

KNOTT OAK DAIRY FARM ILMINSTER, SOMERSET

Product: Filon FAIRS Insulating double skin GRP rooflights



Filon daylighting creates the perfect conditions for cows that milk themselves!

Over 300m² of Filon FAIRs (Factory Assembled Insulating Rooflights) double skin GRP rooflights have been installed on a new, high technology cow shed with integral milking parlour units at Knott Oak Dairy Farm in Ilminster, Somerset.

The installation is part of Dillington Estates' £2.5 million investment in an advanced robotic milking facility in which

the cows are free to move around the shed and access milking robots when they wish – not at specific times. This 'free cow traffic' approach provides improved quality and yield from the dairy, as well as excellent animal wellbeing.

Maintaining appropriate conditions for the cows inside the building also plays an important part in animal welfare and productivity.

CASE STUDY 07

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Excellent light diffusion & control of internal temperatures

Filon rooflights are well known to provide near-perfect light diffusion and distribution, thereby eliminating solar overheating which can create unhealthy and uncomfortable conditions for cows.

The choice of Filon's FAIRs double skin insulating rooflights further helps to maintain appropriate light levels with a consistently cool temperature inside the shed – with minimal requirement for auxiliary electric lighting.

Farm Manager, Chris Wilson, said: "You can feel a distinct drop in the temperature when you walk into the shed and the diffused lighting creates a calm atmosphere that's pleasant to work in and perfect for the cows."

Filon FAIRs can be configured to provide the ideal solution for rooflighting in any profiled roof and the central core can be adapted to provide the level of insulation required.

U-values as low as 0.9 W/m²K can be achieved and fire grades of liners and weather sheets can be produced to suit specific site or client requirements.



Filon – investing in innovation

Filon's recent investment in new plant and technology at the Company's Staffordshire factory allows rapid production of tooling for new profiles, as well as high volume manufacturing to bespoke specification in a carefully controlled, ISO9001 accredited process. The factory also carries the ISO14001 Environmental Management accreditation, resulting from Filon's commitment to low energy usage, process water recycling and material recycling.

The FAIRs rooflights on the barn at Knott Oak Dairy Farm are a good example of Filon's rapid tooling capability, having been specially designed and manufactured to suit a new sinusoidal 40mm thick composite panel.

A standard CE24E weather sheet on the rooflights provides a life expectancy of over 30 years, so the cows will be comfortable and the farm's investment protected over the lifespan of the milking plant.



Published by



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