



Plan For Daily Life to Ensure a Successful Conversion to Freestall

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and the participation of
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Converting a tie-stall barn into a freestall barn

Implies several important decisions

Impacts for years to come

3 criteria guiding the farm choice:

1. Recent transition into freestall (1 year in December 2021)
2. A farm where the efficiency of the daily chores has been optimized
3. A young couple representative of typical aspiring farmers and motivated by challenges

Converting a tie-stall barn into a freestall barn

Mr. Alain Lamarre, Dairy Farmer with a freestall barn and milking robot

- Testimony of the daily chores dynamics with freestall
- Justification of some decisions in the farm plan development
- Only one robot model will be discussed... (vs milking parlour)

Herd performance

50 milking cows

38 Kg of **milk/cow/day**

4.1 % **MF** & 3.27 % **Prot.**

1.56 Kg **MF/day**

2.9 **milking/day**

SCC: 80-100 000, actual: 90 000

Pregnancy Rate: average of 38 for the last year



VIDEO

RENDEZ-VOUS
laitier
A QINAC

Conclusion

The freestall barn **dynamic** is completely **different** from a tie-stall barn

Cow contention for the different handling is a daily challenge

Priority should be given to **facilities** that help with **safe cow handling** and **optimize work time management** at the farm

The decisions taken while developing the farm plan will be important for **years to come...**

Careful consideration should be given to those facts!

Conclusion

When converting to a freestall barn:

1. Don't hesitate to visit **several** farms...
2. Choose a **farm model** based on your values...
3. Discuss with trusted **professionals**...
4. Plan an **extension model**...

With the new **animal welfare norms**... freestall is a **must** for new constructions!

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Questions?

