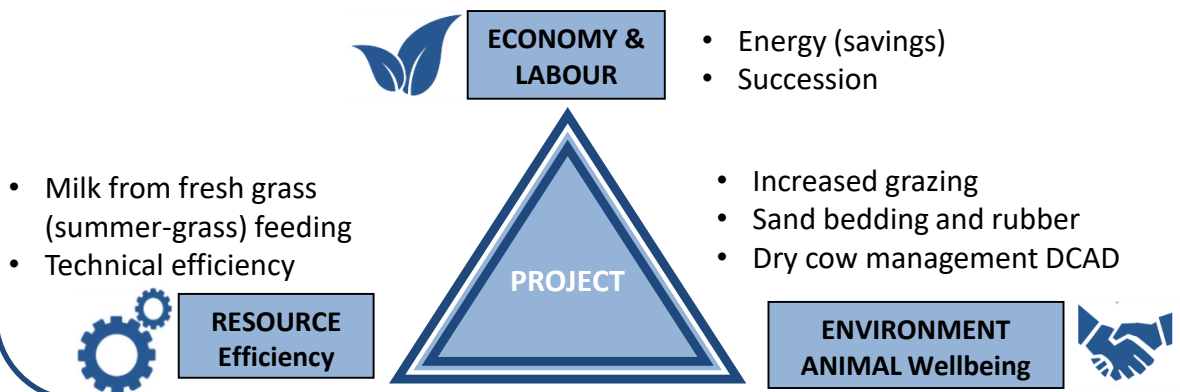
Farmer's strategy for a "resilient" system

1) Low energy, energy savings / L milk. 2) Focus on how to keep youngstock rearing outsourced to partner (no youngstock on site in Witharen) 3) Focus on short term strategies and actions to cope with today, opportunistic attitude towards change and future prospective (for succession). Be part of the 25% best in the country on all farm aspects .

Aspirations / Needs for the future

Rewarding systems for innovative applications. Predictable and not changing politics. Political vision. Desires and vision of succession.

Improvement project - objectives



Partners  **WAGENINGEN**
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

“Resilience 4 Dairy” is a European project involving 15 European countries and 18 partners. R4D is a thematic network on innovations and aims to support EU dairy farming in these regions where dairy farming is a main economic activity.



R4D pilot farmers are involved in a National Dairy Akis group where needs, solutions and knowledge are exchanged with other farmers, advisors and scientists on their way to build a resilient system. More information <https://resilience4dairy.eu/>