



GEA CowView proven to support health and dairy management

Nowadays 24/7 real time monitoring of animals is reality. Precision livestock technology enables continuous objective observation and analysis of physiological and pathological conditions especially for dairy cows. Cow behaviour observation is a key element of precision livestock farming (PLF).

GEA CowView has proven its precision of monitoring and analysing animal behaviour in trials conducted in the EU-PLF project (www.eu-plf.eu) in farms throughout Europe. Early detection of health disorders with the help of CowView is the main reason of 'less antibiotics, lower costs and better animal welfare' (Tina Dahl, Farmer, 240 cows, Sweden).

On top, the cow positioning provides additional comfort for the user and the cows and aids in saving time. Cows can be found very precisely (up to 30cm) and in real time (update of position every second) which leads to saving time for the manager and less disturbance for the other cows within the group.

CowView supports customers with maintaining a focus on the individual animals and helps to manage every herd size individually, appropriately and economically – intuitive, precise, efficient and comprehensive.

"Since installing GEA CowView it saves me at least 30 minutes' work each day. CowView reliably acquires and stores data on the cows' behaviour and detects lameness in a cow two days before I notice it, even though I'm looking at my animals very closely! I double-checked the system fairly often at the start, but now I have complete faith in it. My cows are inseminated according to the recommendations I get from CowView – I trust the system. CowView gives me an accurate picture of the work I do. This means I can reliably assess whether I'm doing everything correctly. GEA CowView was definitely the right solution for us, we are very happy with it."

**Wim Bos, Farm Maatschap Bos-Carabain,
Zuidbroek, Netherlands**



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Clean alleys. Productive cows.

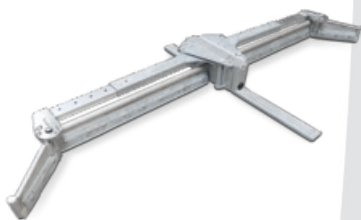
Milk quality begins long before the cows enter the parlour. It starts with clean, dry alleys. The Combiscraper is one of many solutions offered by GEA to improve the health, welfare, and milk production of your cows – simply and effectively.

With narrow dimensions, mediocre ventilation and a lot of work, the 45-year-old free stall barn at Lucky Holsteins in the Netherlands urgently needed to be replaced. Dairy farmers, Anke Zijlstra and Alice Booij, made a plan for a new barn focusing on cow comfort and simplification of work processes. “For the new construction, we chose the ideal solution for the cows: sand in the cubicles and alley rubber on the floor.”

They have been using the new barn for one year now, and are very happy with it. In the new barn, a combination of the GEA Combiscraper and manure pump is used. Fluid manure is pumped on high speed through the cross gutter, while the scraper drops off the manure/sand mixture. “This all has to be well designed and synchronized with each other and we managed to do just that. It is safe to operate and does not require a lot of maintenance,” say Alice and Anke from Lucky Holsteins. “We actually expected that we would have to replace the ropes or bearings of the scraper, since the sand in the cubicles causes more wear. However, this has not been the case. Also the rubber in the walking alley is still in its original condition. This means that the lifespan is longer than expected. With the new barn, we not only work more efficiently, but are also able to schedule our work more flexibly thanks to the automatic milking system MOne from GEA. The cows enter the new barn by themselves; they can eat, lie, milk or graze whenever they want to. They are comfortable, walk smoothly over the rubber, they have a good yield and are healthy. The cows are happy, and so are the farmers. The cows’ well-being and comfort are important to us, but of course our own well-being is, too. The result is a beautiful barn where both us and the cows find the right conditions to work well.

We enjoy it every day.”

Alice Booij and Anke Zijlstra, Lucky Holsteins, Netherlands



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