









3 ways to view data





Our Customers

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Feed & Nutrition













— innovators in agriculture —

Where did it come from?

- eCow founded in 2007 by Professor Toby Mottram
- In-dwelling rumen pH sensor first developed at Silsoe 2003, first prototypes lasted one week
- A pH and temperature measurement bolus born from a research project with Pfizer
- Has undergone multiple design iterations and improvements to maximise life and durability



Inventor - Professor Toby Mottram Royal Agricultural University



- Breath Sensing
- Milk Progesterone Analyser
- Lameness Detection
- Calving Detection
- Rumen pH Monitoring







3 data outputs



What have we seen from UK herds

- May 2013 limited experience in commercial herds
- TCF, MVF & ebvc farms 12 farms various types for trials
- Now up to 30+ farms
- Roughly 3-5% of cows within groups monitored
- Original trial turned into offer to be exclusive sales channel



Monitoring intake - grazing



Different systems show distinct patterns



Daily Routine





Robot routine



Grazing with compound



Infections seen in temp and pH





Transition Monitoring



Transition Monitoring



So what?

Bolus as an intake monitor



Bolus can tell the quality of forage in pH

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- This can have a direct impact in milk in the tank
- Changing management can increase time to good grass

The importance of daily routine



Rumen pH determined by: FERMENTABILITY X INTAKE X NDF X ROUTINE

Un-proving Acidosis as much as proving it

The following herd has had cow health issues for some time These are often blamed on the diet and low pH What have the boluses said?



Also have the tools to fix SARA

Fibre added



				ESCATED LAND
22-Nov-13	30-Oct-13		Production	22-Nov-12
339	337	cows	Total herd size	312
181	176	days	Days in milk	198
283,000	312,000	l/herd	Estimated monthly milk sales	248,000
32.6	34.3	l/cow/d	Milk per cow per day	29.7

Milk per cow per day + days in milk







Milk per cow per day + days in milk



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Customer testimonials

"At the weekend I used to get up earlier and do the scraping and feeding routine a lot quicker. That meant cows were being held in the cubicles after milking for less time, so they had longer access to feed," explains Mr Luxton. "We've now changed the weekly routine so it's the same as the weekend. That means cows have got an extra hour feeding rather than lying. By making a small tweak to routine and without spending any money, we're getting one litre a cow a day more. At 34.5p/litre, that's significant."

Mr Morgan says that at £450 each, the boluses aren't cheap, but believes the savings made on feed and improved cow health justify the cost. "From a nutritional point of view you don't know what's going on in the rumen. You can look at the muck but it doesn't give the whole picture. The bolus does that."

tom mann @tommanntcf 24 Jul @TCFeeds @FarmBolus Every dairy farm should use ph boluses, from robots to grazers how do your cows react to feed?

View conversation

Optimise energy intake and still avoid acidosis

Bolus set to improve rumen health and drive production

et and nutrition specialist Richard Vecqueray is employing a new tool which is helping high yielding cattle to 'walk the tightrope' of early lactation. At a time when the balance between starch and "The key to high milk yields is starch intake as this drives blood glucose which fuels milk production," he said. "But too much starch will lead to a high concentration of acid in the rumen which will reduce pH and kill off the beneficial fibre-digesting



cases, will cause the high genetic merit cow to fall into negative energy balance and suffer ketosis. "By using a pH bolus, we are able to walk that tightrope between these two situations," said Mr Vecqueray.

web: www.ecow.co.ukmail: sam@ecow.co.ukcall: 07887 988345



Rumen pH determined by

- Fermentability
- Intake
- Routine
- Interaction



- Each system has a specific pattern
- Each farm has a specific pattern
- The cows telling us when and how they feed allows specific improvements to be made
- The 'when' and 'how' as important as the 'what' Slug feeding is not confined to concentrate
- The dynamics of feeding vitally important these determine how much fermentable feed a cow can tolerate and so her production level



Inventor - Professor Toby Mottram Royal Agricultural University

- Milked first cow age 9
- Relief milking 1970s
- 130 cows- Islay 1977-79
- 140 in Somerset 79-85
- Open University Study 1980s
- Goat milking 88-99
- Robotic Milking 1989-1995
- eCow 2007-13
- RAU from 2012



