

PRODUCTION BUILDINGS

Nurse cows live in a loose stall stable where there is a diagonal turf floor. Building is a 1021m² and its capacity is 4080m³. At the end of the stable there is a warm treatment room and an office. In the office they have got the most important cattle controls device, which is a recording surveillance system.

The cows have good strolling opportunities even in winter because one side of the stable is a 594 m² large stroll area. In the stroll area and in the silage stack there is a land concrete base, which forms a compact and well working foundation. Covered dry manure storage is located at the end of the stable. The storage capacity is 1260m³. Next to the dry manure storage building there is an urea tank, which size is 210m³. The forage and turf storage is on the other end of stable.

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS

Kukkaromäki farm

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- Drive from Kuopio main road 5 (Vitostie-Valtatie5) 50 km towards Mikkeli
- Turn left to Heinävedentie (534), 10,2 km
- Turn right to Riihirannantielle (5341), 5,3 km
- Turn right to Kukkarosalmentie, 0,8 km



KUKKAROMÄKI FARM



LEPPÄVIRTA

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

KUKKAROMÄKI NURSE COW FARM

The farm is located in Leppävirta, the village of Riihiranta. The farmers are Ulla and Jari Kauhanen. They have three children, Riku-Sakari, Toni-Petteri and Milla-Maarit.

The Kauhanen family has owned the farm already for five generations, since 1886. The last change of generation was made in 2005. Then the farm started to raise nurse cows.

ANIMALS

There are Hereford, Charolais and Simmental cows and also cross-breed cows in the farm. There are also two bulls, representing Hereford and Aberdeen Angus breeds.

Nurse cows calve from March to April and also from September to October. The farmers' objective is to get 25-30 beef bull calves and 15 beef heifers to end raising farm. Every year they breed 5-10 heifers to be new nurse cows. 10-15 heifers are raised to be slaughter animals. The bull calves go to the farm of Jari Kauhanen's cousin.

FEEDING

In summer all the nurse cows are in the forest fields. The area covers now 30 hectares and they are planning to enlarge it up to 50 hectares. In winter time the nurse cows are fed by silage and it is delivered twice a day by a bale shredder. Hay from some parts of the fields are baled and fed to calves in feeding creates. Minerals and grain are delivered by hand. They also give hay occasionally.

