

Update

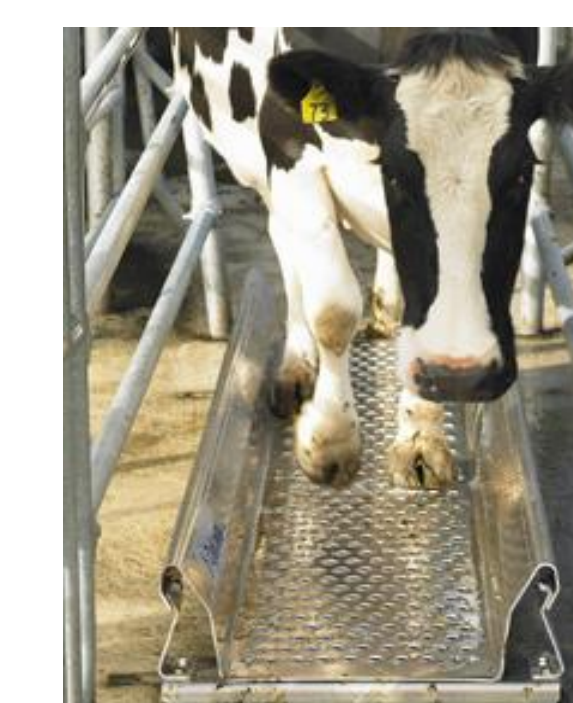
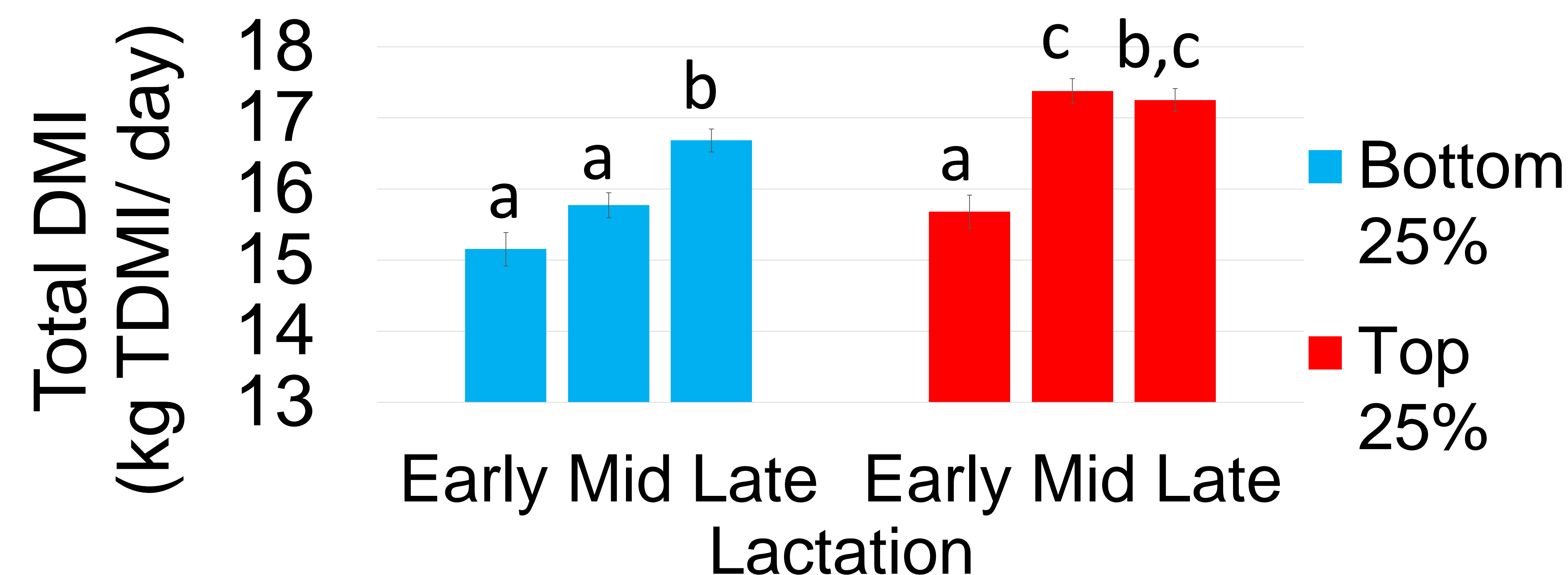
- **Improving feed efficiency** enhances both the profitability & sustainability of dairy production
- Animal intake & performance from 400 **Holstein-Friesian and Jersey crossbred** cows evaluated
- **Large range** in efficiency 0.42 -1.47 kg MS/kg BW

Results

	Bottom 25%	Top 25%	Diff.
Milk SI (€)	41	62	+21
Maintenance SI (€)	15	28	+13
MS yield (kg)	467	538	+71
BW (kg)	513	493	-20
Total MS/kg BW	0.86	1.14	+0.28
Total DMI	16.9	17.4	+0.5
Total DMI/ kg BW	3.31	3.53	+0.24
Daily MS/kg DMI	0.113	0.123	+0.01

Robust, cost-effective efficiency measure

Total milk solids production per mid-lactation bodyweight (**MS/BW**)



Take home messages

- ✓ **Large variation** between dairy cows observed
- ✓ Efficient cows = **↑ MS yield, ↓ body size, ↑ intake**
- ✓ Farmers should **weigh their herd mid-lactation** to identify the most efficient animals to breed from in the future