WORK PACKAGE 3

CCCfarming Book: FARM PLANS



farming

CCCfarming book: Farm plans

Project: CCCfarming

Workpackage 3 'Mitigation practices and techniques'

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Introduction to farm plans

Formulation of farm mitigation plan

The base situation of the on-farm nutrient balance in the year 2020 of the 60 field study farms have been prepared as part of the project CCCfarming. The nutrient inventory has been performed with three Nutrient Management Tools, i.e AgreCalc from Scotland, ANCA from the Netherlands and Cap'er2 tool from France.

The goal was that a one-page development plus emission mitigation plan would be drawn up of each of the 60 CCCfarming field study farms. This would be executed by the local research team in discussion with the farm family on basis of the following work performed in this project:

- Description of farm (Task 1.1 of project plan)
- NPC balance of farm (Task 1.4 of project plan)
- Emission measurements with simplified method (Task 1.5 of project plan)
- Outcome of Kitchen Table interview performed with survey (Task 1.6 of project plan)
- Additional input of farmer

As a key part of composing the Farm Plan, the farmer could choose a small set of mitigation practices of which the effect on the nutrient balance and emissions was assessed through calculations. For this purpose, a list of mitigation practices was prepared based on an extensive inventory in the partner countries of interesting practices thought to reduce the GHG and ammonia emissions on dairy farm level. Also, results of the Kitchen Table interviews contributed to the composition of that list. Next, the most suitable practices were selected that fitted to be simulated by the Nutrient tools.

To present the list of the 17 chosen practices to the CCCfarming study farmers, the description of practices was translated into the local language. The project partners provided supporting farm data and information to make the tool simulations possible, as well as supporting data for the economic (MACC) calculations. These data were based on in depth conversations with the farmer and on expert knowledge.

Those study farms were selected that had fully completed data for either the ANCA or the AgreCalc tool. In discussion and agreement of the local project team with the farm family, 2 to 4 alternative mitigation practices were chosen for each farm. Next, the chosen practices were simulated by re-running the Agrecalc or ANCA nutrient accounting tool. The ANCA tool deals with GHG and NH₃ practices, while the AgreCalc tool focusses on GHG. But in the list of practices for the AgreCalc tool, nitrogen reducing practices were also listed. For these N-practices, the indirect positive (or negative) effect on GHG is taken into account by the tool. In fact, the repeated calculations that took place can be defined as a simulation of various practices, while the outcomes / environmental impacts were compared with the base calculations of each particular farm as done before.

- **Agrecalc**: a carbon footprint tool developed in the United Kingdom for agricultural production systems (link to website) designed to identify the main sources of GHG emissions and benchmark key performance indicators.
- **ANCA**: the Annual Nutrient Cycling Assessment tool, developed in the Netherlands for dairy production systems (link to website).

Per country, the ANCA tool was used to re-run the chosen practices for two farms, and the AgreCalc tool for the other farms. The obtained simulation results were compared with the base situation, i.e. farm data collected for the reference year 2020. As explained, the nutrient management calculation tools provide

technical output. The framework for economic aspects of the alternative practices / mitigation measures was generated by applying a Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) approach. Based on these results "Farm plans" were prepared for each study field farm separately.

The framework of the Farm Plan contains the following information:

- 1. Description of farmers' future strategy on development of farm and reduction of emissions
- 2. Which mitigation measures / practices were already taken?
- 3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?
- 4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)
- 5. Equipment involved, investment and economics
- 6. Attention points when implementing measures
- 7. Quote of farmer

Overview of simulated mitigation practices

A description of the mitigation practices, including some indication of the benefits and costs of implementing such a practice, are presented in below Table 1. Next, each of the project farms chose 2 to 4 preferable emission mitigation measures from this list, which practices were related to the needs of the individual farm and the local situation, for calculating, in fact simulating and the effects on the farm business.

Measures	NH3	GHG	Explanation
I	II	Ш	IV
Increase feed efficiency	X	X	The aim of the measure is to improve the feed conversion rate (reduce required DM per kg FPCM). In this example we assume feed efficiency is improved through improved feeding, causing less feed is needed. We assume the feed ration composition is not changed and milk yield remains the same. Mitigation practices include: feed ration calculation; feeding plan preparation; precision feed distribution. Farm benefits : lower feed consumption. Farm expenses : application of precision farming.
Low protein diets	x	Х	The aim of the measure is to reduce the N content of feed ration ingredients, e.g. by reducing N content of concentrates. We assume milk yield and milk composition remain the same, the feed ration composition is not changed, and there are no changes in grass or crop management. Mitigation practice include: purchase/production of low protein feed; feed ration calculation; feeding plan preparation; precision feed distribution. Farm benefits : Less N in manure effects - less NH ₃ . Farm expenses : application of precision feeding.
High digestible diet and change in crops		x	The aim of the measure is to reduce methane production by increasing the digestibility of rations. Mitigation practice include : purchase or production of high digestible feed; feed ration calculation; feeding / cropping plan preparation incl. land use; precision feed distribution. Farm benefits : the amount of fodder required decreases, thus alternative use of land possible. Farm expenses : change in work input for farmer (less or more work dependant on choices made in cropping and land use plan).
Use of probiotics in the barn		x	The aim of the measure is to use Probiotics for adult ruminants to improve fibre digestion by rumen microorganisms and reduce ruminant CH ₄ . Mitigation practice include: purchase/production of probiotics; precision probiotics distribution. Farm benefits : perhaps effect on growth and feed efficiency. Farm expenses : probiotic cost, increased additional work through precision feeding for farmers.

