Sm@RT
Sm@ll Ruminant Technologies

Electronic Milk Meter

Need:

There is a need in dairy goat and dairy sheep farming to measure milk yield at individual level.
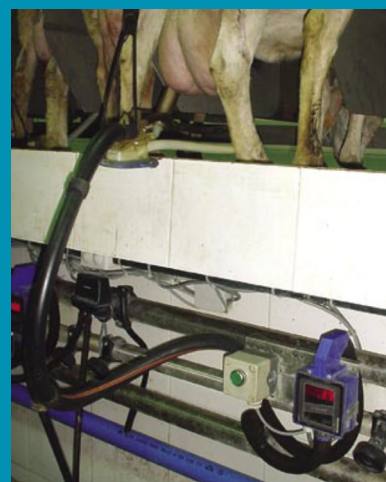
Aim:

Collecting individual animal milk production automatically (every day) and managing animal's data

Description:

- It displays easy-to-read individual data on milk yield, instant milk flow and milking time duration in clear red digits (e.g. DeLaval) to simplify effective, daily flock management

- Milk conductivity and temperature may be recorded (e.g., AfiMilk, Lactocorder)

How to Implement:

- The flow milk meter must be positioned in the milking parlour

- All animals must be tagged and have their individual information entered into a software (DeLaval, AfiMilk or others)

- You need to have water and electricity avalability

- You need to have a flock management software in order to collect and manage milk yield and animal data

- You need to calibrate the flow meters at least three time per year

This tech works for me because it allows me to select high producing animals from the flock

FARMER FROM ITALY

Country:

Italy

Production System (dairy sheep/goat)

Dairy sheep and goat

Category of Animal (ewe, goat):

Ewe, goats

Source of Information:

Attachment/links:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TeDvUnn3ViY

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gL1IYZkVsQw&t=8s

Expected Benefits:

- Milk yield and milking order individually monitored at each milking.

- Individual warnings based on milk yield drops and /or conductivity raising for an early detection of mastitis and other pathologies/distress conditions.

- Adequate feeding plans according to requirements.

Costs and Challenges

- Milk meters are quite expensive and require some maintenance. Training is necessary to learn how to use the technology and how to collect and manage data.

- Some models can be implemented to measure conductivity.

- Milking order can be related to mastitis or lamenes issues.

- Set up costs ~ 5000 Euro/cluster

- Subscription required: No

- Ease of use? Scale 1 (Complicated) – 10 (Simple)

1 2 3 4 5 **6** 7 8 9 10

- Value for money (for this type of benchmark farm)?
  Maybe

- Recommend this tool/technology for use on other
  types of farm? Maybe

★★☆ **It would take 16 years for 29% of adoption level in sheep.**

★★★ **It would take 14 years for 98% of adoption level in goats.**

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