

HealthyLife: Increasing Lifetime Daily Yield to Reduce Carbon Footprint

A HealthyLife strategy has been shown through Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to have the potential to decrease the climate change potential of a dairy cow (kg CO2eq) by 5%. An LCA is a methodology used to assess the carbon footprint of milk production by considering the entire life cycle of the cow.

What is HealthyLife?

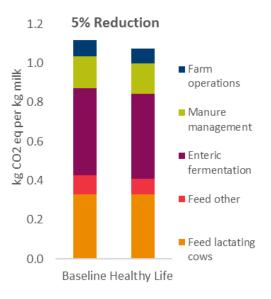
+The HealthyLife programmesprimary focus is on the transition to lactation. It is a practical and evidence-based programme that aids farmers in enhancing the Lifetime Daily Yield through working towards herd targets. Click <u>here</u> to read more about HealthyLife



How does HealthyLife Impact Carbon Footprint?

The environmental impact of milk production of dairy cows can be reduced through increasing Lifetime Daily Yield which is achieved through lower age at first calving, better transition to lactation, lower replacement rates, and higher milk production per cow. Dairy cows that follow a HealthyLife program are now proven to have a:

- 34% lower replacement rate
- 3% shorter calving interval
- 2% and 3% higher fat and protein content



HealthyLife can achieve a 5% reduction in carbon footprint*

How have Trouw Nutrition demonstrated this through an LCA? Trouw Nutrition sought to assess the potential environmental implications of innovative feed strategies and health solutions for milk production, with the dual objectives of enhancing animal health and reducing environmental impact. An LCA model was developed following ISO standards (14040:2006, 14044:2006) and guidelines from IDF (2022), PEF Guide (2019), PEFCR of dairy products (EDA, 2018), PEFCR of animal feed (FEFAC, 2020), and related references.

The HealthyLife scenario utilised for the LCA model relies on the findings and metaanalysis of several published trials compared against the publication of the Dutch cooperative for cattle breeding CRV, where the technical figures of the Dutch dairy herd are published as a baseline for the Dutch dairy herd.

Applying both LifeStart and HealthyLife principles contributes to a 9% reduction in carbon footprint*



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