Resilience for Dairy (R4D) has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101000770

Grøndalsgård
Nørager
Pilot farm description
2022

Denmark




2015 Fire in feed barn & equipment building

2016 New cow barn & 2 grain silos. Demolished fire site

2017 New calf housing & collection area

2018 New feed storage

2019 Changed to solid concrete floors & deep bedded sand cubicles

2020 Reconstructed crop storage into 2 slaughter calf pens

2021 Expanded crop storage & built gas leakage proof grain silo

Innovative features
- Organic production
- High % crossbreeding
- Legumes in crop rotation
- Tractor traffic GPS
- Rubber walkways between pastures

Buildings & Equipment
- Modern indoor housing
- Deep sand cubicles
- Rotary milking parlour
- Individual calving pens
- Manure scraper
- Individual calf housing & group housing
- Own claw trimming equipment

Labour force
- 10 employees
- 2 students

Areas of interest
- Environment & ecology
- Animal nutrition
- Societal issues

The herd

415 cows in total
375 cows in milk
310 dairy heifers

All-year-round calving
Age at first calving: 24.5 mo
Summer grazing (7h x 150d)

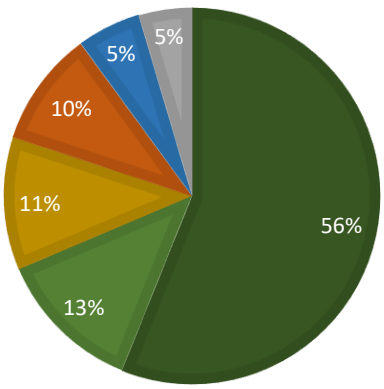
Breeds: 57% Holstein
43% Holstein x Danish Red x Montbéliarde


Milk production: 11,341 kg ECM per cow per year

Agricultural area

318 ha grass/clover
71 ha winter rye (harvest)
65 ha barley/pea mix
56 ha winter rye (graze)
31 ha spring barley
26 ha perennial grass

Total: 567 ha



Strengths

- Low debt
- High crop yields
- High milk production
- N-fixation from legumes in crop rotation (peas)
- High proportion crossbred cows

Weaknesses

- Relatively high bulk tank SCC
- X

Opportunities

- X
- X

Threats

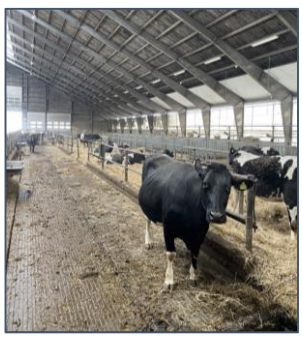
- Climate adaption
- Increasing regulations & limits
- Land rented for limited period only

Innovative practice

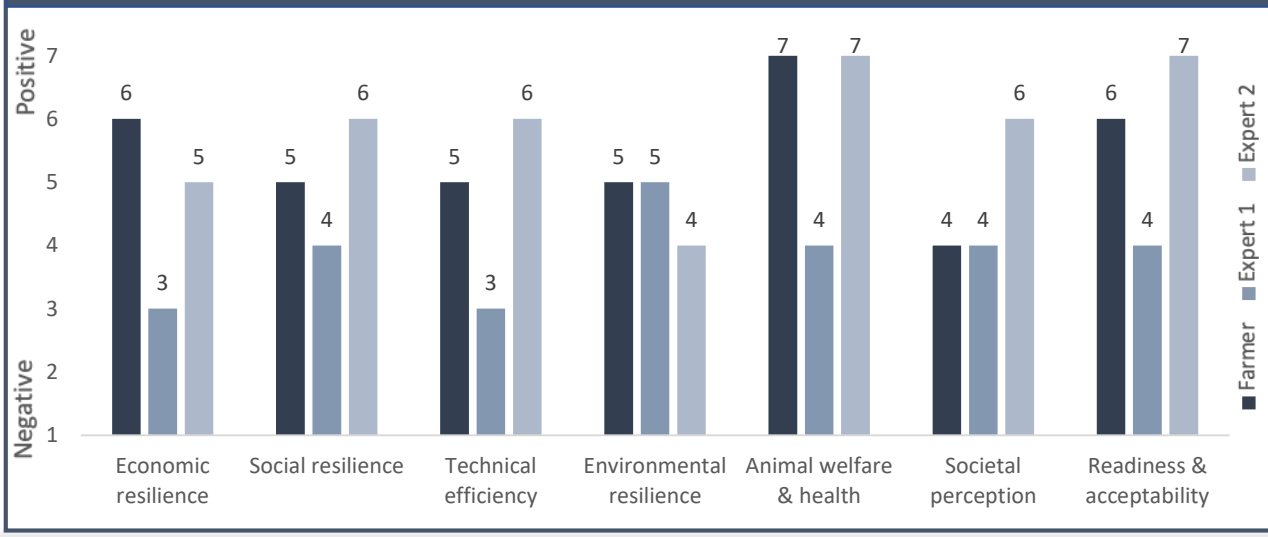
Install deep bedded sand cubicles & V-shaped solid concrete floor with automatic manure scraper as strategy for improving economic resilience through improved animal welfare

Potential future solutions

- Strategic leadership
- Self-sufficiency in feed production
- Decrease debt



Effects of innovative practice on resilience



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"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/