



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

## Innovations

Socio-economic  
Resilience /  
Environment



2001

Koen works on the parents' farm. First step from 100 to 150 cows.

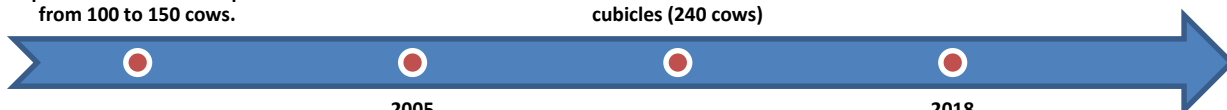


2009

construction of new barn with sand in cubicles (240 cows)



Farming milestones



2005

Koen steps into co-habitations with parents

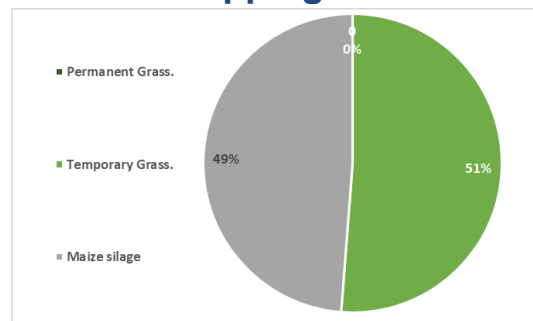
2018

Expansion to 300 cows and annual production increase

### The herd (2022)

- 550 Livestock Units
- 322 Holstein
- 228 Young stock
- Calving period : all year round
- Age at first calving : 25 months
- Calving interval : 379 days

### Cropping Plan



### Workforces

- 2 labor units : Koen & Celine & parents
- 1 external worker
- **Aims** : high production, quality forage and top genetics

### Areas of interest

- Animal welfare & health
- Genetics
- Top quality for grass (possibility of irrigation)

## Main buildings and Equipment

### dairy cows

- Cubicle barn for cows
- Milking: 5 robots (Lely)
- Sand in cubicles



### Production / Technical results (2022)

- 4 286 000 liters of milk produced
- Fat : 3,87 g/l & protein: 3,42 g/l
- Age of cows: 4Y 3M
- 13 200 kg of milk /cow /year (FPCM)
- 3 400 kg of concentrate/cow/year
- 4 908 kg of concentrated feed/cow/year
- Replacement Rate: 29 %
- Return over feed cost : 32 €/100 l
- CFP: 0,87 CO<sub>2</sub> eq./kg FPCM (2021)



## Strengths

- Efficiency
- High production
- Good technical key-results
- large areas of good quality grassland



## Weaknesses

- Pressure of nature areas



## Opportunities

- Interest in genetics
- High cow welfare



## Threats

- Rapidly changing legislation
- Increased feed and fertiliser costs
- Climate change, drought

## Strategy of the farmer to improve resilience

The company chooses high production. They are very much into breeding with focus on production, good health and condition. The stables are equipped with deep sand boxes, full manure floor and manure sliders. Because of the good grasslands on low lying polder, the aim is to be able to mow every 4 weeks so that top quality and top productions are also achieved here. The grassland consists of grass clover with also soft-leaved reed fescue which gives more structure. Mowing, picking up and ensiling is done very labour-efficiently with attention to good pressing of the grass.

## Areas of interest / Aspirations / Needs for the future

The company is currently facing a lot of questions about the future at their current location and thus needs clarity.

## Improvement project - objectives

- High production
- Efficient labour

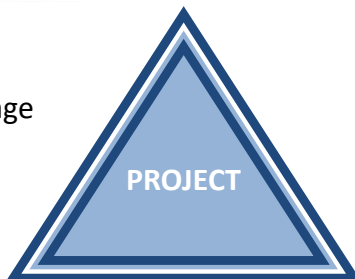


**ECONOMY & LABOUR**

- A lot of own roughage



**RESSOURCE Efficiency**



- Healthy cows
- Sustainable use of grassland

**ENVIRONMENT ANIMAL Wellbeing**



Partners

**inagro**  
ONDERZOEK & ADVIES IN LAND- & TUINBOUW

**BOEREN BOND**

“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 : [www.resilience4dairy.eu](http://www.resilience4dairy.eu)