Table 1	: Scheme	of presented	sixteen	mitigation	measures
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I	II		IV
Methane blocker as feed additive		x	 Effect on reduction CH₄ depends on ration daily. Milk yield and milk composition remains the same, assumed that the feed ration composition is not changed, and there are no changes in grass or crop management. Mitigation practice include: enteric methane inhibitor purchase; precision inhibitor distribution. Farm benefits: Use of 3-NOP reduces methane from 5 to 30%; a slight increase in fat% may be expected. Farm expenses: methane blocker cost; precision feeding.
Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops	X		The aim of the measure is to decrease nitrogen loses with nitrification inhibitors use to retard or prevent the conversion of ammonium-nitrogen to nitrate-nitrogen by nitrifying bacteria in soil. Mitigation practice include: nitrogen fertiliser with inhibitors use. Farm benefits : increased yield and recovery of fertilizer nitrogen by a crop, less nitrogen fertiliser demand. Farm expenses : additional expenses for the purchase of fertilizer with inhibitor.
Low emission floors	х		The aim of the measure is to separate the faeces and urine flows in the barn. Mitigation practice include: reconstruction of the barn floor by installing the appropriate type of floor. Farm benefits : animal welfare improves. Farm expenses : capital investment: floor type; extra storage; field application
Mechanical manure separation	x		The aim of the measure is to divide liquid manure into solid and liquid fractions by using techniques of manure separation. Mitigation practice include : purchase and installation of separation equipment; construction of production facilities. Farm benefits : possibility of two manure products: liquid and solid Farm expenses : capital investment: separator, electricity, field application (slurry, liquids, solids)
Manure acidification	x	x	Reduce N losses during manure management at field application. Mitigation practice include : purchase and installation of acidification equipment. Farm benefits : reduction in N losses Farm expenses : costs for equipment in barn and application in field; acid costs; possible additional equipment / fertilizer needed for liming the soil
Adding straw to slurry for covering the manure storage	х		The aim of the measure is to reduce N losses during manure management in the outdoor storage. Assumed is sealing the outdoor storage with straw cover. Mitigation practice include: straw cover installation. Farm benefits: reduce nitrogen losses, inorganic fertiliser saved. Farm expenses: additional work/equipment for adding straw to manure
Conversion of manure lagoon to cylindrical storage (from open to tanks without covering)	X		Decrease is realized in surface m ² . The aim of the measure is to reduce N losses during manure management in the outdoor storage. Mitigation practice include: new construction of the cylindrical manure storage. Farm benefits : reduced manure management costs, and reduced fertilizer use. Farm expenses : investment in cylindrical manure storage

I	II	III	IV
Covering manure storage	x		The aim of the measure is to reduce N losses during manure management in the outdoor storage. Assumed is sealing with outdoor storage impermeable cover. Mitigation practice include: purchase and installation of storage impermeable cover. Farm benefits: reduction in N losses Farm expenses: investment in manure storage cover; manure management somewhat more complicated
Low emission slurry spreading techniques	x		The aim of the measure is to reduce N losses during manure management at field application incorporate slurry directly into soil. Mitigation practice include : purchase and installation of application equipment; Farm benefits: reduction in N losses Farm expenses: investment in drain system + injector or in tank + injector; additional manure management efforts compared to traditional management, like mixing and spreading of the slurry
Anaerobic digester	X	x	The aim of manure fermentation in a biogas reactor is to ensure efficient manure management and production of valuable fertilizers for agricultural crops, as well as to reduce GHG emissions to a minimum in cattle farms. Mitigation practice include : purchase and installation of anaerobic digester equipment; mono (manure) and Co (other bioresources) use. Farm benefits : reduction in N losses; production of fertilizers; production of renewable energy sources (methane and heat) Farm expenses : capital investment in biogas installation; maintenance
Renewable energy sources on farm (RES)		X	The aim of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm. The following resources are used: solar, wind, ground heat or biomass (wood and agricultural by-products). Mitigation practice include : purchase and installation of RES equipment. Farm benefits : substitution of supplied energy consumption with that produced on the farm. Farm expenses : capital investment in RES equipment; maintenance
Energy saving equipment			The aim of the measure is to install energy-saving technology and equipment on the farm. Mitigation practice include : purchase and installation of energy-saving equipment. Farm benefits : used energy saving on the farm. Farm expenses : changing the technology used; capital investment in energy saving equipment; maintenance

The farmers' preferences of mitigation measures accumulated over all farmers in the CCCfarming project are shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Farmers choice of mitigation measures

There are significant variations in the chosen practices for simulation between the farms in the eight countries. The choices were determined by farmers and their consultants based on the practical needs and characteristics of the farm. The choices per country are listed in below table 2.

	Country							
Mitigation measures	LV	LT	PL	DE	NL	UK	FR	IT
Increase feed efficiency	7	2	6	1	2	1	2	2
Low protein diets					4			2
High digestible diet and change in crops						1		
Use of probiotics in the barn			1	1		1		1
Methane blocker as feed additive	2	1	4		3	5		1
Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops	2			1				
Low emission floors	2				1			
Mechanical manure separation						2		
Adding straw to slurry for covering the manure storage				2				
Covering manure storage	1	2	3	2		1	2	2
Manure acidification		1		1				1
Low emission slurry spreading techniques	2							
Renewable energy sources on farm (RES)	4	1	4		3	4		1
Energy saving equipment		2		1		1		

Table 2: Farmers choice of mitigation measures in eight countries

As shown in table 2, the farmers most often selected "Increase in feed efficiency", "Use of probiotics in barn", "Methane blocker as feed additive", "Covering manure storage", and Renewable energy sources" as preferred mitigation strategy from the 14 practices available.

Principle of the technical evaluation of the mitigation practices

The output of the simulation calculation results with tools were prepared separately and dedicated for greenhouse gases from AgreCalc tool and for ammonia from ANCA tool.

The following emissions criteria were estimated with the Agrecalc tool:

- Reduction of total farm emissions in kg CO₂e per hectare, compared to original, i.e. base situation
- Reduction of total farm emissions in kg CO₂e per livestock unit (LU), compared to original, i.e. base situation
- Emissions' reduction from whole farm production output in kg $\rm CO_2e$, compared to original, i.e. base situation
- Total CO₂e emission from farming in kg CO₂e, compared to original, i.e. base situation

Criteria calculation with the ANCA tool:

- Ammonia emission reduction from farm in kg NH₃, compared to original, i.e. base situation
- Reduction of ammonia emissions in kg $\rm NH_3\, per$ Dutch livestock unit (LSU), compared to original, i.e. base situation
- Emissions' reduction from production of 1 ton of milk in kg NH₃, compared to original, i.e. base situation
- Reduction of total farm emissions in kg NH₃ per hectare, compared to original, i.e. base situation

Principle of economical evaluation of the mitigation practices

MACC (Marginal Abatement Cost Curve) calculations are used in France (Pellerin S. et al., 2013), Ireland (Schulte R. et al., 2012), Great Britain (Spadavecchia L., 2014) as well as in other countries. Overall, one can find that the approaches and solutions are diverse (Eory V. et al., 2018). Latvia also constructs MAC curves for its agriculture (Popluga, D., et.al, 2017). In general, a MACC is a very useful instrument for an analysis of GHG emission abatement measures, yet it has limited opportunities to give a comprehensive insight into the effects on economic activity as a whole, as it does not have parameters of the social, economic as well as natural environments.

