



CATTLE | 2018-10-27 12:45:47 | 1

## LED lights have great potential in agriculture

40 percent of Danish farm owners have sought advice on modern barn lighting and ventilation following a campaign by the Energy Agency. That's what Seges writes.



One is that good light in the barn provides better working conditions, but another is that a switch to LED lights provides major savings both on the bottom line and in the CO2 accounts. Archive photo

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There is both money and CO2 emissions to be saved if you switch to more modern barn lighting and ventilation in the barn. This was made clear by a campaign from the Danish Energy Agency in autumn last year, where the agency collaborated with local rural associations.

At the time, four out of five livestock farms had traditional barn lighting with fluorescent tubes, while half of Danish pig barns were ventilated by older ventilation systems. However, the Danish Energy Agency's calculations showed that agriculture can save DKK 54.4 million by switching to LED lighting and DKK 40.8 million by switching to modern ventilation.

Here, a year later, it seems that the message has been heard. At least 40 percent of the farmers who have been exposed to the campaign have sought advice, obtained quotations or installed modern lighting or ventilation. This is what Thore Stenfeldt tells Seges, who was part of the campaign as a deputy in the Danish Energy Agency. A result that also brings joy to Energy, Supply and Climate Minister Lars Chr. Lilleholt.

- The "Energy harvest" (the name of the campaign, ed.) shows that agriculture is ready to get the good energy solutions right into the barns. And it is important for the companies' bottom line and their climate footprint. The campaign shows that we can go a long way with transversal cooperation in providing the right, targeted information about energy savings, says the minister.

### Short payback period

A concrete example of the savings in replacing lighting in the barn with LED is a cattle producer with an estimated barn size of just over 2000 square meters and 3000 annual lighting hours. Here, the payback time for switching from halogen to LED lighting will probably lie somewhere between 2.5 and 4.5 years - depending on whether the lighting can be installed in the existing fixtures.

The above is an example of one of the low-hanging fruits in energy savings that the Danish Energy Agency would like more Danish farmers to pick. And if farmers act on the message, they can at the same time improve their bottom line by more than DKK 50 million per year and emit a good 25 tonnes less CO2.

That is why Energy, Supply and Climate Minister Lars Chr. Lilleholt, that the Danish farmers will continue the good initiatives:

- The campaign is an excellent example of how we can create a big effect with few funds. Sometimes all it takes is a little extra nudge to get started with energy savings. And that benefits both the climate and agriculture's bottom line.

Advantages of LED

· You typically save between 40-50 percent on energy consumption

· An LED tube has a lifetime that is approximately five times longer than a fluorescent tube

· With LED lighting, you can choose different properties for the light, for example whether it should have a cold or a warm colour

· Diodes in LED lighting do not have to be changed as often

Source: Danish Energy Agency

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