

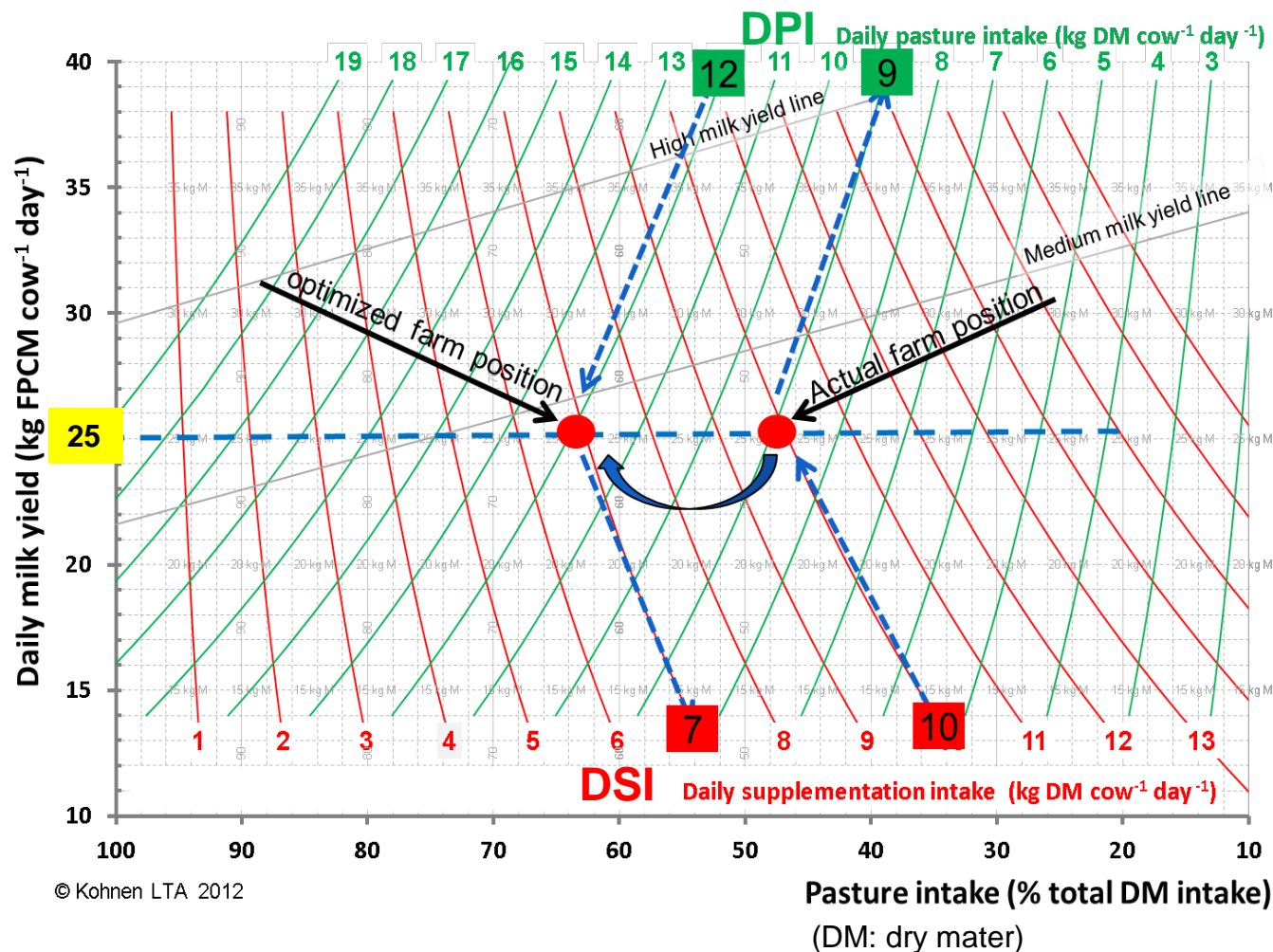
TOOL: Pasture Ruler (Lux.: Weideschieber)



Luxembourg

Chart-ruler

- (a) estimates daily pasture intake (DPI)
- (b) optimizes daily supplementation (DSI) and
- (c) evaluates and predicts daily milk production of grazing cows



Example:

- Estimate pasture intake:
 - (a) 25 kg milk/cow/day
 - (b) 10 kg DM DSI
 - “actual farm position” = intersection 25 kg horizontal line with 10 kg ascending line
 - 9 kg DM DPI
- Optimize supplementation to available pasture:
 - (a) 25 kg milk/cow/day
 - (b) 12 kg DM DPI
 - “optimized farm position” = intersection 25 kg horizontal line and descending 12 kg descending line
 - 7 kg DM DSI
- Evaluate farm milk production:
 - Distance to the medium milk yield line evaluates farm milk yield related to pasture intake (closer is better; impossible to situate the farm for a long period above this line, milk production will drop according to the line)

Outdoors I feel fine!
My milk is cheep and healthy!
Thanks to the pasture ruler all available
pasture is valorized into milk!
Any question about sustainable milk?

Sustainability issue:

Optimize pasture intake to maximize the utilization of low cost feed (grass) combined with animal welfare and natural environment

Advantage:

- Quick (less than 5 minutes for a initial assessment)
- Visual (searching for new farm positions)
- Limited Data needed:
 - daily milk production and supplementation

