



253 Industry Innovation
in case of heat, feed more often and clean boxes

by Gezondheidsdienst voor Dieren (GD)

In **Significant Impact Groups:**

Feed / gut health \ Feeding management Housing and welfare

Species targeted: Dairy;

Age: Adult;

Summary:

A cow can suffer from heat stress from 21 degrees. To prevent this, dairy farmers should not feed at the hottest time of the day, according to the Gezondheidsdienst voor Dieren (NL).

To keep the feed tasty and fresh, it is advisable to provide fresh feed several times a day (at least twice) and to (mechanically) ventilate the barn well over the feed alley.

In order to prevent rumen acidification, which occurs more often in heat, a buffer can be added in consultation with the feed supplier in order to maintain the acidity level in the rumen.

Bring the cows inside at the hottest time of the day and make sure there is unlimited water available.

Clean cubicles are also necessary in case of heat. Bacteria in cubicles thrive in the heat and grow exponentially. There is then an increased risk of *Kiebsiella* mastitis. Therefore clean the cubicles extra often.

253 Industry Innovation - in case of heat feed more often and clean boxes by Gezondheidsdienst voor Dieren (GD)

Where to find the original material:

<https://www.nieuweoogst.nl/nieuws/2020/05/19/bij-hitte-vaker-voeren-en-boxen-schoonmaken;>

Country: NL