Method. In order to evaluate the economic efficiency of the measures, it is not necessary to calculate all the management costs, but only those costs or incomes that change because of the implementation of the measures, i.e. the marginal costs or benefits (returns) should be calculated. The MACC approach with the additional costs or benefits is illustrated in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Scheme of Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) calculation

Data. Explanation of measures mainly describe the purpose, benefits and costs. There are significant variations in the simulation of farms in the application of each individual measure. They were determined by farmers and consultants based on the practical needs and characteristics of the farm. The data were offered by farmers and representatives of the countries, this applies both to data characterizing the activity, as well as prices, investments and others. If farmers or state representatives were unable to provide information, then statistical data and surveys were used, and these data were coordinated with country representatives.

The result. The information obtained in the calculations was used to create a Farm Plan, which describes the effectiveness of GHG and Ammonia reduction measures for each farm of the project. The aggregated MACC describes the total effect of all GHG mitigation measures applied to the farms (Figure 3).

In these figures the X-axis characterizes the GHG or ammonia emission reduction potential of each measure (in t CO_{2e}, kg NH₃) resulting from the implementation of the measure. The Y-axis characterizes the costs or benefits of each measure. These are calculated per kg of reduced GHG or ammonia emissions.



Figure 3. MACC on basis of the simulated application of mitigation measures (practices) on the field study farms*, expressed in total reduction potential and cost / benefit per 1 kg reduction in emission compared to the base situation in 2020.

*For the measure "Renewable energy production", the cost (EUR - 11.84) is not shown, which is done for better visualization.

A number of measures has negative costs. This indicates that the measure creates not only a reduction in emissions, but also additional financial benefits. The opposite is the case with measures that have positive costs, when implementing the measures additional costs must be expected in order to achieve GHG emission savings. For example, the "Methane blocker" measure is very popular, which provides a large part of the GHG emission savings, but it generates 0.2 EUR in additional costs for each reduced ton of CO_{2a} .

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Farm plans





Farm LV_1 has made changes in farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration. These practices and strategies are: Extending pastures and improving animal welfare.

For the reduction of emissions, farmers consider important would be to change the following farming activities: animal health; Livestock sheds and manure storage; Fertilizer and manure use and soil management; Machinery and Fuel Use and Technology and Automation.

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: Increase milk production per cow; Increase longevity of stock; Use grass clover mix in pastures; Increase fertilisation efficiency; Increase roughage production per ha; Add feed additives to ration and Increase soil organic matter.

To reduce an ammonia emissions farmer made changes on the following farming practices: fast application of manure and retain nitrogen. In the future, the farm does not plan to implement additional measures to reduce an amonia emissions.



4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Increase feed efficiency.

Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The measure envisages placing 12.8 kW solar panels on the farm, which will produce 10,432 kWh of electricity.

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?

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Increase feed efficiency.

7. Quote of farmer:

"while increasing milk production per cow,

it is important to maintain the longevity of the herd"

Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Increase feed efficiency.

Significant changes in farming, which provide for the preparation of feed plans (377 EUR per year), additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (105 EUR per year).



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 17,920 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.11 EUR kWh-1) is 1,148 EUR per year.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Increase feed efficiency.

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially

Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The solar panels service life.









Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/



Farm LV_2 has made changes in farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration. These practices and strategies are manure storage cover, silage coating and manure plowing.

In order to reduce emissions, the farmer believes that it is important to change the following agricultural activities: Improve animal feeding and health; Improve fertilizer and manure application and soil management; modernization of the barn by introducing technologies and automation.

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: Animal feeding; Animal breeding; Animal health; Livestock housing and manure storage; Fertilizer and manure application and soil management; Irrigation and/or drainage and Business management (contracts and labour).

In the future, the farm plans to implement the use of inhibitors and introduction no till measures to reduce ammonia emissions.

2. Which mitigation measures / practices were already taken?

Improving animal feeding

Improving animal welfare

Manure storage cover

Manure plowing to retain nitrogen

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Increase feed efficiency.

Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The measure envisages placing 10 kW solar panels on the farm, which will produce 8,150 kWh of electricity.

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?

Increase feed efficiency.

7. Quote of farmer:

"The future growth of the farm will

be determined by the introduction of robotization"

Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).

Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels.

Increase feed efficiency.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic

Significant changes in farming, which provide for the preparation of feed plans (81 EUR per year), additional work for the distribution of feed to



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 14,000 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.11 EUR kWh-1) is 896 EUR per year.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Increase feed efficiency.

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially

Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The solar panels service life.





Joint call 2018 on novel technologies, solutions and systems to reduce GHG - ID 39274

workers (23 EUR per year).







Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/





Farm LV_3 has not yet made any changes to farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration.

In order to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of the farm, it would be important to change such agricultural activities: improve animal feeding health; livestock housing and manure storage; fertilizer and manure application and soil management; grassland and grazing management (e.g., reseeding, cutting regime) and technology and automation.

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: improve animal feeding health.

Farm has not yet made any changes to farm practices and strategies to reduce an ammonia emissions.



It is difficult to express the expected effect financially

Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops.

An increase in the price of nitrification inhibitor is expected.







Farm LV_4 has not yet made any changes to farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration.

To reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of the farm, the farmer considers changes in the following farming activities: practices according to the policy (under financial support); improve soil fertility and increase productivity, thereby increasing income and product quality.

Improvement of livestock housing and manure storage, use of fertilizers and manure, as well as soil management and employee qualification are considered very important measures for reducing GHG in agriculture.

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: animal feeding; grassland and grazing management (e.g. reseeding, cutting regime) and business management (contracts and labor).

Farm has not yet made any changes to farm practices and strategies to reduce an ammonia emissions.



calculations)

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool



Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.

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Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops.

The measure envisages the use of urea with an inhibitor on an area of 165 ha.

Grazing management

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?

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Increase feed efficiency.

Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).

Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops.

For which crops a nitrification inhibitor was used, the expected N2O reduction range is 10 to 20% of the amount of fertilizer and slurry used.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Increase feed efficiency.

Significant changes in farming, which provide for the preparation of feed plans (112 EUR per year), additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (31 EUR per year).



Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops.

The implementation results in an additional cost of EUR 2022, while ensuring a more efficient use of N and providing a saving of EUR 1870.

7. Quote of farmer:

"By cooperating and doing things together, the impact on the climate can be reduced"

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Increase feed efficiency.

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially

Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops.

An increase in the price of nitrification inhibitor is expected.











Farm LV_5 is a family farm in which the new generation starts to take the lead. New farmers have put a lot of work into it – they have built a new barn that they run themselves. The milking system on the farm is fully automated.

For the reduction of emissions, farmers consider important would be to change the following farming activities: to introduce improved animal management (including health) and provide feed with a lower crude protein content, separate feces from urine and cool the manure storage, as well as install a low-emission slurry spreading technique.













Farm LV_6 has made changes in farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration. These practices and strategies are built barn, manure management robot – scraper; improving manure storage.

In order to reduce emissions, the farmer believes that it is important to change the following agricultural activities: animal feeding, breeding and health; livestock housing and manure storage; improve fertilizer and manure application; soil management and crop cultivation (e.g. rotation, cover crops, varieties).

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: animal feeding; animal breeding; animal health; livestock housing and manure storage; fertilizer and manure application and soil management; grassland and grazing management and technology and automation.

In the future, the farm plans to implement protein production and the use manure for biogas production, use of solar panels.

2. Which mitigation measures / practices were already taken?

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Improving animal feeding

Improving animal welfare built new barn

Improving manure storage and capture of N

Manure management robot – scraper

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Increase feed efficiency.

Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The measure envisages placing 10 kW solar panels on the farm, which will produce 8,150 kWh of electricity.

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?

Increase feed efficiency.

Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Increase feed efficiency. Significant changes in farming, which provide for the preparation of feed plans (151 EUR per year),

additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (42 EUR per year). Renewable energy production (RES)



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 14,000 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.11 EUR kWh-1) is 896 EUR per year.

7. Quote of farmer:

"In the future, we will move from intensive to extensive farming in accordance with Latvian historical traditions"

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Increase feed efficiency.

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially

Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The solar panels service life.







9. Economics: MACC curve LV_6 with all simulated measures





Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/



Farm LV_7 is a family farm. They support exact farming, the milking system on the farm is fully automated and they are using feeding robot. The farm is one of the first in Latvia which started to make silage from corn cobs. Farm's members are opened for innovation and are ready to try manure acidification.

For the reduction of emissions, farmers consider important would be to change the following farming practices: increase milk production per cow, icrease longevity of stock, use grass clover mix in pastures, provide lower crude protein content feed, provide higher fat content feed, compost the manure and increase soil organic matter.











Farm LV_8 has made changes in farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration. These practices and strategies are new manure storage.

In order to reduce emissions, the farmer believes that it is important to change the following agricultural activities: fertiliser and manure application and soil management.

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: animal feeding; animal breeding; machinery and fuel use and health of farmer.

In the future, the farm plans to Installing a solod slurry tank cover and use of solar panels.





7. Quote of farmer:

"Caring for the well-being of the neighbors,

we had to build a manure storage and reduce the impact on nature"



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels.

at farm. The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 14,000 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.11 EUR kWh-1) is 896 EUR per year.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Covering solid slurry storage.

Need direct injection or band spreading to be used with slurry application to maximize effects.

Renewable energy production (RES) at farm. The solar panels service life.









Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/



Lithuania



The farmer is interested in technological development and tries to introduce available innovations on his farm. To solve the manure storage problems, the farmer adopted manure separation technology, bought a smart equipment for soil fertilization.

In the comming year the farmer plan to have solar panels.











Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/



The farmer is interested in innovations and tries to implement them on his farm. He has purchased and use on his farm milking and feeding robots, manure separation to solid and liquid fractions. In this year the farmer began to use solar energy.




8. Table: Farm LT_2 emissions calculations results with Agrecalc tool

9. Economics: MACC curve LT_2 with all simulated measures





The farmer is participating in several projects aimed at solving environmental problems, although he does not pay much attention to it later. He is satisfied with his participation and the results but, after project completion date, he does not contemplate about using innovative products due to financial reasons.





efficient ones. It is planned to invest EUR 450 to save 1,800 kwh of electricity.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Increase feed efficiency.

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially.











The farm is an experimental farm of the Animal Science Institute which serves as a basis for scientific research and participate in conservation of local rare cattle breeds. Tiestall housing system is applied for dairy cows, therefore, the important goal is to renovate the cows housing facilities in near future. The farm give an attention to develop environmentally friendly systems. Participation in INTEREG project allowed to acquire a modern slurry acidification equipment to reduce ammonia emission and unpleasant odours. The equipment allows to reduce harmful emissions during slurry application to the soil and now farm is trying to find the best options, not only to reduce emissions, but also to obtain the most suitable fertilization properties, which would be optimal for the crop yield.



be implemented and how?



Increase feed efficiency.

The realization of the event does not require significant investments. The goal is to increase the feed digestability and to reduce unfed feed losses.



Covering manure storage.

The farm is planning to do a reconstruction of dairy cows housing facilities and to cover the manure tank .



Anaerobic digester.

The tool was chosen due to willingness to save very expensive energy resources and opportunity to solve manure management issues.

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool

Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.

Reduction of methane is expected to be 47%

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Significant changes in farming, but saved feed costs (17,520 EUR per year), in the same time, measure provide additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (120 EUR per year). The measure does affect also the reduction of GHG emissions (60,304 kg CO₂eq).



Covering manure storage.

Covering 5,000 m³ of manure with covering material cost EUR 60,000 that ensures nonevaporation of nitrogen and mineral fertilizer savings of EUR 11,088 per year. Lifetime of covering material 7 years. The measure does affect also the reduction of GHG emissions (48 kg CO₂eq).

6. Attention points when implementing measures

No matter how much you want to update the farm facilities, it may be difficult to implement all plans if you fail to get support from the development program.





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The farmer's focus is to become self-sufficient for the heat and electricity requirements of the dairy farm by using renewable energy.

Further, a goal is to reduce the amount of stocked slurry by covering manure storage. The farmer is considering joining a consortium biogas plant.









9. Economics: MACC curve IT_1 with simulated measure





The strategy of the farmer focuses mainly on improving rations and feed efficiency and is already putting effort and attention into cows' feeding. In particular, the effort is focused on the reduction of crude protein from concentrates by enhancing the use of amino acids.

