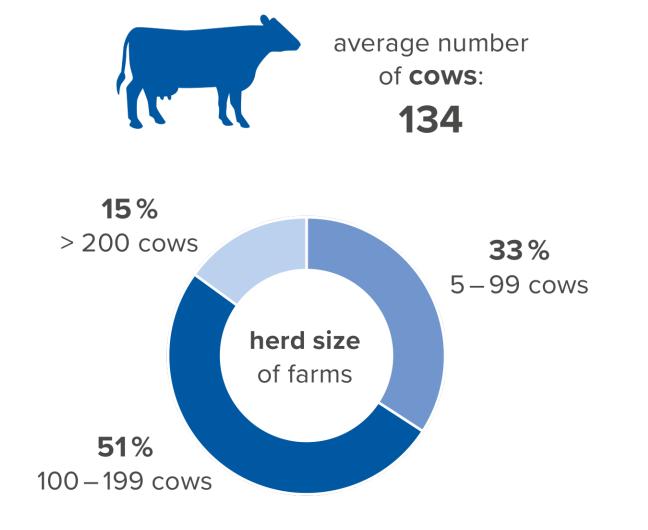
## QM-Dairy Sustainability Tool 2.0: Results at a glance

Between July and November 2021, 1,142 of our milk suppliers participated in the survey. The participation rate is 60 percent. The response from the survey covers about 65 percent of the milk volume processed by Molkerei Ammerland. Compared to the first survey we conducted as part of the pilot phase the participation rate increased. The Thünen Institute of Farm Economics carried out the scientific evaluation. This fact sheet presents a selection of the results.

The QM-Dairy Sustainability Tool 2.0 aims to record sustainability performance on individual farms in detail using a scientifically based questionnaire. For more detailed background information on the tool, please visit the QM-Milch e. V. website (German only).



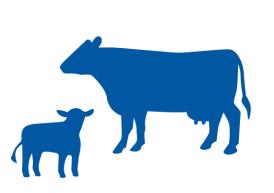
### Characteristics of the dairy farms surveyed





share of farms with primary focus on milk production: 96%

share of farms that mainly use own offspring for breeding: 95%



#### average land area

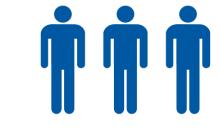


agriculturally used area:

114 ha (282 ac)

grassland share (permanent and temporary grassland):

72%



number of **people employed** on average on the farms:

3



average **age** of farm manager:

48 yrs.

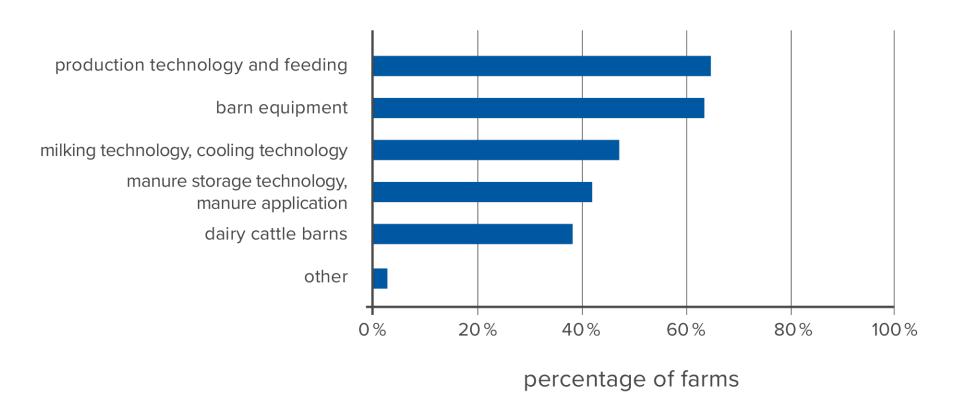
## **Mey results economy**

For a sustainable and animal welfare-oriented farm development, our milk suppliers make extensive investments when it comes to modernizing their farms. In addition, our farmers take advantage of various opportunities to build up and deepen appropriate knowledge against the backdrop of constantly developing requirements.



87% of farms invested in modern equipment in the last five years. Mostly, this investment was in feed production technology and feeding as well as barn equipment.

### Where farms have invested in the last five years:





44% of farms participated in dairy farm-comparisons in the last three years in order to systematically analyze and evaluate their farms based on key figures. Farm-comparisons are an essential basis for business management decisions.



86% of farms made use of consultancy services in the past three years to increase their knowledge due to technical advances or changes in the general conditions, for example. In particular, farms received advice on production technology. Consultancy services focused on feeding (used by 75%), fertilization (68%) and crop production (48%).

In order to regularly deepen or broaden knowledge and know-how, just **about half (46%)** of the farm managers participated in **external trainings**.





Our milk suppliers act responsibly in and with nature – for example, by cultivating grassland, maintaining landscape elements or measures for more biodiversity, they help shape the landscape. Measures and working methods that protect the climate are a key part of this.



78% of farms did not convert permanent grassland into arable land within the last five years, in 49% of farms the share of permanent grassland with conversion for reseeding was below 10%.



80% of farms did not use pesticides or only used them selectively on more than 90% of their grassland. In terms of the total grassland area, 94% were not at all or only selectively treated with pesticides.



95% of farms carried out supporting measures for flora and fauna, e.g. the construction of dry stone and natural stone walls, insect houses, perches for birds of prey, nesting aids or wildlife friendly mowing.

66% of farms implemented maintenance measures on their own landscape elements or free of charge on landscape elements of others.

