



Pilot Farm

Cees & Jitske

Sikkenga-Bleker Bedum (Gr.)

**FARM STRATEGY :**

“ Maximal use of space and environment.”

FARM CHARACTERISTICS (2011/2012):

soil type	clay
grassland (ha)	140
maize (ha)	0
other fodder crops (ha)	0
arable crops (ha)	0
cows	190
young stock	105
young stock/10 cows	5.9
quota (kg)	1,500,000
milk production (kg/cow/yr)	8,162
intensity (kg milk/ha)	12,450
concentrate use (kg/100 kg milk)	22,2
milking parlour	AMS
stable	cubicles
particulars	organic

MILESTONES:

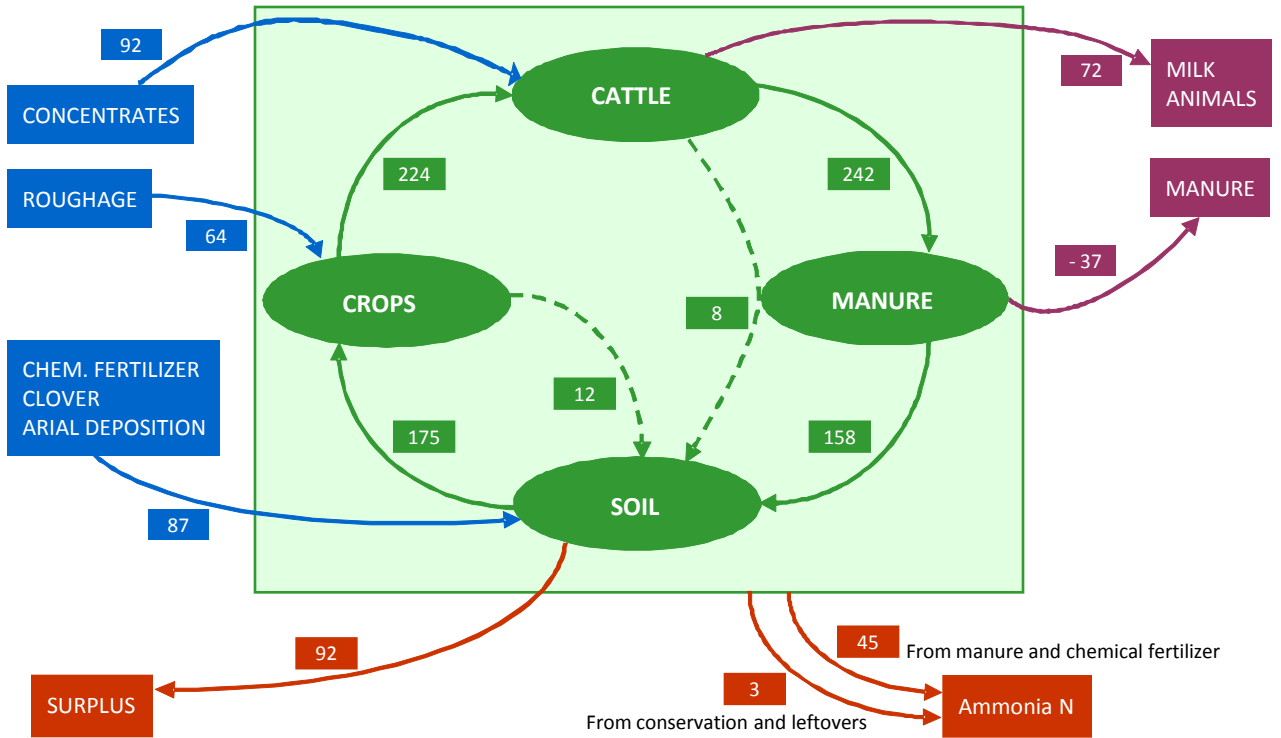
- 1983 – start farm enterprise
- 1999 – participant Koeien & Kansen
- 2005 – purchase three milking robots
- 2010 – transition to organic



