

Economic consequences Failure and preventive costs of disease

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Economics are important

- A farm is a (small) family business
- Decisions to reach objectives
- One objective: earning family income
- Small margins in (organic) dairy farming
 - Economic management important
- Disease prevention must be cost-effective

HIDDEN COST OF LAMENESS AFFECTING YOUR HERD

NEWS

21 MAY 2016

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The volatile market place in the dairy industry makes it more important

Dairy Event 2010: Mastitis costs farmers £200m a year

Wednesday 8 September 2010 9:48

'Mastitis is the most costly disease in dairy herds'

Margaret Donnelly 6:20 am - October 26, 2014 0 Comment

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Feed additives on tight margins

By Carole Curtis

Late-calving heifers costs £4,000/year

Tuesday 15 March 2016 6:30

Is body condition loss the hidden cost in your dairy herd? Alltech thinks it might be

Agriland Team 6:20 am - March 17, 2016 0 Comment

Invest in worm control to promote productivity in the dairy herd.

Lameness in dairy cows costs

Ciaran Moran 8:45 am - June 2, 2014 0 Comment

News

Rise of 'mega dairies' could cause crippling health problems for cows, warns charity



Team 6:05 am - May 9, 2016 0 Comment

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Where are we talking about ?

- Total costs of diseases
 - Failure costs
 - Preventive costs

Preventive costs

Labour

- Own labour
- Hired labour
- Amount
- Value

Investments

- Price
- Depreciation time
- Interest rate

Consumables

- Amount
- Price per unit

Failure costs

Treatment

- Diagnostics
- Veterinarian
- Drugs
- Labor
- Discarded milk

Losses

- Milk yield
- Growth
- Product quality
- Mortality
- Culling

New cases of disease



On-farm failure cost estimation

€/farm/year

	DE	FR	ES	SE
Mastitis	8,050	6,363	10,612	11,099
Lameness	4,578	3,391	2,564	3,357
Ketosis	2,152	642	345	2,404
(Endo)metritis	2,059	279	476	460

On-farm failure cost estimation

€/cow/year

	DE	FR	ES	SE	
Mastitis	106	113	149	124	Milk, culling
Lameness	48	53	31	33	Culling, milk
Ketosis	28	11	5	29	Milk
(Endo)metritis	21	4	9	4	Culling

Variation

- Between countries, between farms



- Room for improvement

Tool



1. Failure costs of production diseases
2. Selection of preventive measures
3. Estimate costs of prevention
4. Define effect
5. Define cost-effectivity

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New cases of disease



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Animal health management tool press continue to start


This cost-benefit module has been developed as
part of the EU 7th Framework project IMPRO

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There is more than only economics

- Decision making of farmers: to reach goals - utility
- Preferred management improvement:
 - Calf rearing: 25%
 - Udder health: 20%
 - Barn: 20%
 - Pasture: 18%
 - Claw health: 17%
- Compare with economics

Intention to improve

- Theory of Planned Behaviour
- Dairy farmers positive to improve health
 - Improved herd physical performance
 - Great cost-effectiveness
 - Improved job satisfaction
- Most would implement health improvement
 - Younger farmers
 - More use of veterinarians and other advisors
 - Supplying to specialist milk-marketing chains.
 - Compatible with everyday farming activities
 - Goals aimed at maximising the physical performance

Conclusions

- Failure costs of production diseases are large on organic farms
- Differences between farms
- Optimization needed at farm level
- Advisors should take other goals into account
- Participatory approach needed

