



A Green Future for European Dairy
hosted by Dairy Industry Ireland



Together, beyond animal health

Welfare of Dairy Cows

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European Dairy Association Convention, Dublin Castle, 2018



Global context : Structure the issue

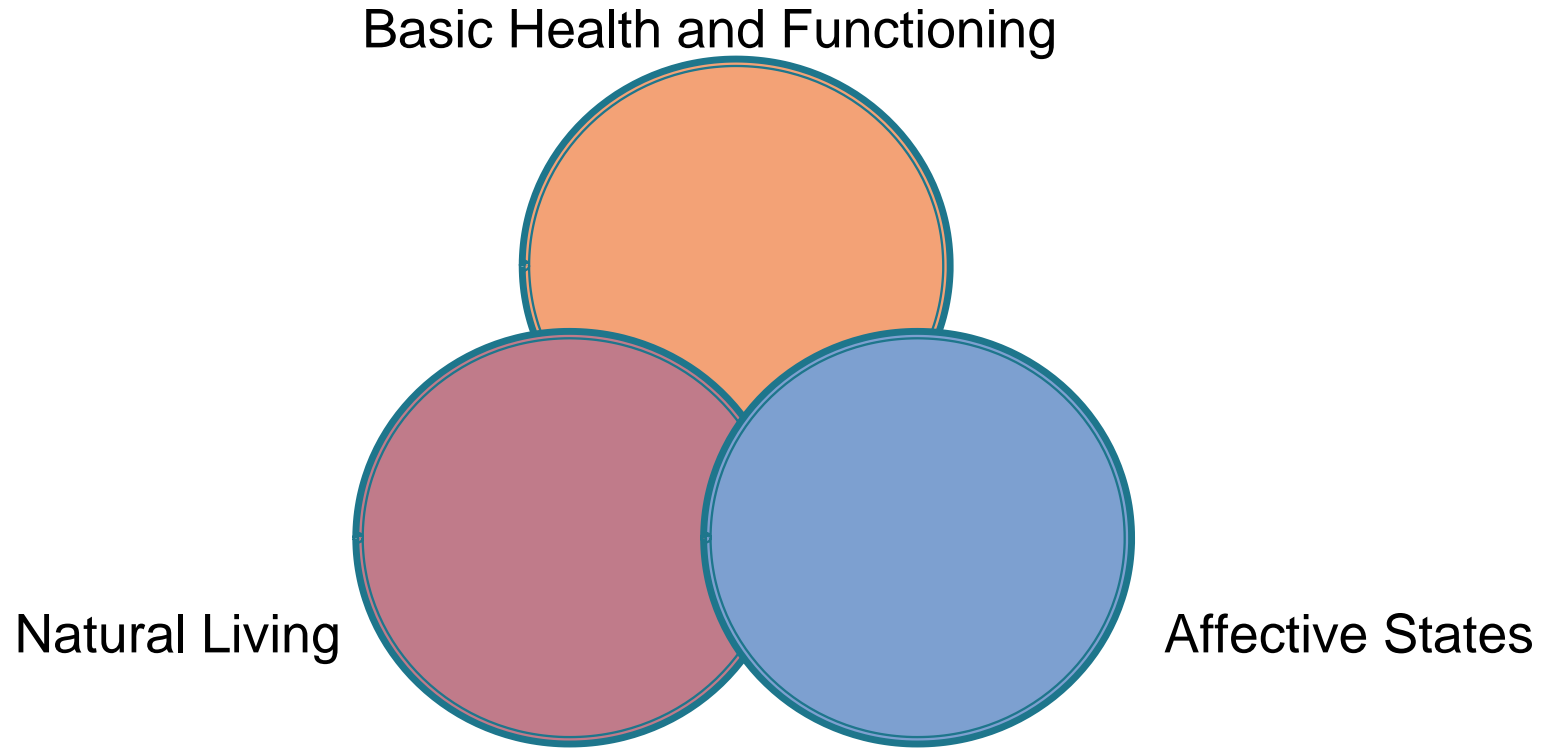
Human – Animal Relationship
questioned : antispecies, vegans, etc

Consumer desires on dairy farming
small size, grazing, traditional
feeding, etc..

True welfare of dairy cows



Global context : David Fraser's seminal paper



Global context



Global context

- OIE Standard for Dairy Welfare
- Reinforced by ISO (International Standards Organisation) standard
- OIE standards are recognized by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and serve as basis for national legislation

