

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

23 km from Kuopio road 5 to the south. Then 23 km towards Jyväskylä.
After that turn left to Karttulantie and after 320 m you will find the farm
on the right.



Farm of Suihkonen

Lea and Petri Suihkonen

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FARM of SUIHKONEN



SUONENJOKI

15th Symposium and 7th Conference on
Lameness in Ruminants
9-13 June 2008 - Kuopio, Finland

FARM

The farm is located in Suonenjoki. The farm is run by 39-year old Lea and her husband Petri Suihkonen. Petri has bachelor of Natural Resources and Lea has studied in domestic science school. They have 3 sons and 1 daughter. The youngest is 2-years old and the eldest 11-years old.

The farm was earlier a forestry farm but now it is a domestic animal farm. The ownership of the farm has been transferred to Petri step by step.

There are 200 hectares field, most of it is rented.



ANIMALS

There are 65 dairy cows in the loose stall stable. One third of the cows are Holstein and the rest are Ayrshire. Annual average milk production is 10 016 kg/cow. Milk fat percent is 3.89 and protein percent is 3.46. Average calving time is 2.4.

Besides that there are 57 sows.



FEEDING

The cows are fed with mash. Mash includes silage, oats, rapeseed, fat and minerals. Mash is mixed in SEKO-mash carriage and delivered by small loader. The sows are fed with mixed corn by hand.



STABLE

Stall stable was built in 1996 and loose stall stable in 1999. In the stall stable side they have VMS- milking robot and calves. In the future they are planning to double the amount of the cows.

Besides the owners there is one worker and one part-time worker.

HOOF TRIMMING

Hoofs are trimmed at least four times during the year. Dry cows' hoofs grow up so fast, that hoofs have to be trimmed after calving. Farm has not been any infections, but in August there was hoof fever.