

**Spend your
time wisely**

03

By automating repetitive work, you have more time for areas where you see opportunities.

**Smart feeding
works**

05

Feeding cows a precise ration that fits to their nutritional requirements several times a day has a positive influence on animal health.

**The Lely Vector
feeding system**

07

How the Vector loads, mixes and doses the rations at the right moment for the right animal groups.

Automatic feeding



*Automatic feeding
is ready for you*

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“In the past we spent 3.5 hours to feed 120 cows with a mixer wagon. Now we feed 300 cows in only 2 hours per two days. But labor saving was not decisive for me.”



Claas Tiedemann
Agathenburg, Germany

“Our mixer wagon became too small because of the growth of our herd. That is why I compared a cost calculation of a larger mixer wagon with a self-propelled mixer wagon and an automatic feeding system. The time savings of an automatic feeding yields is nice, but it was the savings on fuel and concentrates, because of a better use of the roughage, which made us decide for automatic feeding.”

Your feeding strategy has a significant impact on your results

More frequent feeding and feed pushing really pays off. It stimulates frequent consumption of feed throughout the day and night which results in a higher feed intake of the herd. This has a positive effect on animal health, fertility, production and also on your finances.

The pH level in the rumen drops considerably if a large amount of quickly fermentable feed is ingested once or twice a day. This can cause subclinical rumen acidification, which damages the rumen wall. The forage passes through the rumen too quickly, because bacteria that ferment the raw fibres are inactive if the pH level is too low, and results in less digestion of roughage.

The ideal situation is for cows to eat 10 to 14 smaller portions every 24 hours to maintain proper and stable pH levels, so that fodder is used optimally. More frequent feeding and pushing feed stimulates cows to visit the feed fence more often to fill up the rumen again. Offering smaller portions reduces the possibility of selecting feed, which also has a positive effect on pH stability in the rumen.

In addition, it means more frequent consumption of fresh and tasty feed at the feed fence.

Automating this repetitive work puts the possibility of regularly feeding and pushing feed within your reach, making your daily routine more flexible, the feeding process more efficient, and your business more successful.

Smart feeding works



Smart feeding works

Frequent feeding has a proven positive effect on overall cow health and milk yield. Mixing the right portions in the right quantities and releasing them just at the right moment requires knowledge, understanding and time. Automatic feeding and innovative equipment take over the day-to-day feeding of the herd, ensuring the utmost efficiency, while improving animal health.

Each group an own ration

Lactating cows have different nutritional requirements compared to dry cows and youngstock, and dry cows vary in their needs depending on their stage of progression. Ideally, a specific ration should be calculated for each group to achieve the best results. Automatic feeding makes it possible to load, mix and distribute small batches for small animal groups.

Good for rumen health

Frequent feeding leads to a stable pH level in the rumen and good rumen health. A cow gets more than half of its energy requirements from fatty acids left over from fermented carbohydrates. If the pH level in the rumen is low, these micro-organisms become ineffective. Multiple, smaller meals per day keep pH levels stable, which means cows use the feed they eat more efficiently.

The importance of precise loading

Feeding to individual (group) needs means feeding precisely. This starts with the loading of the feed components. The more exact they are weighed, the more accurately the group of cows can be fed. Through smart and exact software, automation makes it possible to load the correct weight per feed component very precisely. This assures a well-built ration. Every day regardless of the frequency, you feed the cows.

"The production increased with 3 Kg per cow per day just by feeding them more often."

"When we moved the cows to our new barn I fed them with a mixer wagon until the move of the vector was finished. During this period the production dropped with 3 Kg.

When the Vector took over the feeding in the new barn the production increased again. Thanks to this move, I can now say with certainty that the Lely Vector gives us 3 kg of milk per cow extra per day."

Henk Vijverberg
France



Automatic feeding is ready for you

The Lely Vector takes a next step in automatic feeding. An evolution that has everything in it that we have learned since its introduction in 2012. With the experience of over 500 customers worldwide, we kept relied on proven practices, but also improved a large part of the system. The combination of the proven principles of automatic feeding and our focus on animal health, reliability and cost efficiency has resulted in an automatic feeding system that is ready for you.



Storage for 3 days

The kitchen is an open space without obstacles where you can store multiple types of feed. Every feed type has its own location, which is easy to define and change. Proper ensiled roughage remains fresh for days because it is stored in blocks and there is enough room to stock feed for up to three days in advance.



Precise loading of all kind of feed types

The feed grabber or tower silos provide the opportunity to select all kind of feed types, even in small batches for small animal groups. The feed grabber always grabs from the highest point, estimates the weight and learns by itself how deep to grab the correct quantity. It loads the various components in the best possible order to decrease the time and energy that is needed for the optimal mixing result.



Never too much or too less feed

During feed pushing, the Vector measures the amount of feed in front of the feed fence with a feed height sensor. Based on these measurements, the Vector loads the required ration and delivers it to the location in need of fresh feed. Feeding based on feed heights instead of feeding times prevents excessive or insufficient feed in front of the feed fence.



Easy management system

The development of beef cattle is aimed at growth. The daily ration has to be adjusted accordingly. With the Lely Vector, entering a feeding plan per group of beef cattle is simple. If a group of animals switches to a different ration, the Lely Vector adjusts the ration and gives the animals the right feed in the right dose. Controlling the machine can be done easily with an app on your phone. Changing rations, feed types and feed settings as well as monitoring and fine-tuning the results of your feeding strategy can be done with the Lely Horizon management program. This helps you make the right decisions based on the right information.



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