The farmer is also oriented towards increasing the use of renewable sources, e.g. by expanding the photovoltaic plant.



Increase feed efficiency.

Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).



Reduce the amount of crude protein in the diet.

The essence of the measure is to enrich the cows' ration with amino acids while decreasing the amount of fed crude protein.



Interested in joining a consortium biogas plant.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially.

How high will be the costs for these additives, measures should generate a profit.

7. Quote of farmer:

"Environmental protection should start with the single"











The farmers are currently using multiple strategies related to animal feeding (improve feed efficiency and reduce crude protein in the ration), manure management and energy use. Their future perspectives on reducing GHG and ammonia emissions are driven by concern for farm sustainability and consumers' acceptance. They look with interest towards new strategies such as using feed additives to reduce animals' methane emissions or implementing practices related to slurry storage.













The farmer seeks animal welfare and pays attention to the farm's environmental impact. His current strategy is oriented towards increasing the use of renewable energies and decreasing energy consumption. The farmer's perspectives on future mitigation practices are mainly related to animal feeding.









The farmers are working on the improvement of the cows' rations, thus their strategy is focused on increasing feed efficiency and reducing the N-content of the feed. They also are interested in increasing fertilization efficiency.



6. Attention points when implementing measures

How high will be the costs for these additives, measures should generate a profit. Farm expenses: soil acidification; additional expenses for liming the soil.



of acidification equipment.

7. Quote of farmer:

"Farmers have a pivotal role that should be further

acknowledged and rewarded"







Picture resource: https://www.environmental-expert.com/ products/syren-mobile-acidification-system-for-slurry-552824



Deutschland



This farm is an organic experimental farm of our university (Justus-Liebig-University, Giessen). Its task is the production of seeds of important cereals, seed potato production and animal feed in a way that is as environmentally and resource-friendly as possible. This requires management that is more strongly based on the internal nutrient cycles on the farm and uses self-regulating forces on the farm as far as possible. This includes the preservation and creation of a richly structured cultural landscape with its ecologically valuable animal and plant communities. Their breeding goal is the longevity of the animals. As well as own calf and heifer rearing is pursued. The female calves are reared for breeding and fattening and the males are sold to the mast. Among other things, the scientists deal with issues of crop rotation and soil cultivation, the availability of phosphorus in the soil, the effect of biogas manure on soil, plant and environment, and the health and performance of dairy cows in organic farming. They have an own farm shop, where you can buy a.o. eggs from their hens and potatoes from their fields and milk and meat from the cows. The farm manager is very well educated and very interested in new techniques, especially to reduce GHG emissions. They build a new barn with a focus on good environmental sustainability and a good ecological balance sheet.









9. Economics: MACC curve DE_2 with all simulated measures







The farm is located in the north of Hesse. Central Germany. It is an organic producing farm. Their main business is milk production. They sell the milk to a local company and produce their own cheese. They have also some pigs, breed "Bunte Bentheimer" and some laying hens and they keep the bull calves and fatten them up to market the meat regionally and directly. All these animal products are organic and selling in a local shop at the farm. This ecologically holistic and regional approach means that this farm produces less emissions than comparable conventional farms.















This farm is located in the north of Hesse. It produces organic and has built a new composted bedded pack barn. Sustainability and environmental friendliness are very important on this farm. Through constant investments and the purchase of more efficient equipment, the farmer is trying to further reduce his emissions in the future while maintaining or increasing comfort for the animals. Because healthy animals are also a good contribution to climate protection.

2. Which mitigation measures / practices were already taken?



Built a new barn (composted bedded pack barn)



Renewable energy (photovoltaic system)

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?



Increase feed efficiency.

Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).

|--|--|

Buying a new manure application system.

less manure, smaller manure storage, less gas emission because of feces will be composted in the barn, new milking parlor -> more efficient (less energy, water use).



Energy saving equipment. Buying a new tractor.

7. Quote of farmer:

"Healthy animals are good for climate

protection"

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Increase feed efficiency.

The realization of the event does not require significant investments. Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.



Energy saving equipment.

The measure envisages changing the obsolete tractor to a modern and more efficient tractor.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Increase feed efficiency.

Significant changes in farming, which provide for the new diet, (saved feed cost - 10,693 EUR per year), additional components of diet (additional costs - 1,800 EUR per year). At the same time, changes in feed quality will improve cow welfare. However, it is difficult to express the expected effect financially.



Energy saving equipment.

Investments in technology are EUR 109,000. The measure makes it possible to significantly reduce fuel costs (EUR 3,170 per year). Financial leasing rate 4%.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Costs are the main point, how high will the savings potential of the new equipment actually be?

- Saving fuel and manure.











This farm has a composted bedded pack barn for the dry cows and transit (first 100 lactation days) cows. It's a conventional milk production farm with a biogas system. The transit cows have been kept in a composted bedded pack barn since 2013. The cow comfort is impressively high in the two-room free-walk housing system with a flat feed alley (slider manure removal) and the free lying area, which is strewn with a mixture of grain and horse manure with wood shavings at intervals of 9 days to 9 weeks. The performance parameters have developed very positively with this barn, e.g. 305-day performance averages 11,400 kg ECM per cow and the remount rate is 26.9%. The farmer focuses on longevity and improving the fitness of the cows in order to reduce the number of offspring and to keep fewer unimportant animals in total, thus producing fewer emissions and less manure. He wants to achieve/maintain high performance through high animal comfort, so that the farm is as efficient as possible. The conversion of manure into energy with the help of the biogas system and the upgrading of the soil with the help of the composting material (humus enrichment) are also positive aspects.



Adopting mechanical separation of slurry

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?



Low protein diet.

The aim of the measure is to change the rations of feed. The N content of feed ration ingredients is reduced, e.g. by reducing N content of concentrates.



Low protein diet.

The aim of the measure is to change the rations of feed. The N content of feed ration ingredients is reduced, e.g. by reducing N content of concentrates.



Acidification of manure.

The aim of the measure is to reduce N losses during manure management in barn and / or at field application. Mitigation practice include: purchase and installation of acidification equipment.

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Adding probiotics to the feeding ration.

Enteric methane inhibitor purchase and precision inhibitor distribution to reduction CH_4 .



Add nitrification inhibitor to improve organic fertilizer.