- Animal-based vs Resource-based



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ ANIMALE**

A very strong demand from citizens, catalysed by abolitionist associations

Paris 2015 : in the subway



Her Mother's Day
dream

Watch **her baby** grow

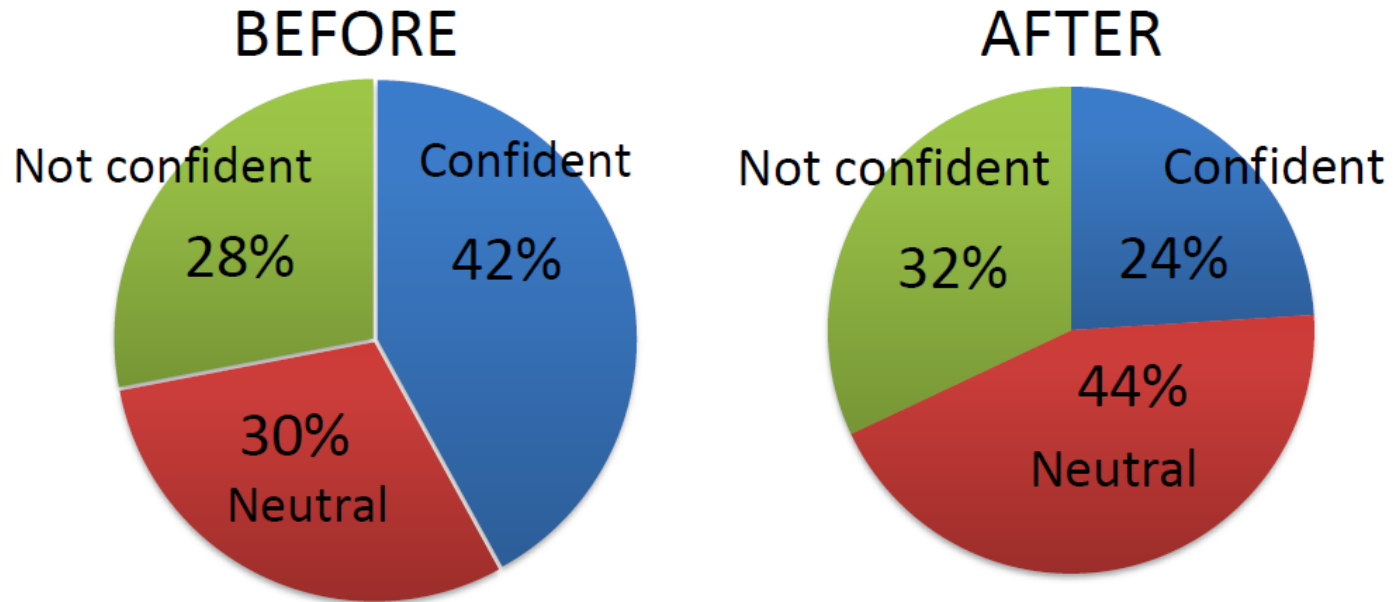
But that won't happen

C'est qui le patron ?

- Producer price : a price that allows the producer to get replaced and have free time
- Origin of milk : France
- Grazing : 3 to 6 months a year
- Feed :
 - No GMO,
 - feed favouring Omega-3 in the milk (alfalfa, trifle)
 - Local feed (less than 100 km)



How confident are you that dairy cattle have a good life?



“The tour appeared to satisfy values around humane care, but failed to meet values for natural living”

EU situation

- European Convention on the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes (1976)
- Directive 98 /58/EC on the protection of animals kept for farming purposes
- Lisbon Treaty 2009 recognizes animals as sentient beings

- EFSA scientific opinion on dairy welfare 2009
- EU “ Welfare quality” Network
- EU Overview Report Welfare of Cattle on Dairy Farms 2017
- EU Animal Welfare Platform 2017

ANIMAL WELFARE

Main achievements

EU Platform on animal welfare

[Platform Members](#)[Platform Meetings](#)[Resources library](#)[Thematic sub-groups](#)

EU strategy on animal welfare

EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare

Animal welfare in practice

Legislative aspects

EU platform on animal welfare

One of the key priorities of the Commission is to promote an enhanced dialogue on animal welfare issues that are relevant at EU level among competent authorities, businesses, civil society and scientists.

To achieve these priorities the Platform will assist the Commission with the development and exchange of coordinated actions on animal welfare with a particular focus on:

1. better application of EU rules on animal welfare, through exchanges of information and best practices and the direct involvement of stakeholders,
2. the development and use of voluntary commitments by businesses to further improve animal welfare,
3. the promotion of EU animal welfare standards to valorise the market value of the Union's products at the global level.

The tasks and operations of the 'Platform on Animal Welfare' have been set out in [Commission Decision of 24 January 2017](#).

Call for applications (CLOSED)

The Commission called for applications from business and professional organisations, organisations from civil society and independent experts from academic and research institutes with expertise in animal welfare.

Interested organisations and experts operating at EU-level were invited to apply **until 6 March 2017**. The inaugural meeting of the platform was held in Brussels, on **6 June 2017**. You can check the [Platform Members at this](#)





DG Health and
Food Safety

OVERVIEW REPORT

Welfare of Cattle on Dairy Farms



○ Taper ici pour rechercher



12:55
11/11/2017

Animal Welfare Platform / EU Animal Welfare Strategy

- Clear Mandate to the Member State and the Private sector to get things done
- Challenges ahead
 - Uniformity of standards ? Member States may adopt different approaches
 - Some consumer demands are a distraction from fundamental welfare issues
 - Sustainability and Biodiversity complicate the picture
 - Transparency does not automatically help
 - Challenges will not stop coming

Perspectives

- Have we done enough to tackle basic existing issues ? i.e. Pain ?
- Should we get more proactive as European Dairy Industry/ EDA ?
- Anticipate emerging issues

An integrated multidimensional index for monitoring dairy cattle welfare on farm

ILVO

Flanders Research Institute for
Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Requirements:

- Animal-based 100%
- Time & cost effective 1-2h
- Key welfare issues EFSA's worst adverse effects
Not exhaustive DISCLAIMER
- Simple & intuitive integration S x P
- Sensitive and differentiating (& motivating) Continuous Welfare Index
- Expert-based WQ-users: measures, S, WI
($R^2=0.91$)