

Questionnaire on dairy grazing:

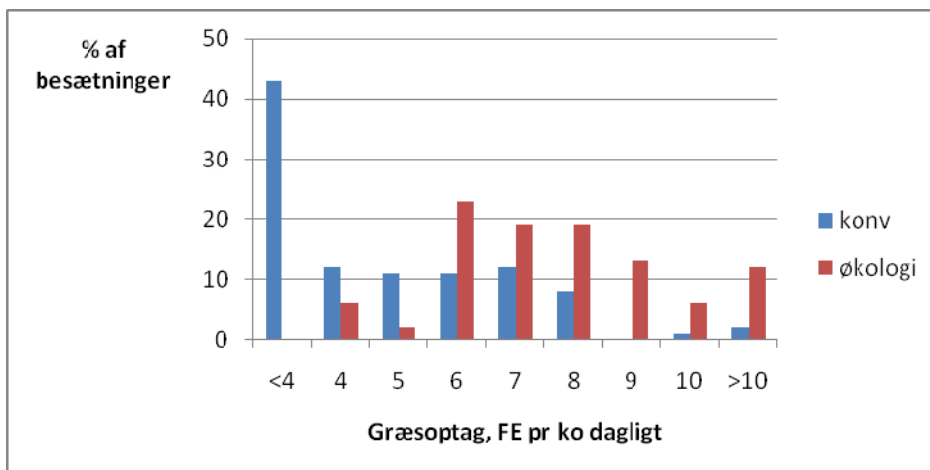
1. What is your country or region? **Denmark**

In the next question we use data from a questionnaire made in 2008 among larger herds (>100 cows) - for 2011 the proportion of herds and cows grazing will be less, perhaps 10%.

2. How much (in % of total dairy cows) is grazing of dairy cattle practiced, and how much indoor keeping? (an educated guess is fine, total should be 100%). Please find the table with results from previous years in the attachment. If you have any specific comments on these data, please let me know.

Average of all dairy Herds 42% but of dairy cows 33%;

If only conventional farms herds 35%, dairy cows 28%, and of these 1/3 will have a low average intake of pasture as only part of the herd are grazing or the season are reduced. In figure is data from 2008 from herds more than 100 cows.

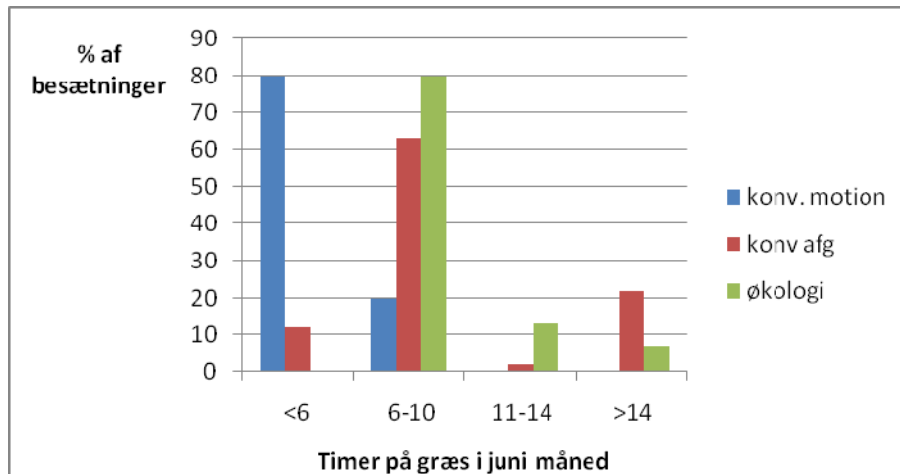


3. What is the average length of the grazing season in your country?

120 to 150 days

4. What is the average number of grazing hours per day?

Most, > 80 % of the herds will only use half day grazing (6-8 hours)
In figure is data from 2008 from herds more than 100 cows.



