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► **To cite this version:**

Jean-Louis Fiorelli, Thomas Puech, Morgane Le Bris. Pasture Utilisation in a self-contained organic dairy grazing system. 27. European Grassland Federation General Meeting - Sustainable Meat and Milk Production from Grasslands, 2018, Cork, Ireland. , pp.1, 2018. hal-02790967

**HAL Id: hal-02790967**

**<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02790967v1>**

Submitted on 5 Jun 2020

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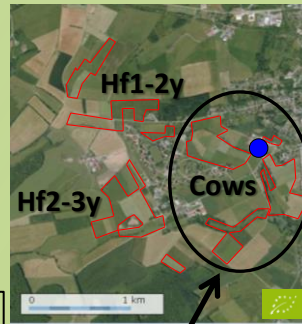
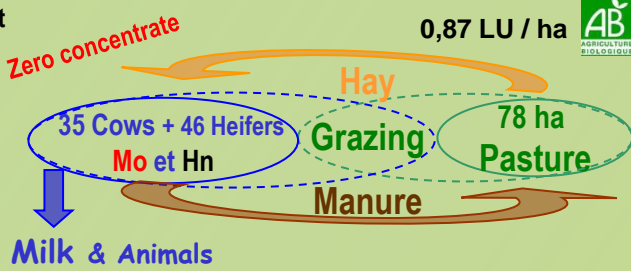
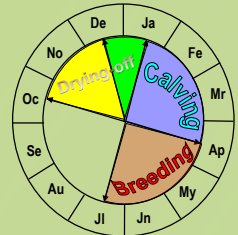
# Pasture Utilisation in a self-contained organic dairy grazing system in northeastern France

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An exclusively grass-fed dairy herd farmed from permanent pasture over 11 years...

## Dairy Herd Management



Year	Seasonal rainfall		
	Spring	Summer	Fall
2005	Normal	Normal	Normal
2006	Normal	Normal	Normal
2007	Normal	Normal	Normal
2008	Normal	Normal	Normal
2009	Normal	Normal	Normal
2010	Normal	Normal	Normal
2011	Normal	Normal	Normal
2012	Normal	Normal	Normal
2013	Normal	Normal	Normal
2014	Normal	Normal	Normal
2015	Normal	Normal	Normal

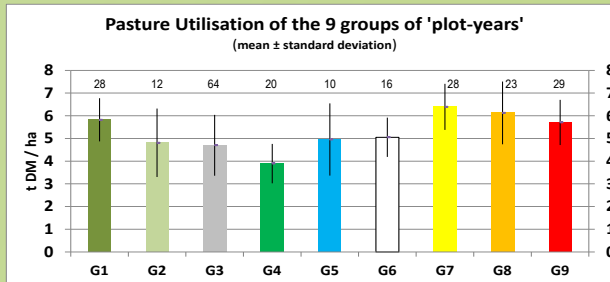
Legend: Dry (Yellow), Normal (Green), Rainy (Blue)

Long-term experiment, Rotational grazing, 252 Grazing days per year (from Mr to No) 1,35 Cow / ha, 540 Kg DM hay / cow at grazing (6y /11) [vs 1482 Kg], 6070 Kg Milk / ha

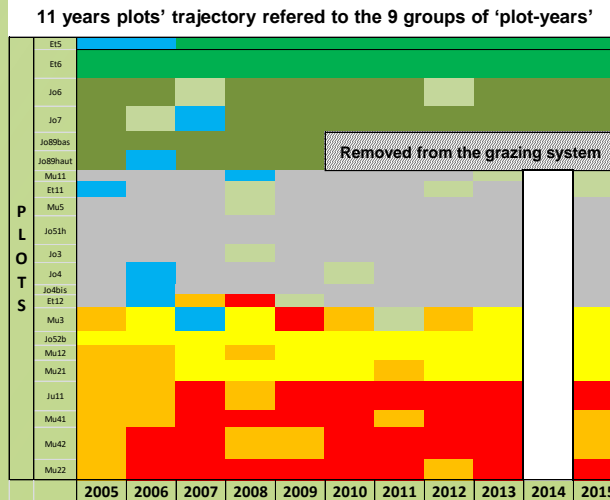
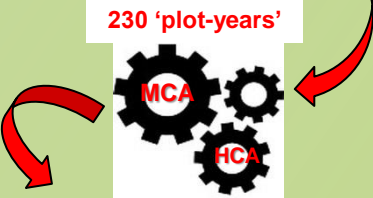
22 pasture plots / 34 ha

## How to sum up the pasture utilisation experience issued from 11 years and 22 pasture ?

→ Describe jointly spatial and temporal variabilities of grass utilisation (assessed by 'HerbValo model' - Delagarde *et al.*, 2017) according to the specific plots features, climatic variations, grazing management and hay harvesting



Overall mean PU over the 11 years was **5.28 ± 1.38 t DM ha<sup>-1</sup>**.  
 Across plots and years total PU ranged from **2.26 to 9.07 t DM ha<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>**.  
 Half of the 'plot-years' stands a grass intake larger than 80% of their PU: they were **just grazed** but some were **cut for refusals** after grazing.  
 The other plots were both **grazed and cut for hay**.



G1, G3, G7 and G9 gather 65% of the 230 'plot-years' and give an accurate idea of the **two main ways of pasture use**:  
 G1 and G3 were **only grazed** plots with eventually cuts for refusals whilst G7 and G9 were **mainly cut for hay then grazed**. The latter were spread with manure accordingly to the implemented fertilisation strategy.

Multivariate analysis and clustering provide a synthesis of the 'plot-years' diversity: **9 groups of units** to pool the plots with a same grazing function

- Only grazed -cut for refusals if any-
- Early grazed, cut then grazed
- Cut for hay then grazed

From year to year the **plots nearly kept the same place inside the grazing management** except in 2014 which was such a very special year that 16 out of 20 plots consist in a specific group.

Such a look at the pasture diversity could provide the farmers better skills for grazing management capitalising on the experience of variability