Climate targets for dairy farmers can be achieved with existing feed strategies

Existing feed methods for dairy cows can reduce methane emissions sufficiently to achieve the climate targets for dairy farming. This was shown by a meta-analysis of known methods for methane reduction, such as feed supplements in the form of methane inhibitors, oil and tannin.

Jan Dijkstra at WUR was one of the 24 experts around the world who worked on the meta-analysis, which was published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS). The methane targets (11-30 per cent reduction by 2030 and 24-47 per cent by 2050) are attainable using the existing strategies for reducing the production of methane in the intestines of dairy cows. This does not even have to impact production capacity. However, it does mean the most efficient feed solutions need to be implemented comprehensively. That is not the case at present. Achieving the target reduction is simpler in Europe than in Africa, for example, where there is a growing demand for dairy products.

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