

Daily Increase of Dairy Cow Water Consumption with the Plocher Kat

Bergeym Farm
Coaticook, Quebec, Canada

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Observations: Anne-Marie Gagnon,
Symbionature counselor

Description of Operation:

Dairy farm, 64 cows in open stalls, milking parlor.

The herd's drinking water has an unpleasant taste and gives off an iron odor.

The herd's daily water consumption is measured to be 3.47 cubic meters, or an average of 54.2 liters per cow, per day.



Application:

To verify the possible increase in the herd's daily water consumption due to water improvement, a water meter was installed on the pipes supplying water to the lactating cows. The meter was monitored and readings logged from mid-October through the first week of November.

The Plocher Kat water catalysers were installed on November 19th, 2004. Three catalysers (one for every 1.5 cubic meters of water consumed per day) were installed on the water pipes supplying water to the lactating cows. The water meter readings were recorded each morning and evening.

Results:

After three weeks, the daily water consumption was found to be 4.45 cubic meters— an increase of one cubic meter (1500 liters) each day!

Water consumption before catalyser installation	Water consumption after catalyser installation	Increase percentage
54.2 liters/cow/day	69.5 liters/cow/day	22%

The dairy farmer found an improvement in the water's taste, odor and texture, and she felt more energized when she drank this water herself.

Conclusion:

When water has a perceptible unpleasant quality, it is possible to improve it with the Plocher catalyser and bring about a significant increase in the herd's water consumption. Findings still to come: impact on milk production and herd health.