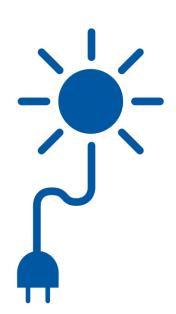
23% of farms participated in contractual agri-environmental and nature conservation measures.





18% of farms used slurry or manure in a biogas plant.

48 % of farms applied manure/digestate predominantly (i.e. at least 80%) with emission-reducing technologies, e.g. banded or striped on the soil and/or directly into the soil and/or with other application technologies in case of bare soil and with direct incorporation.



54% of farms produced renewable energy or are actively involved in its production.
More than half (51%) generate electricity from solar power systems on their own farms.

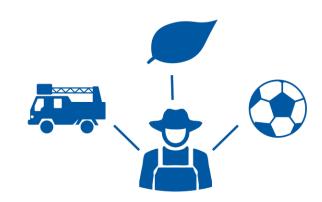
For energy saving at milk cooling, **93**% of farms rely on **heat recovery** and use the energy of excess heat, for example, for cleaning the milking equipment.

11% of farms participated in energy audits in the last five years to identify potential savings and improve energy efficiency.





By engaging in voluntary work alongside their professional activities or bringing agriculture closer to their guests at farm festivals, our milk suppliers are an important pillar of community life, especially in rural areas. At the same time, they are also employers and train young people.



65% of farm managers are engaged in voluntary work. Time spent on voluntary work accounts for an average of **113 hours per year**.



The engagement is done despite a **heavy** workload: On 28% of the farms, the farm manager has only one day off per week from time to time, while on 62% of the farms, the farm manager works **every day** of the week.



29% of farms have employed at least one **apprentice** and/or **trainee** in the last three years.

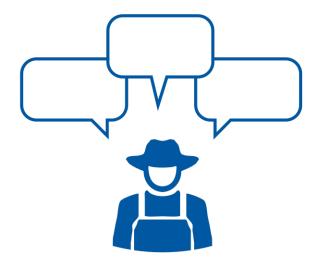
2% of farms support at least one person with special limitations or a **handicap**.

At **54%** of farms, employees have the opportunity to shape the daily work routine actively with their own ideas.

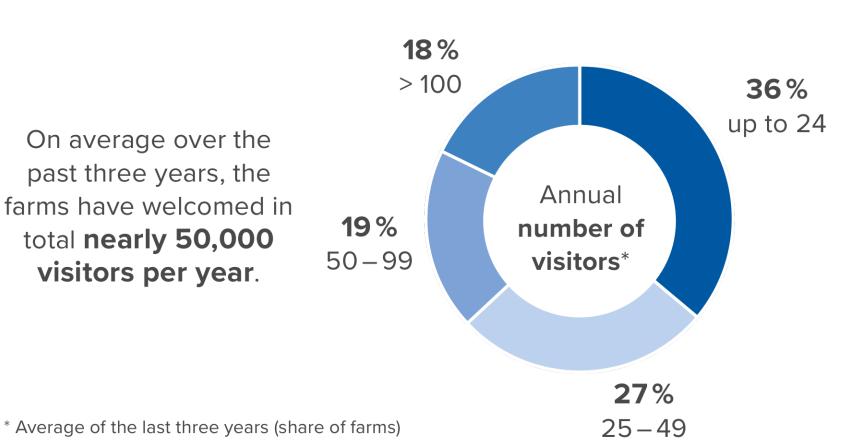
13 % of farms also have a reward system for good ideas and suggestions.



**32**% of farms are actively engaged in **public relations** and explain the work of a dairy farm to guests.

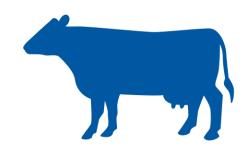


On average over the past three years, the farms have welcomed in total **nearly 50,000** visitors per year.



# Key results animal welfare

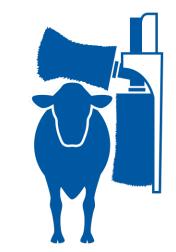
The welfare and needs of the cows are top priority for our milk suppliers. This is reflected in various aspects: From freedom of movement in housing stalls to pasture management to increasing animal welfare through cow comfort facilities.



The predominant type of housing is loose housing: **97**% of cows are housed in **freestall barns** with enough space for walking, eating and lying down.

74% of farms offer grazing to cows.On average, cows have access to pasture for 11 hours on 174 days a year.





Facilities of **cow comfort** to increase animal welfare are wide spread: **85**% of farms offer opportunities for coat care and skin massage, for example, with **rotating cow brushes**.

**83**% of farms have **thermoregulation** facilities (for example: fans) to ensure sufficient air circulation in the barn.

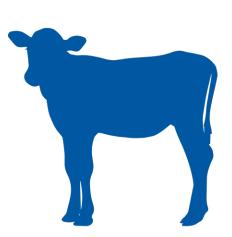


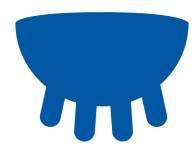


On **53**% of the farms, a **veterinarian** or other consultant with a focus on animal health assists with preventive health care and herd management through regular visits.

On a further **38**% of farms, a corresponding expert is consulted **as needed**.

**55**% of farms use **hornless genetics** and thus prevent
injuries that the animals can
inflict on each other, for
example to muscles or skin.





**87%** of farms use antibiotics for udder infections on an **individual animal basis** and in a **targeted manner**. An anti-biogram is usually performed prior to each treatment to ensure efficacy and to rule out resistance.