EuroDairy

Video case studies of practice-based innovations

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About EuroDairy

EuroDairy spans 14 countries, from Ireland to Poland, and from Sweden to Italy, encompassing 40% of dairy farmers, 45% of cows and 60% of European milk output. EuroDairy is an international network to increase the economic, social and environmental sustainability of dairy farming in Europe. EuroDairy fosters the development and dissemination of practice-based innovation in dairy farming, targeting key sustainability issues: socio economic resilience, resource efficiency, animal care, and the integration of milk production with biodiversity objectives. EuroDairy is funded by the EU Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 696364.

Contents

1. Summary of deliverable

Across participating European countries, 120 innovating pilot farmers have been recruited to the EuroDairy network. These farmers are implementing and developing innovative practice, and have been chosen as good communicators, to act as champions for the network and to inspire other farmers.

These farmers reflect a range of circumstances and farming systems: from high-input indoor systems to low-input pasture-based production. Regional differences in approaches to forage production, including variations in crop rotation, types of forages grown, fertiliser policy and harvesting methods provide a range of experience and measured performance levels which can be shared more widely. Pilot farms provide a practical context for further development, demonstration and dissemination of improved husbandry techniques.

This deliverable catalogues seven video case studies made on pilot farms, with farmers describing their systems and types of the innovations they have been implementing. These innovations fall broadly into one of four technical themes within the EuroDairy project: Resource efficiency, Biodiversity, Animal Care and Socio-economic resilience.

These videos are a valuable source of information and inspiration for other farmers interested in adopting new techniques, or thinking about things in a different way. The impact of hearing testimony from a farmer in the context if a real farm, is often greater than that of messages in written media. In addition to the videos, farm leaflets have been produced to provide background information on the farms, the innovations implemented, and the drivers behind the direction chosen by the farmer for his/her business.

2. Seven video case studies with supporting factsheets

Case study	Location	Innovations/topic	Link to video	Languages available (ST=subtitles)	Link to factsheet
Separated manure solids on Finish dairy farms	Finland	Recycled manure solids used as a bedding material and its effect on animal welfare	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/separated-manure-solids-on-finnish-dairy-farms/	Finish, English ST	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-mty-lappala/
Spanish solutions to de-intensification in dairy farming	Spain	De-intensification, pre-quota era, global markets, lean management, volatility	https://eurodairy.eu/case-studies/video-case-study-vista-alegra-farm-spanish-solutions-to-de-intensification-in-dairy-farming/	Spanish, English ST	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-vista-alegre-farm/
Driving a socio-economic resilient dairy system	Rhone-Alpes, France	Building a complete, sustainable system; feed autonomy, work organization, continuation of land restructuring and buildings; collective biogas project; Succession planning	https://eurodairy.eu/case-studies/video-case-study-gaec-du-crocomby-france-drive-a-socio-economic-resilient-dairy-system/	French, English ST (to activate via YouTube)	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-gaec-du-crocomby-2016/
Bio-security – best practice	England, UK	Best practice bio security measures to hit target of 0% mortality in replacement heifer calves	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/bio-security-best-practice/	English	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-neil-and-jane-dyson/

Man, a development and success factor	Rhone-Alpes, France	Improvement in farm self sufficiency Diversification in the range of farm products (dairy - pork and beef); Strengthening team management; achieving a good balance between working time and profit	https://eurodairy.eu/case-studies/man-a-development-and-success-factor/	French, English ST (to activate via YouTube)	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-boisy-2017/
Selling cheese through social media	Italy	New business model, direct selling, socio-economic resilience	https://eurodairy.eu/case-studies/delsante-selling-cheese-through-social-media-vendere-formaggio-tramite-i-social-media/	Italian, English ST	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-saverio-delsante/
Commercialisation and transformation, in a peri-urban area	Rhone-Alpes, France	Build sustainability into the system; pursue feed self-sufficiency using fodder species adapted to dry climatic conditions	https://eurodairy.eu/case-studies/commercialisation-and-transformation-in-a-peri-urban-area/	French, English ST (to activate via YouTube)	https://eurodairy.eu/resources/pilot-farm-factsheet-gaec-du-marjon-2016/

3. Acknowledgements