The use of urea with an inhibitor on an area of 34 ha to reduce N losses.



Use manure acidification supplements.

To reduce N losses during manure management at field application.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Adding probiotics to the feeding ration.

The cost of probiotic supplements is EUR 6,935.



Add nitrification inhibitor to improve organic fertilizer.

Additional cost of EUR 716, while ensuring a more efficient use of N, ensuring savings. EUR 491.



Use manure acidification supplements.

Manure acidification requires equipment EUR 10,000 (for 7 years), as well as sulphuric acid EUR 2,880. Generally, soil liming requires EUR 14,100. At the same time, the N stored in manure results in a benefit of EUR 32,256.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

How high will be the costs for these additives, measures should generate a profit.







9. Economics: MACC curve DE_10 with all simulated measures





Picture resource: https://www.environmentalexpert.com/products/syren-mobile-acidificationsystem-for-slurry-552824





It is an experimental farm involved in various research works and groups of breeders, particularly on the environmental themes. Motivated by a rationalization of the workforce (retirement) and by an innovative collective project optimizing manure management, the choice of methanization was made in 2019. It reduced the working time (minus 1.5 FTE) and generated an annual gain of 7,000 €. Also, the farm changed its spreading method, to maximize the manure fertilizer value by mitigating gas volatilizations. Reduced tillage practices were implemented too for economic (high fuel costs) and environmental reasons. The no-till practice has been considered but not yet implemented due to a lack of suitable equipment. Nevertheless, the wish is to keep reducing ploughing, given the good technical results obtained. The farm has also reduced its first energy expenditure item: the milk tank. In the future, they would like to plant hedges because of limited costs with important benefits in terms of biodiversity, landscape maintenance, animal welfare (shade for heifers) and for the good image brought in livestock farming in the society.



"With the societal evolutions, I am not comfortable with the spreading... I choose the time to do it depending on climate but also ... without neighbors around"











It is an experimental farm, including organic productions for part of it. It carries out various tests, in particular on GHG emissions and leguminous grazing. In this perspective, it is equipped with GreenFeed® for methane emission measurements related to the animals' feeding. The farm has recently expanded (30 ha additional). Several renovation works have been carried out (white water treatment, spreading area, ...). There are also plans to make the mobile milking robot available for GHG measurement trials on conventional batches. In the future, one of the important way which is planed will be to reduce the number of unproductive animals on the farm, in particular through crossbreeding and the fattening of culled cows.













Netherlands



There is already lots of attention on soil quality, (reduced) young stock management and increased true waste/by-product feeding. De Marke is trying to transition to circular farming: more attention to clean air and soil and more focus on being nature inclusive and climate. Important aspects are carbon sequestration and reduction of chemical agents. For this, a complete plan is being drafted, but this is dependent on how agriculture develops. Targets for this have been defined, but how to execute this exactly, is in discussion.





- Focus on longevity
 Optimal management of cows on pasture vs barn
- Summer feeding
 Reduced protein feeding (145gr RE)
- Increased frequency of mowing to decrease NDF value of the grass silage
- Biogas
- Reduction of input and increase/aimed to the use of solely by-products that cannot be used for human consumption

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?



Methane blocker as feed additive.

The essence of the measure is to ensure the enrichment of cow feed with probiotics, which improve the metabolism of cows



Low protein diet.

The aim of the measure is to change the rations of feed.



RES (solar energy) at farm.

The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels. Idea is a solar roof for new barn.

7. Quote of farmer:

"When it comes to herb rich grasslands, biodiversity is more present in the soil than above" "We can contribute more to providing food for human consumptions and use by-products for animal feed"

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Methane blocker as feed additive.

Enteric methane blocker purchase and precision distribution to reduction CH_4 .



Low protein diet.

The N content of feed ration ingredients is reduced, e.g. by reducing N content of concentrates.



RES (solar energy) at farm.

The measure envisages placing 1705 kW solar panels on the farm, which will produce 1,449,675 kWh of electricity.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Methane blocker as feed additive.

The measure is easy to implement but requires the purchase of a methane blocker EUR 9,490. There is no evidence of significant changes in productivity that would affect income, nor is there any evidence of significant changes in costs, except for the purchase of 3-NOP itself

Low protein diet effect is achieved by replacing



forage bread (EUR 17,816) with winter barley grain (EUR 42,457).

Low protein diet.



RES (solar energy) at farm.

The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 2,507,085 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.54 EUR kWh-1) is 785,825 EUR per year.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Solar panels should be placed on a roof Plant heat stress is more important than drought










Becoming completely self sufficient, trying to achieve circularity. Input of minerals via wood chips to correct for output of milk and meat. This strategy has led to 1% higher organic matter in the soil. No input of concentrates; grow own sugar beets. Low fertilizer use













Improve management – comfort dairy cows, feeding dry cows, grazing management

Good farming practice regarding longevity cows and land use.

Aim is to be as independent and self-sufficient as possible.

Sustainable position of farms in society (as an example, providing energy via H2 Converters).



7. Quote of farmer:

"When it comes to herb rich grasslands, biodiversity is more present in the soil than above" "We can contribute more to providing food for human consumptions and use by-products for animal feed"

6. Attention points when implementing measures

Energy from extra windmill and solar panels will be used to produce H2. Storage of energy is necessary because in winter period extra need for energy while most is produced in summer (solar panels).











Soil health (roots, funghi) leading to healthy feed, leads to healthy cows. Focus on realistic numbers/values. Regional feeding, local products and maintain circularity (grain mixture, alfalfa pellets). Freewalk housing system with woodchips bedding is important to create a manure product with high organic matter.



Feed efficiency is improved through

improved animal management (incl. health).



Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.

The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels.

7. Quote of farmer:

"I want a 100K L milk cow every year" "Slurry is not a natural product"

6. Attention points when implementing measures

CO2eq).

fertilizers (EUR 601 per year) due to the higher

N content of manure. The measure does affect also the reduction of GHG emissions (6,350 kg

Energy from extra windmill and solar panels will be used to produce H2. Storage of energy is necessary because in winter period extra need for energy while most is produced in summer (solar panels).









Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/



Focus on low energy and energy savings and stay on top of developments with regards the energy market providing fresh grass via summer-grass feeding and grazing (with proper monitoring and steering based on Farm Walk) vs ensiling

Focus on cow comfort and on preventive animal health. Premium rewarding via Ben & Jerry's



6. Attention points when implementing measures

It is difficult to express the expected effect financially



and be more energy aware" "Start with the small things; like changing lights and

turning on milk pumping systems at the right time"









Increase earnings, efforts and professionalisation of the (social) care farm and (passive) biogas production. Always trying to optimise farm with technical innovations.











