

## Increasing efficiency and milk yield at a new Worcestershire dairy unit.



Unilight has installed a Dairy Light lighting system, complete with dimming unit, in a new build dairy operation, which includes dairy sheds, storage and other operational areas, offices and washrooms, at Hollybeds Farm in South Worcestershire.

The Plug and play Dairy Light LED lighting system was designed to provide a minimum 200 lux of light throughout the unit, the minimum proven light level to suppress production of melatonin and increase cow productivity and fertility levels. It also eliminates low-light areas, dark corners etc.

The timer control unit provides lighting at the optimum level for around 16-18 hours per day, with darkness or near darkness for the remaining hours (mimicking the natural daylight cycles of a mid-summer day) to optimise cow productivity and fertility. Use of the timer system avoids human error with lights being left on and minimises energy consumption.

The Daylight harvesting system was recommended to measure natural light levels and automatically 'top up' any natural light to 200 lux via a dimmer system, maximising use of natural light. Combined use of the above elements provides scientifically proven melatonin suppressing light levels for the required time periods at

lower energy consumption than other types of lighting. Increased productivity and milk yields, together with a system of managed and minimised energy consumption, results in a significantly reduced carbon footprint for the business.

Additional LED lighting for the office, storage and operational areas at a suitable level for safe working was also installed.

Hollybeds Farm is run by Tom Goodwin, the 3rd Generation of his family to run the farm which has been occupied by his family for over 65 years. The timber framed 14th century farmhouse is set in a wonderful position, with breath-taking scenery, overlooking the Severn Valley, between the Malvern and Bredon Hills.

The farm has grown over the years and now comprises 630 acres together with 11 acres of woodland which was purchased in 1995.

The main part of it has been felled and replanted with appropriate species to return it to its original semi ancient natural woodland status.

As well as its dairy herd of 250 Friesian milking cows, its main arable crops are winter barley for consumption by the beef animals and milling wheat for bread making.



## JDS Solutions

The photograph above shows a recent Unilight Dimmable LED dairy installation undertaken by JDS Solutions.

Based in the Peak District JDS specialise in commercial industrial and domestic installations, as well as design, condition reporting and certification.



## Farmer using Dairylight for his 230 cow herd gains an additional 2lt per cow per day!

John Cartledge, whose Dairylight system was installed during December at his 230 cow herd farm in Derbyshire commented:

*"The lights have gained us another 2lt per cow per day and the bulling activity has moved to a different level to that experienced before. I would definitely install the lights again knowing the benefits they have brought us."*

## EXHIBITIONS

We will be exhibiting at a number of shows this year – do come and see us, we'd love to see you!

**The 13 September will see us at Telford International Centre for Dairy Day 2017**

<http://www.ukdairyday.co.uk/>

**On 4th October we will be at the The Dairy Show at the Bath & West Showground**

<http://www.bathandwest.com/the-dairy-show>

**On 7th February 2018**

**We will be at the Dairy-Tech Exhibition Stoneleigh, Warwickshire**

<http://www.rabdf.co.uk/forthcoming->

## NMR

During June we will be attending two NMR meetings, the first the Worcestershire NMR Farm Walk on **07 Jun 2017** at Hollybeds Farm.

The second, the Gold Cup Farm Walk on **28 Jun 2017** in Dorset.

<https://www.nmr.co.uk/>

## Mark Harrison from HTE Solutions Limited

installed the system at Hollybeds farm, just one of a number of Dairy Light systems he has worked on.

