Mobile phone solutions in Finnish milk recording

Juho Kyntäjä, ProAgria Association of Rural Advisory Centres, Finland
Jarkko Ilomäki & Sinikka Tommila, ProAgria Agricultural Data Processing Centre, Finland

Finnish milk recording

- 8,800 customer herds
- 97 % do-it-yourself milk recording
- 90 % use farmer-owned milk meters (45,000 pcs)
- Vials bar-coded with cow ID
- Data collected on paper in the barn
- Data entered through a PC programme by farmer or advisor (95%) or sent on sheets
- Demand for paperless milk recording
- Demand for quicker data capture
Options in electronic data capture

- In-line milk meters: 850 herds, not possible to use in all herds
- Electronic milk meters: good for a technician-based system
- Hand-held computers: good for a technician-based system
- Installable mobile phone software: practically impossible
- Mobile web application: why not?
ProYield Mobile

- User identification
- Test milking basic data
- Cow list
- Milk yields entered individually
- Milk yields saved individually
- Cow list shortened after every entry
- Summary after the milking has been shut and confirmed

Experience after first tests

- Ask as few questions as possible
- Use the data you get without asking
- The connection does get interrupted -> do not suppose it will last for the whole milking
Individual cow data

Summary page
• 28 days: please test, whether/ how samples should be taken
• 40 days (if no new data): please test immediately or send in your data
• 60 days (if no new data): please send in data or the reminders cease’
• End of November: number of necessary test milkings (12-x) by the end of the year