



Bauer Fan Green Bedding system



Why it was chosen

Practically free and consistent supply of bedding, herd health improvements and cleaner cows are just a few of the reasons why many farmers in the UK are embracing Bauer's Green Bedding system.

While there is quite a large initial capital outlay and some scepticism, farmers are happily justifying the cost and philosophy once they see the results.

Background

The Fan Green Bedding system may be a new concept for dairy producers in Britain but it has a strong track record in the United States.

Several hundreds of the separators are now used there and it is gaining popularity in European countries.

And now producers in Britain are benefiting from the technique which is said to improve cow comfort, health and welfare, and reduce the running costs of cubicle housing, while also providing efficient management and utilisation of dairy cow slurry.

About

The Fan Green Bedding system from Bauer is revolutionising the sourcing of bedding material for dairy cow cubicles.

Instead of buying-in materials – with their cost, need for storage and potential to import pathogens – farms produce their own daily supply of high-quality bedding.

At the heart of the system is a purpose-designed heavy duty screw separator for extracting fibrous material from slurry. It delivers bedding with an initial dry-matter content of 36 per cent and above, at viable throughputs of up to 20cu.m per hour.

It works in the same way as other separators but a new screw design, pressure control system and extra-strong build means it can consistently extract more moisture, says the manufacturer.

Farmers using the separator welcome the potential savings in the cost of cubicle bedding but are just as enthusiastic – if not more so – about its characteristics. The material is soft and does not stick to the animals like some bedding, so a typical observation is that cows stay cleaner; and because there is an abundant supply, users can be generous with it.

Users also report cows lie for longer periods and suffer less leg damage; and having seen a drop in cell counts and no issues with mastitis, any misgivings about pathogens are dismissed, says the manufacturer. There is some logic in that outcome, of course, because no pathogens are introduced from off the farm; the only ones present are already in the herd.

Specifications

- ▶▶ **Model:** Fan Green Bedding separator 3.3-780
- ▶▶ **Inflow:** Oscillator fluidiser mechanism for consistent flow
- ▶▶ **Outflow:** Stainless steel screw press and 1mm screen, adjustable outlet resistance
- ▶▶ **Power:** 7.5kW electric motor
- ▶▶ **Output:** Up to 20cu.m/hr
- ▶▶ **Material dry matter:** 36 per cent or more

Pictured: Bauer's Adrian Tindall