5. Is the percentage grazing increasing or decreasing? And at what rate?

Decreasing 5% lower each year

6. In a lot of countries grazing is decreasing. If this is true for your country: Is this a matter of concern? And if so, who is concerned? (general public, government, farmers, advisors, environmental organisations, etc. etc.)

Animal welfare organisation

7. Automated milking systems (AMS) are more and more used. Farmers with AMS experience grazing in general as more difficult. What % of the dairy cows is being milked by an AMS in your country and what percentage by a traditional milking system? (an educated guess is fine, total should be 100%)

20% of herds are milked in AMS

8. For the dairy cows milked with AMS, how much grazing is practiced and how much indoor keeping? (again, total should be 100%).

In conventional very limited <5% of AMS herds, but as also about 20% of organic has AMS these herds will use grazing

9. Farmers with large herds often also experience grazing as more difficult. What is the herd size in your country? Do you see a relation between the herd size and the percentage grazing?

Average herd size (2010) is 135 cows and increasing rapidly

In figure is data from 2008 from herds more than 100 cows showing % of farms using grazing of cows or heifers in relation to number of cows.



10. What are the main issues for farmers with respect to grazing? What do they worry about? What information would they like to receive to facilitate grazing?

From Grassland Science in Europe (2010), vol 15, 964-966

Table 2. Dairy farmers' degree of agreement with three postulates about grazing compared with non-grazing, % farms within each system.

Postulate	System	Total	Partly	Disagree	Significance ¹
Grazing will reduce milk yield	Conventional non-grazing	42	49	7	***
	Conventional grazing	19	54	27	
	Organic	10	47	43	
Grazing will reduce health problems	Conventional non-grazing	9	37	52	***
	Conventional grazing	45	41	14	
	Organic	76	18	4	
Grazing is positive for the image of dairy farming	Conventional non-grazing	36	43	18	***
	Conventional grazing	81	17	2	
	Organic	92	8	0	

1) Chi-square test of random distribution

Table 3. Dairy farmers' expectations in terms of grazing in 10 years' time, % farms within each system.

	System	Major	Some	None	Significance ¹
New technology will stimulate grazing	Conventional non-grazing	2	23	59	***
	Conventional grazing	10	34	37	
	Organic	10	43	29	
Increasing demand for 'Grass-milk'	Conventional non-grazing	9	43	35	***
	Conventional grazing	16	55	11	
	Organic	53	41	2	
Environmental legislation will reduce grazing	Conventional non-grazing	32	40	11	***
	Conventional grazing	26	37	21	
	Organic	10	39	41	
Animal welfare regulation will stimulate grazing	Conventional non-grazing	16	41	26	***
	Conventional grazing	35	45	8	
	Organic	51	33	8	

1) Chi-square test of random distribution

11. Do you have ideas about practical solutions for farmers in order to stimulate grazing, now or in a few years?

Information systems that can give specific information about intake, pasture allowance etc.

12. Do farmers use key data to optimise grazing? And if they do: which key data are used by farmers in practice? (e.g. available DM, milk produced per ha grazed grass, grass quality etc.)

Most of the daily management is done by "feeling" and "historic knowledge", but some use deviation in actual milk yield from budget at farm level, herbage intake calculate from production as guidelines for adjusting area and supplement feeding

13. Are there tools available for farmers and/or advisors which facilitate grazing in practice? (e.g. computer programmes, tables with relevant data, internet tools etc.). To what extent do farmers use these tools? (approximate figure with percentage of all dairy farms is fine)

As mentions last time we have an internet tool given data for expected grass growth and quality, but the use seem limited and mostly by farm advisors

14. Do you see innovations in grazing in your country? (e.g. new grazing systems, new advisory tools, new management tools, new key data, innovations in field measurements, etc.). Ideas about future innovations are welcome too.

15. Suggestions for the next workshop of the Working Group Grazing are highly appreciated.