



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

Elmegården Karup J Pilot farm description











Built new housing facilities with 4 x milking robots, feed robots & bedding robot

Replaced milking robots with milking parlour. Built heifer & dry cows housing & increased herd to 900 cows

2006

Bought

2007

Bought 100 ha arable land

2008

2015

Elmegården farm

Innovative features

- Modern housing
- Pair- & group-housing calves
- Precision feed management system (online)







Buildings & Equipment

- 2 x 150m long buildings
- Deep bedded sand cubicles
- Group calving pens
- Group housing of calves on straw
- Milking parlour (2 x 24)
- Manure robot (12x p/d)

Labour force

- 15 full time employees
- 5 part-time students



Areas of interest

- Social welfare
- Animal nutrition
- Environmental welfare

The herd

910 cows in total 805 cows in milk 570 dairy heifers

All-year-round calving Age at first calving: 22 mo Fulltime indoor housing

Breeds: 40% Holstein 60% Holstein x Belgian Blue & Angus





Milk production: 12,831 kg ECM per cow per year

Agricultural area

245 ha grassland

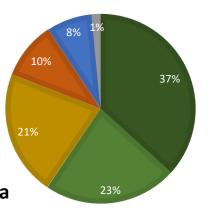
152 ha maize (corn)

143 ha silage maize

66 ha sugar beet

52 ha barley 10 ha grass (hay)

Total: 668 ha





Strengths

- 4x larger herd than average in Denmark
- Very high milk yield per cow
- All arable land located close by
- Modern equipment in barn
- High labour force



Weaknesses

- Milking parlour requires more labour
- X
- X



Opportunities

- Connect with others to install biogas plant
- X
- X



Threats

- More strict environmental regulations
- Periods of drought because of high altitude

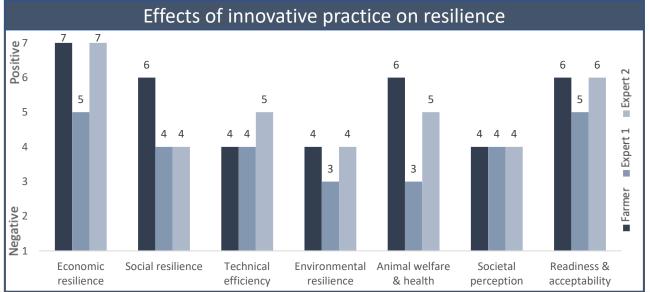
Innovative practice

Replace 4 milking robots with a 24:24 milking parlour as a strategy for improving economic resilience.

Potential future solutions

- Energy production (biogas, wind or solar
- Feed additive to reduce methane
- Self-sufficiency in feed production







"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/