

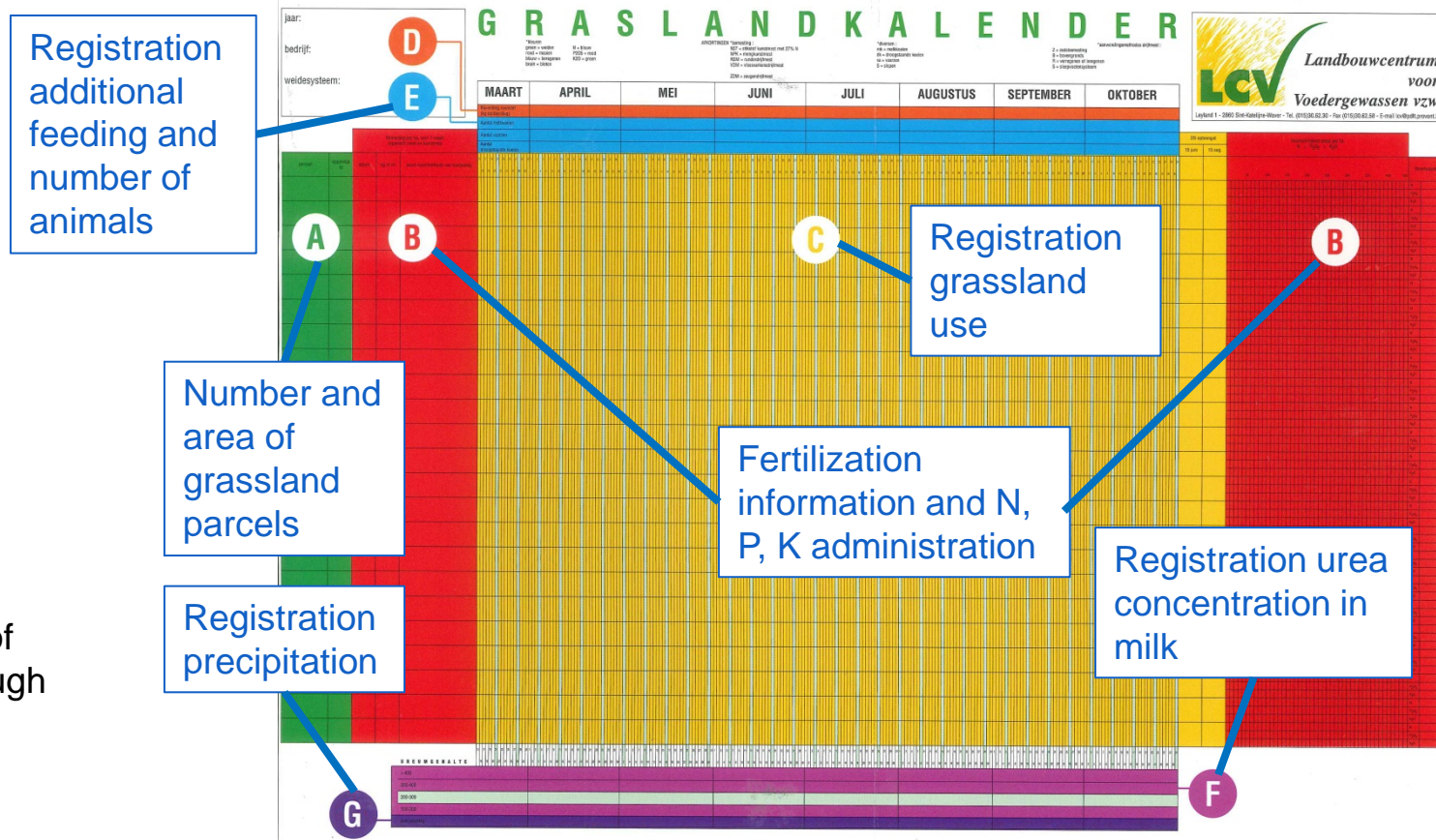
TOOL: Grazing calendar



Flanders (B)

Tool to register and improve grazing management on dairy farms

- Gives an overview of the utilization of the different parcels of grassland,
- Allows to evaluate and adapt grazing practices.
- Permits registration of N & P excretion through grazing



Preparing parcels

- Calculate the cattle occupation per ha (Table 1) (1)
- Select appropriate grazing system (2)
- Calculate the required grassland area per cow (Table 2) (3)

Registration fertilization

- Fertilization before mid March can be filled in at the left side
- Fertilization from mid March is marked in the yellow area indicating the type and amount of fertilizer and the method of application
- The total amount of N + P₂O₅ + K₂O applied on the field is indicated in the right column

Registration grassland use

- Indicate grazing, mowing, irrigation and blotting for each parcel in the yellow area using fixed colours
- Use different colours for lactating, dry and young cattle
- Colour only the upper or lower part of the cell if the cows spend only the night or day on the parcel

Estimating grass yield

- Estimate the grass yield using and grass elevation meter

Registration urea concentration

- Urea concentrations in the milk below 200 mg/l or above 300 mg/l could indicate a N deficit or surplus

cows / available grazing area 1

Grazing system	8,000 [L/cow/y]	9,000 [L/cow/y]
U	< 2.2	< 2.1
U + 3 kg	2.8	2.4
L + 4 kg	3.4	3.0
L + 5 kg	3.6	3.2
L + 6 kg	3.8	3.4

Table 1: Selection grazing system depending cattle occupation per ha. U = unlimited grazing, L = limited grazing, + # kg supplementary feeding (dry matter)

Grazing system	grazing days	Required area per parcel (acre /cow)	
		8,000 [L FPCM/cow/y]	9,000 [L FPCM/cow/y]
U + 3 kg	2	1.70	1.86
U + 3 kg	3	2.51	2.74
U + 3 kg	4	3.28	3.59
L + 4 kg	2	1.38	1.52
L + 4 kg	3	2.02	2.23
L + 4 kg	4	2.65	2.92
L + 6 kg	2	1.17	1.32
L + 6 kg	3	1.71	1.93
L + 6 kg	4	2.24	2.53

Table 2: Required grazing parcel area depending on management system (U = unlimited, L = limited grazing, + # kg supplementary fence line feeding (dry matter) and milk yield).



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