Focus on circular farming by local cooperation with arable farmers – use of local wheat, straw, and provision of manure. And focus on longevity of cows.













Scotland



Timings of manures and fertiliser. More precision in breeding – a more elite milking animal. More sustainable less susceptible to disease more efficiency.









9. Economics: MACC curve SC_1 with all simulated measures





Picture resource: https://cometrenewables.ie/ solar-pv-for-dairy-farms/



Other alternative crops – beans (protein) home grown feeds to minimise concentrates. Looking at better use of organic manure to reduce C footprint.







Changes to be more efficient and hence more profitable as:

- Buying a slurry separator to use more efficient the slurry and manure, for example, dried manure material for bedding
- More sensor tags implemented to the herd to monitor and better control of animal health



7. Quote of farmer:

"Research needs to address efficiency that allows farmers to be financially stronger...able to implement changes... use innovating technologies to reduce the greenhouse gas or ammonia emissions"









We are considering having a Carbon audit/carbon footprint for the farm that will allow us to take the decisions about what needs to be changed in order to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from the farm. Use of anaerobic digestion (AD) on the farm.











Investing in milk vending machines, to help supply local needs directly.

Opening of farm shop selling ice cream, yogurt and eggs to locals and visitors to reduce food miles. Extension to the farm shop to sell more produce (bread and cheese, coffee, home baking) again to sustain local economy and reduce food miles.











Increase grass productivity.

Improve both the quantity and quality of the grass to improve feed conversion.



3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?



Use of methane blocker (additive).

The essence of the measure is to ensure the enrichment of cow feed with probiotics, which improve the metabolism of cows.



Covering solid slurry storage.

Use of renewable energy – methane from covered slurry tanks. Installing a tank cover conserves N in the manure and will require less purchased inorganic fertilizer.

The measure is easy to implement, but

requires the purchase of a methane blocker EUR 74,825. There is no evidence of significant changes in productivity that would affect income, nor is there any evidence of significant changes in costs, except for the purchase of 3-NOP itself.



Covering solid slurry storage.

Covering 51,410 t of manure with covering material cost EUR 15,500, that ensures non-evaporation of nitrogen and mineral fertilizer savings of EUR 118,449 per year. Lifetime of covering material 7 years.

7. Quote of farmer:

"Role for environmental co-op for collaboration between farmers to introduce climate change reduction locally"

6. Attention points when implementing measures

It is difficult to express the expected effects financially







9. Economics: MACC curve GB_6 with all simulated measures





Moved to cheese production, Small volume high value product – high premium. Increase cow numbers (up to 30). Trying to calf at 2 years old Change to twice a day milking. More solar panels – depending on battery storage. Plant up steep sided streams with trees to offset C footprint.











Stopped buying in replacements now from within herd - more efficiency. Sexed semen. Now producing beef calf (700). Decreased electricity use. Improved forage yield







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Poland



Recently, tools regulating the management of both natural fertilizers (of which the farm produces a lot - mainly manure) and artificial fertilizers have been introduced to a greater extent. Shift towards more sustainable production. However, mechanisms supporting such activities are still lacking. As a family farm, we need both substantive and financial support to introduce more sustainable tools that have a positive impact on the environment. The farm delivers milk to the local dairy, where consumers are increasingly interested in buying sustainable dairy products, which motivates us as producers to care for the environment. Thus, in the future, we plan a more conscious and sustainable production that cares for animals and the soil on which future dietary components for our animals is grown.



4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)

Increase feed efficiency.

Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced.

Methane blocker as feed additive.

Enteric methane blocker purchase and precision distribution to reduction CH₄.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic

Increase feed efficiency.

Significant changes in farming, reduced veterinary costs (135 EUR per year) and saved feed costs (180 EUR per year), in the same time, measure provide additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (900 EUR per year) and reseeding of grasslands to improve feed quality (3,315 EUR per year).

Methane blocker as feed additive.

The measure is easy to implement, but requires the purchase of a methane blocker (EUR 4,320). There is no evidence of significant changes in productivity that would affect income, except for the increase in milk fat content (EUR 2,280), nor is there any evidence of significant changes in costs, except for the purchase of 3-NOP itself. The measure does not affect ammonia emissions, but ensures the reduction of GHG emissions (73,057 kg CO₂eq).

7. Quote of farmer.

"The current prices of milk (lower by about 50 groszy per kilogram compared to last year) and the current prices of some feed components make it difficult to invest in modern technologies that take into account environmental protection"







9. Economics: MACC curve PL_1 with simulated measure







In the current situation in Poland, little attention is still paid to the impact of animal production on the environment. However, the economic situation itself (significant increase in the prices of electricity and costs of production) forces us to look for alternative sources of savings, i.e., the installation of photovoltaic panels. The farm has the 9th productivity in Europe (over 17,000 kg of milk) and is working on maintaining and improving animal welfare. The farm focuses on ad hoc activities. Thinking about the robotization of the milking process – so far not profitable due to high efficiency, there would be 40 dairy cows per milking robot. Reducing the use of artificial fertilizers on the farm.








The farm focuses on new, automated technologies for the production and management of a herd of dairy cows. Keeping animals on slats is a challenge in terms of the environment, although we do/use separation in bedding. We are thinking about acidifying slurry to reduce ammonia emissions, but we know that in the Netherlands farmers with similar farms are introducing other low-emission solutions (toilets for cows). Unfortunately, these are very cost-intensive solutions. Therefore, a comprehensive approach should be taken to issues related to the environment and broadly understood agricultural production. Both substantive and financial support is required.



3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?



Methane blocker as feed additive.

The essence of the measure is to ensure the enrichment of cow feed with probiotics, which improve the metabolism of cows.



Acidification of manure.

The main goal is to reduce nitrogen losses during manure storage and application to the soil



Construction of a biogas plant.



Precise fertilization of fields.

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)

Methane blocker as feed additive.

Enteric methane blocker purchase and precision distribution to reduction CH₄.

Acidification of manure.

The measure is relatively complex but provides a significant GHG reduction effect.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Methane blocker as feed additive.