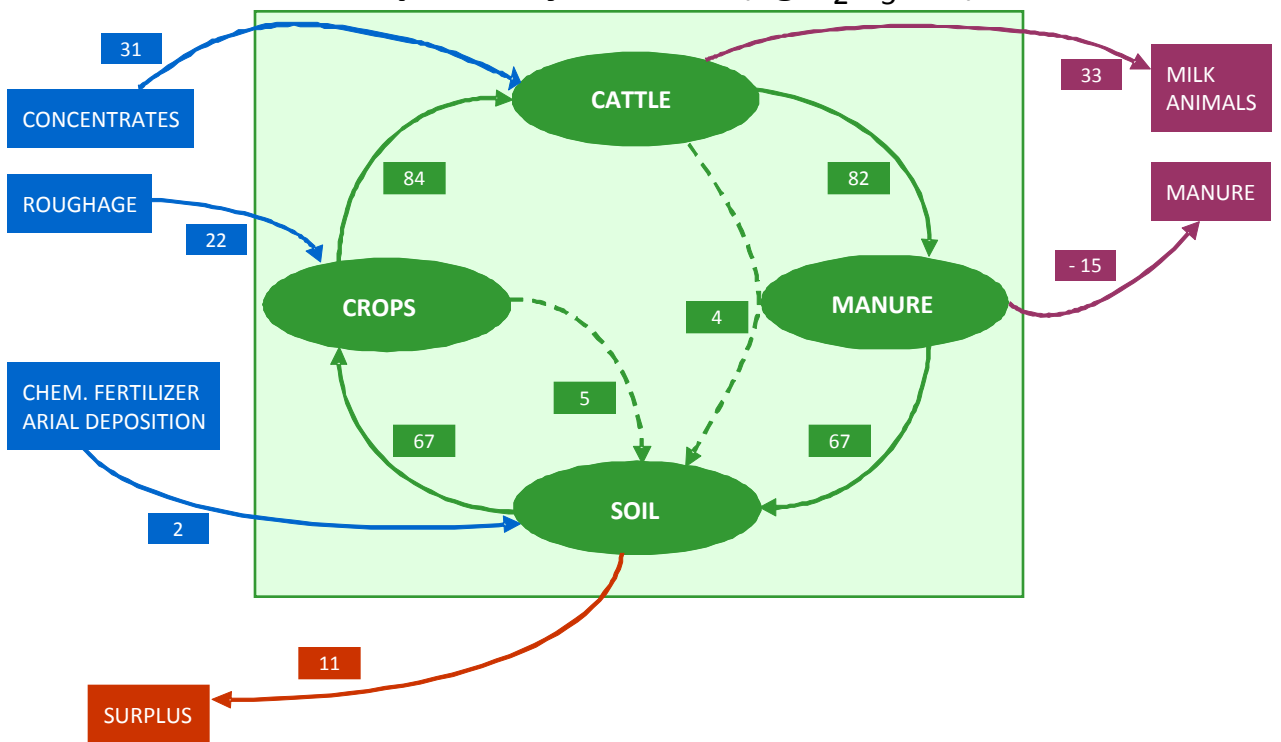
Fertilization 2011

(per ha)	Slurry	Chemical fertilizer	
	m ³	kg N	kg P ₂ O ₅
Grass	36	0	0
Maize	-	-	-

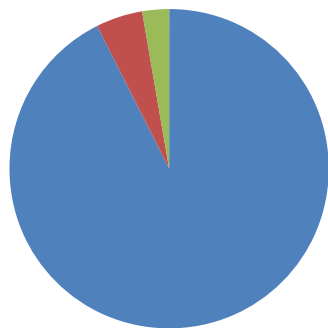
Nitrogen cycle 2011 (kg N/ha)



Phosphate cycle 2011 (kg P₂O₅/ha)



Farm economics (2011)



