Western Port Greenhouse Alliance Agricultural Emissions Project

Idea No: 52

Footprint Rating:



Feed Pads

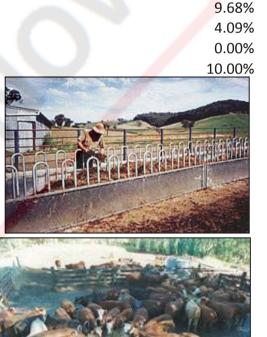
Description: The use of a dairy feed pad cuts down on the amount of hay/silage that is trampled on and that is spread about by the herd and wind. A feed pad can have individual feed spaces to prevent bullying. Feed pads are capable of reducing fodder wastage from over 20% to less than 5%. The use of feedpads can also prevent pasture damage due to trampling and pugging, and can prevent health problems that are more likely in a muddy environment such as mastitis.

Environmental Benefits as opposed to the current system

- % reduction in GHG emissions:
- % increase in water efficiency:
- % reduction in waste to landfill:
- % increase in production:
- **Benefits:** Hay and silage savings, increased milk production and less manual work.
- **Costs:** \$6,250
- Savings: 10% savings in hay and silage 10% increase in beef production 21t of equivalent CO2 per year

Implementation/Monitoring/Reporting:

Feed pads (particularly for beef cattle) will need to be moved around with a tractor whenever cattle are moved.





For more information see the following websites: http://www.dairyinfo.biz/default.asp?PageID=120&n=Feedpads+Downunder http://www.wastenot.com.au http://www.dairyextension.com.au/edit/wet_soils/Managing%20Wet%20Soils%20Case%20Study%20Feedpad%20Use%5B1%5D.pdf http://www.dairyinfo.biz/images/Content/PDF/feedpads_downunder.pdf











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