

## Report of the First Bio-KI daughter show day

Mts J. en S. Bouma, Hoflan 8a, Grou (Frl.)

Farmers Jolanda and Sybrand Bouma in Grou (Friesland) are the first organic dairy farmers that use all the organic AI bulls of Bio-KI for their breeding. In total they milk today 83 daughters of different bulls. The whole dairy herd counts 130 milking cows. They milk up to 43 daughters of Bio Opneij Wytze Pp. The bulls Bio Classic Jaap, Bio NB Jeroen, Bio PM Henkieboy and Bio Arkemheen 110 did already have 15, 7, 12 and 4 daughters respectively at this farm. This was a good reason to organize a first excursion for farmers to watch the daughters at the Bouma's farm.

Also for myself this was a very exiting day. With our breeding goal for organic production we do aim for more efficient cows at organic farms and we hope to stimulate the use of more organic bulls that originate from organic farms. However, as the chair of Bio-KI and organizer of organic AI, Bio-KI, I have never seen so many daughters at one farm yet.

Sybrand and Jolanda Bouma decided to use only the organic bulls from Bio-KI as soon as Bio-KI started in 2009. "The suppose to fit better in our organic system" was their philosophy, "and we think that organic farmers also should strive for organic breeding" says Sybrand Bouma. "Every animal at the farm is totally organic now, including the breeding, also all the young stock".

Eighteen farmers came to the farm to look at the different daughters.



After a warm cup of soup and sandwiches, we first exchanged some more details of organic AI. Then we put on our warm coats because outside the wind is blowing. Sybrand did put most of the daughters of Bio-KI bulls in a separate meadow, so we could have a good overview.

There is a lot of diversity in the herd, black and white, red and white, Dutch White face pattern. The latter must be daughters from Bio Jeroen, a 50% Dutch Whiteface bull with a HF mother that produced over 100.000 kg milk. These daughter show a good body condition to, just as the daughters of the Dutch Friesian bull Arkemheen 110. They select their selves because of the lower height, compared to the heifers with more Holstein blood, of course inherited from their fathers of local breeds. All animal have good legs and udders. They show a good locomotion. The daughters of Bio Opnej Wytze, which was a very tall and open, HF type bull, show more variation, coursed by a background of different HF and dual purpose breeds. Most of the daughters have a very sharp, milk type exterior.

The daughters of Bio Henkieboy do have a good average size with a good body conformation. Bio Classic Jaap also gave good uniform daughters, probably because this bull did have dual blood of Stadel in his veins. Hester 96 was one of the best daughters of Bio Classic Jaap.



**Hester 96, father Bio Classic Jaap**  
**Expected production 4794 kgm, 4,70%fat 3,89%**  
**protein Lactation level 104 (Average 100)**

The herd produces in average 5700 kg milk with 4,91% fat and 3,48% protein. The Bouma's have 40 hectares of nature land and therefore the cows are fed a high amount of hay with a lower energy content. This might be a reason for the low fat content in the milk. The prediction of the yield of the whole herd for 2015 is (based on 195 days) 5833 kg milk with 4.01% fat en 3,55% protein in 305 days.

		# d	days	kgm	%F	%P	LLev
Bio Arkemheen 110	First calf	3	12	4853	4,49	3,65	106
	2 <sup>nd</sup> calf	1	54	6670	3,89	3,48	104
Bio PM Henkieboy	First calf	10	198	5176	4,17	3,72	103
	2 <sup>nd</sup> calf	2	280	6071	4,09	3,44	98
Bio Classic Jaap	First calf	13	163	5335	4,14	3,61	105
	2 <sup>nd</sup> calf	2	92	5760	4,34	3,43	97
Bio NB Jeroen	First calf	5	148	4798	3,99	3,54	94
	2 <sup>nd</sup> calf	2	100	4987	4,54	3,68	93
Bio Opnej Wytze Pp	First calf	13	241	5946	3,94	3,49	107
	2 <sup>nd</sup> calf	18	284	6486	3,78	3,38	100
	3 <sup>th</sup> calf	13	163	6305	4,00	3,68	98
	4 <sup>th</sup> calf	1	22	8169	3,18	3,43	106

Tabel 1: Predicted average 305 day yields of the daughter of different Bio-KI bulls.

For the other cows, which are older, this is in average 6533 kg milk whit 3,99% fat and 3,51% protein. With this information we can conclude that the daughters of the Bio-KI bulls do well at the Bouma's farm. Tabel 1 shows the yield of the daughters per bull.

In table 1 we can see that the daughters of Opneij Wytze have a negative effect on milk fat. Bio-KI follows the so called 'young bull' breeding strategy. This means that farmers should use more bulls at the time to spread the risks and to be sure of an overall genetic progress.

In the beginning the Bouma's have used Bio opneij Wytze to much, because there were no more organic bulls yet. So now the see a larger effect of this bull on the herds performance.

With more bulls at the time, this effect would have been less.

One of the best cows we saw was a daughter of Bio Opneij Wytze. She da calced three times, her name was Geertruida 549, a black and white cow with a very good udder and good legs to.



**Geertruida 549, father Bio Opneij Wytze**

**Third lactation:**

**Expected: 6295 kgm, 4,16%fat, 3,81% protein**

We concluded that this was a very good show of the daughters of Bio-KI bulls. We saw beautiful animals of the different bulls. Most impressive were the daughters of Bio Classic Jaap, but in average all heifers and young cows were of good quality, had a good conformation, udder and legs.

Also their performance was good compared to the level of this farm. This promises a lot for the near future. Next year we will come back to the Bouma's farm for an update.

We thank Sybrand and Jolanda for this nice afternoon and wish them all the luck with Bio-KI cows.

Wytze Nauta

**Organic AI**  
**results in real organic milk**



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