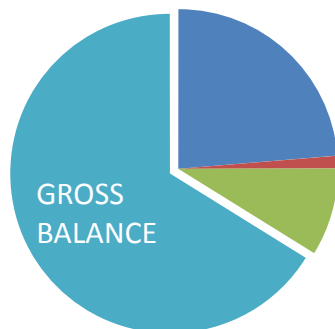
YIELDS

- milk
- animals
- other

€/100 kg milk	
YIELDS	
milk	47.7
animals	2.4
other	1.4
	51.5

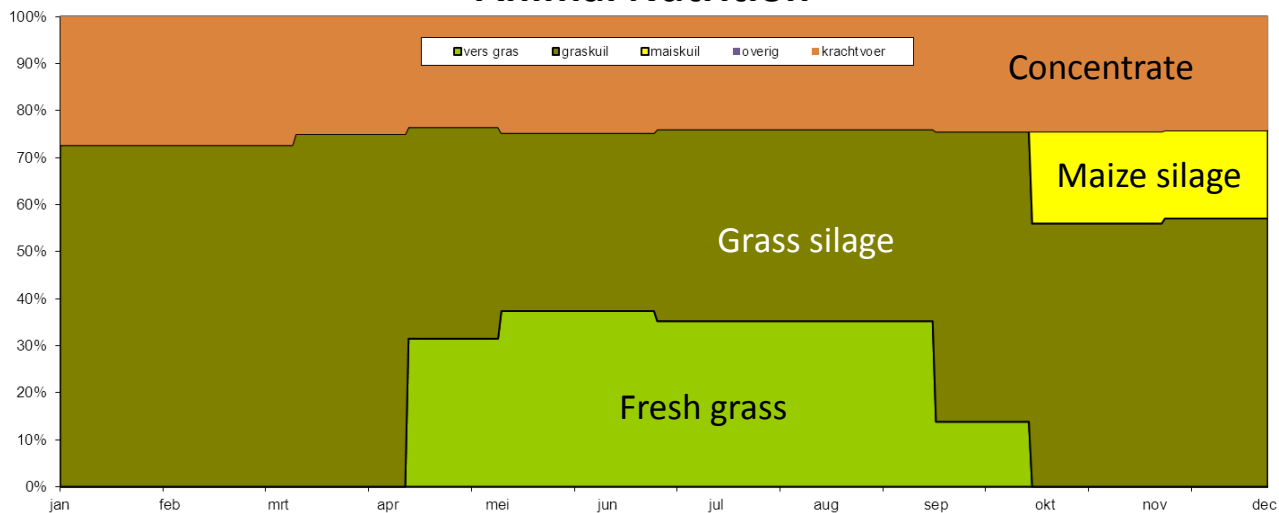
COSTS

- concentrate
- roughage
- animal costs
- crop costs

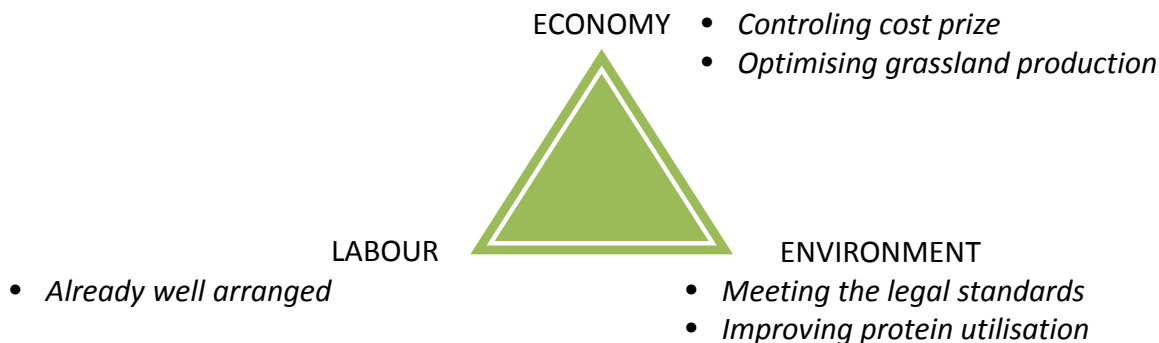


COSTS	
concentrate	12.2
roughage	0.7
other fodders	0.4
breeding	0.8
animal health	1.2
other animal costs	2.1
fertilization	-
other crop costs	-
	17.4
GROSS BALANCE	34.1

Animal Nutrition



Improvement projects



Steps

Period	Action	Improvement
2011	Reduce concentrate use per 100 kg milk	economy
2011	Partly zero grazing (reducing high protein concentrate)	environment

“Grazing and automated milking can be well combined.”



“By using a lot of automated systems we meet our target of 800,000 kg milk per labour unit.”

“Clover is the engine that keeps our organic dairy farming system up and running.”



DAIRYMAN is a European project involving 7 countries of the North West of Europe, 10 regions and 14 partners. The aim of Dairyman is to strengthen rural communities in these regions where dairy farming is a main economic activity and a vital form of land use.

DAIRYMAN pilot farms are a platform for communication and exchange where other farmers can gather information and advice.

DAIRYMAN pilot farmers are also members of the Dutch project Cows & Opportunities. In this project 16 dairy famers, KTC De Marke, Wageningen UR and advisory services cooperate. On request of the ministry of Agriculture and the Dairy Board the project field-tests, evaluates and improves the effectiveness and feasibility of the (proposed) environmental legislation in farm practice and supports the Dutch dairy sector with its implementation. Cows & Opportunities works at a future for neat dairy farmers. The results are found at: www.koeienkansen.nl (in Dutch).

Investing in Opportunities



This project has received European Regional Development Funding through INTERREG IV B.



INTERREG IVB