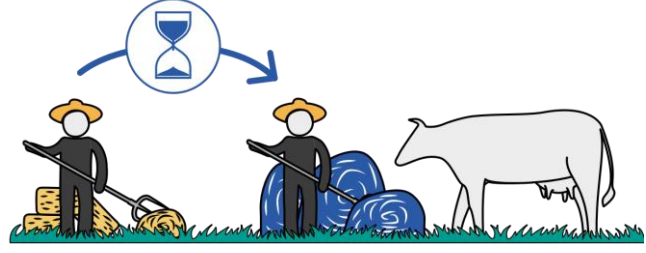
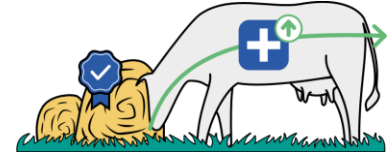


# THE 10 GOLDEN RULES FOR FARMERS

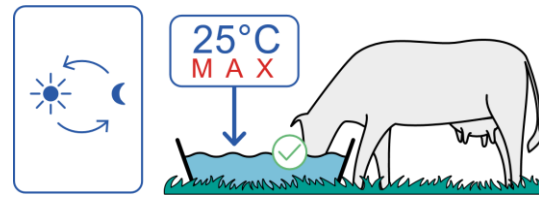
Cows are ruminants, they need to eat grass. If cows don't ruminate, they will die.

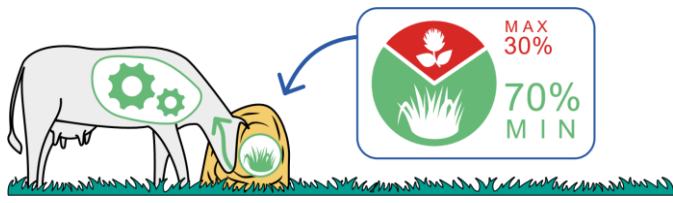
- 


**Cows' needs depend on several factors** such as their weight, dairy production, life stage and activity level. **Define the ration to have a balanced and competitive one.**
- 

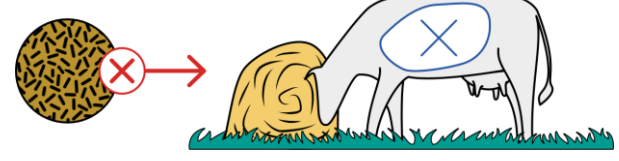
**Do not change the diet of cows brutally.** It is fundamental to keep the rumen microbiota balanced.
- 

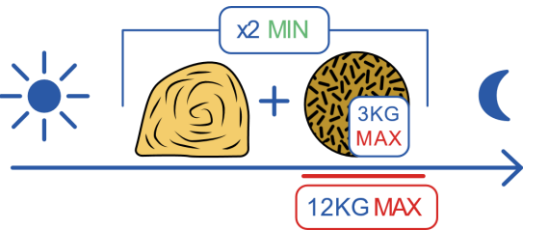
**Select good quality feed components adapted to the cows' needs.** The ration quantity (in KG or LBS) depends on the rumen size which is limited.
- 

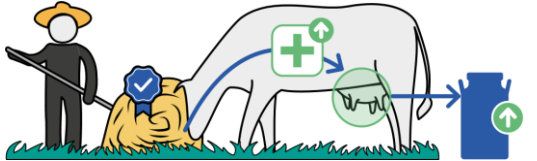
Providing cows with the right nutrients is key. Cows need **water, energy, protein, minerals and vitamins**. Bring the needed nutrients **daily** splitting the distribution into **at least 2 meals per day** and homogenize the ration beforehand.
- 

**Provide cows with clean, fresh water (<25°C) permanently available.** The must: to provide the water in a **covered water trough**. Drinking water should be separated from any concentrated slurry.
- 












**A balanced ration** is a ration with several types of components: **energy, protein, fiber, minerals and vitamins**. **The ration must contain at least 70% of fodder or roughage type of fibrous feed**, essential for rumination and rumen activity. It should not contain more than 30% of leguminous plants.
- 

**Supplement the ration with concentrated feed to bring energy and protein** and thus to cover the cows' needs. Using **local byproducts (agricultural or agro-industrial)** instead of industrial concentrated feed can reduce costs and have a positive impact on the environment.
- 

**Do not distribute concentrated feed when the rumen is empty**, as it risks causing an increase of gastric acidity. Always ensure to provide a balanced ration splitting the distribution into at least 2 meals per day.
- 

**Never distribute more than 3KG of concentrated feed per meal** and split the distribution into **at least in 2 meals per day**. **Never provide more than 12KG of concentrated feed per day**: an excess could block the rumination and cause acidosis.
- 

**Continues access to a palatable, well balanced ration and ad libitum clean water** improves the health of the cows and their milk production. **Resulting in good technical and economic benefits on farm.**

						
Meal	High-grade feed	Concentrated feed	Water	Nitrogen	Vitamins	Leguminous
						
			Energy	Minerals	One day	Fodder