The measure is easy to implement, but requires the purchase of a methane blocker EUR 10 400. There is no evidence of significant changes in productivity that would affect income, nor is there any evidence of significant changes in costs, except for the purchase of 3-NOP itself.



Acidification of manure.

Manure acidification requires equipment EUR 50,000 (for 7 years), as well as sulphuric acid EUR 61,992. Generally, soil liming requires EUR 55,296. At the same time, the N stored in manure results in a benefit of EUR 16,589, which makes the measure cost-neutral.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

It is difficult to express the expected effects financially.

7. Quote of farmer.

"As breeders, we are aware of the growing role of sustainable agriculture, but the question remains whether we can afford it and to whom the products obtained from this type of production will ultimately be dedicated"





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9. Economics: MACC curve PL_3 with all simulated measures







The farm, both in animal and plant production, has been pursuing a policy of care for the environment for many years. This is important, in terms of public opinion, as a farm has over 2,500 animals and is located near a medium-sized city. The farm has a very open policy, focusing on modern and innovative solutions.



Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).



Biogas plant.

Construction of another three slurry biogas plants with a capacity of 44 kW each.

Increasing the number of lactations.

from 3.5 to 4.5 (genetic selection, improved health and welfare).

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Methane blocker as feed additive.

Enteric methane blocker purchase and precision distribution to reduction CH₄.



Increase feed efficiency.

The realization of the event does not require significant investments. Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. Feed efficiency VEM -5%, same production per cow.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Methane blocker as feed additive.

The measure is easy to implement, but requires the purchase of a methane blocker EUR 114 960. There is no evidence of significant changes in productivity that would affect income, nor is there any evidence of significant changes in costs, except for the purchase of 3-NOP itself.



Increase feed efficiency.

Significant changes in farming, which provide for the reseeding of grasslands (9 750 EUR per year), additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (1 800 EUR per year). At the same time, changes in feed quality will improve cow welfare. The feed saving provides a benefit of EUR 3,240 and veterinary costs are reduced by EUR 3,593.

6. Attention points when implementing measures

It is difficult to express the expected effects financially

7. Quote of farmer.

"Even such large farms as Jarosławiec have to think about robotizing the process of obtaining milk"





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Cow maintenance technologies used on our farm require changes, but too small production (on average 10 dairy cows) does not allow us to do so. In addition, our successor, due to the small cultivation area and the captive system used in the barn, thinks about combining external work only with agricultural cultivation and not with dairy cattle breeding - thus it is difficult to think about future investments in limiting animal production on the environment. Currently, the farm still meets all the assumed environmental standards.





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9. Economics: MACC curve PL_5 with all simulated measures







Dairy production is the only source of income for the family thus we try to follow changes, including environmental guidelines for animal/dairy production. Recent investments (photovoltaic panels, irrigation) are intended to reduce production costs. We also use by-products from a nearby juice factory to feed our cows. Thus, we are trying to contribute to more sustainable milk production. The local dairy is also starting to pay attention to environmental aspects, so recently we, as breeders, have also started to think more about the environment. However, substantive and financial support is needed to meet these challenges.



4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)

Increase feed efficiency.

The realization of the event does not require significant investments. Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. Feed efficiency VEM -5%, same production per cow.

RES (solar energy) at farm.

The measure envisages placing 20 kW solar panels on the farm, which will produce 16,300 kWh of electricity.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic

Increase feed efficiency.

Significant changes in farming, which provide for the reseeding of grasslands – 2 535 EUR per year. At the same time, changes in feed quality will improve cow welfare. The feed saving and veterinary costs are reduction provides a benefit of EUR 432.

RES (solar energy) at farm.

The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 26,000 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.16 EUR kWh-1) is 2,608 EUR per year.

7. Quote of farmer:

"We are open to novelties also in the environmental aspect, but these activities should be strengthened both substantively and economically"





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9. Economics: MACC curve PL_6 with all simulated measures







The farm belongs to the Poznań University of Life Sciences and is very interested in modern technologies, used in both animal and plant production. The farm conducts research to reduce using artificial fertilizers. The legumes are used to fix nitrogen in the soil. A great emphasis is put to increase the biodiversity in the fields (both in the soil and on their surface). The farm uses biological plant protection replacing the use of fungicides with bacteria and also continually improves animal welfare and health. Energy independence and precise farming is the priority.

2. Which mitigation measures / practices were already taken?



Precision farming

(reduction of fertilization, no-tillage cultivation, humus test, field mapping)



Improvement of nutrient utilization by animals

(genetic program and selection of dietary components used)



Improvement of longevity and health of cows



Photovoltaic panels on farm buildings and in fields - 15 ha

3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?



Adding probiotics to the feeding ration.

The essence of the measure is to ensure the enrichment of cow feed with probiotics, which improve the metabolism of cows.



RES (biogas) at farm.

Construction of a biogas plant for various substrates (power 500 kW) .

- Better logistics delivering fuel to working machines, not vice versa
- Use of after fermentation products instead of artificial fertilizers

6. Attention points when implementing measures

It is difficult to express the expected effects financially

4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)



Adding probiotics to the feeding ration.

Enteric methane probiotic supplements purchase and precision distribution to reduction CH_4 .



RES (biogas) at farm.

The measure envisages placing 500 kW biogas plant on the farm, which will produce 1,520,000 kWh of electricity and 8,250 m³ bio methane.

5. Equipment involved, investment and economic



Adding probiotics to the feeding ration.

The cost of probiotic supplements is EUR 5,600. Additional work for the workers for the preparation of feed 900 EUR per year. At the same time, feed quality improvements provide EUR 1,080 feed cost savings.



RES (biogas) at farm.

The investment for biogas plant is assumed EUR 1,875,000 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.16 EUR kWh-1) is 243,200 EUR per year and methane - EUR 734,250.

7. Quote of farmer:

"The future of the farm is the automation of the milking process; there is no information about programs reducing the negative impact of animal production on the environment"





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As the largest biodynamic farm in Poland and one of the largest in Europe, we are conscious breeders in terms of environmental protection. The farm puts great emphasis on both animal welfare and soil biodiversity. The farm has been taking care of the environment for years by running ecological production. The obtained products, such as GTS-certified milk (traditional specialty guaranteed), are produced with the greatest environmental care. The farm focuses on renewable energy sources to be more pro-environmental.



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9. Economics: MACC curve PL_8 with all simulated measures







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