



How can organic dairy calves stay with their mothers?
How can we make more robust grazing strategies?
How can animal health be supported and medicine use significantly reduced in organic dairy farming?

The newly launched CORE Organic Cofund project 'GrazyDaiSy' aims to give relevant answers to these burning questions. The research project involves 15 partners from 8 European countries. Organic animal rearing focuses on allowing animals to meet natural requirements, and considering a systems approach. There are still many knowledge gaps and areas where common practice do not match the organic principles fully – for example separating cows and calves just after birth.

Research focus:

- Calf-cow togetherness
- Mixed age groups in robust innovative grazing systems
- Reduction of antibiotic use

GrazyDaiSy investigates how to manage mixed age groups of cattle, including rearing calves with their dams. We focus on maintaining a high level of animal health, thereby, minimizing the need for medication. Furthermore, we focus on implementation of resilient grazing strategies to improve animal performance and decrease impacts on the ecosystem on and around the farm. However, we also address the special challenges of keeping older and younger animals together on grass.

On-farm research in a diverse European landscape

We work with farmers on-farm, and we see our focus areas in each their local context, taking a systems approach. We cover most European climate zones, from the coldest North to the hottest South.

Read more: <http://projects.au.dk/coreorganiccofund/research-projects/grazydaizy/>



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GrazyDaiSy

Innovative and sustainable grazing-based systems
integrating cows and young stock



GrazyDaiSy partners:

- Aarhus University, Denmark
- National Research Institute of Animal Production, Poland
- Louis Bolk Institute, The Netherlands
- ONIRIS, INRA, France
- Uludag University, Turkey
- Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- University of Hohenheim, Germany
- Estonian University of Life Sciences, Estonia
- Demeter e.V., Germany
- Wageningen Livestock Research, The Netherlands
- Norwegian Centre for Organic Agriculture, Norway
- Organic Denmark, Denmark
- Them Co-operative Dairy Company, Denmark
- General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies / Sheep Breeding Research Institute, Turkey
- Bioland Beratung GmbH, Germany

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