



### EDITORIAL

#### READY TO HELP YOU DURING THE GRAZING SEASON



The beautiful days that we are experiencing at this time of the year, indicate that the grazing season is approaching. Every year again, the breeders must face the challenge of offering water in sufficient quantities and of the highest quality for the welfare of their herds.

In this new issue, we would like to offer them a complete advisory report on the main solutions to optimise and secure the provision of water both for classic and dynamic grazing methods.

In our opinion, the permanent sharing and exchanging of knowledge and experiences with the breeders, prescribers, distributors and suppliers/engineers, who are all of them actors in the breeding industry, are essential for responding to the challenges of tomorrow. As a specialist, we are dedicated to cultivating this closeness through the advice and availability of our teams. This way, whether by social networks or real-life meetings (see opposite), LA BUVETTE is always willing to lend an ear.

This was confirmed during our wonderful encounters at SIMA 2019 last February, when we presented our new haybell feeder, an oval 400 l PREBAC for small animals and the new AQUABLEND and AQUABLEND XTREME dosing pumps that were developed to supplement the drinking water and the cleaning water.

We wish you a beautiful grazing season and will be happy to answer your queries at any time. See you all soon.

Jean-Philippe BOUSQUET, President

### ENCOUNTER

#### A day full of interesting encounters and a highly appreciated factory visit

Last March, LA BUVETTE welcomed a working group from the Chamber of Agriculture for the Ardennes composed of about twenty breeders of suckler herds. For many of them, this was the occasion to discover how watering systems can be an easy means to increase growth. The very interactive training led by our R&D engineer Vincent CARDOT was a big success. The issues raised by the group include undergrazing, which was until now a rather vague problem. They also identified misplacement and wrong sizing of watering troughs as sources leading to problems of spilling and aggressiveness within the herd. The group members could then visit the factory and meet our production teams. A mutually enriching experience to be repeated! ■



### COMMUNICATION

#### LA BUVETTE's Facebook, friendly and technical



> [facebook.com/labuvette.bovin](https://facebook.com/labuvette.bovin) and [facebook.com/labuvette.cheval](https://facebook.com/labuvette.cheval)

Although the April fool's jokes and Easter Games have been very popular on the LA BUVETTE facebook pages lately, the technical advice and installation examples that are regularly posted are equally good reasons to subscribe.

For LA BUVETTE's after-sales manager Didier Corniquet "the social networks allow us to answer technical questions by using footage such as 'How to repair a drinker after a sudden frost, How to replace a float valve and How to disconnect your solar pump without risks...' It's direct and convenient!"

The constantly increasing number of subscribers clearly shows that this formula is appreciated. ■



**ADVICE**

## **OPTIMIZING AND SECURING THE DRINKING ON PASTURE**

The grazing season is back. A period in which it is essential to provide a certain quantity and quality of water to your animals, as water shortage causes growth loss or reduced milk production.

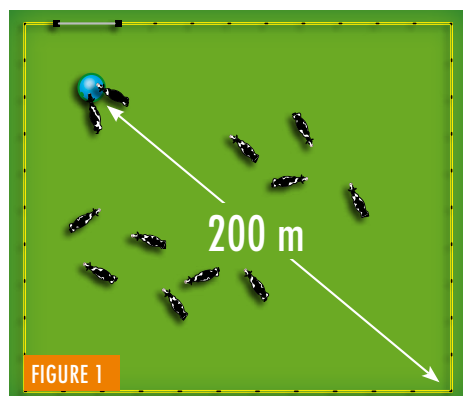
Although the consumption of grass that is rich in water content partly satisfies their needs, an animal might still need very high quantities of water especially during intense heat.

# 1. ORGANIZING A PASTURE WATERING SYSTEM USING PREBAC

Whether you have a water supply source or not, the PREBAC range has been the quality benchmark for more than 30 years. Their location is based on the size of the parcel and the behaviour of the animals when grazing.

## The 200-metre rule for small and medium-sized parcels

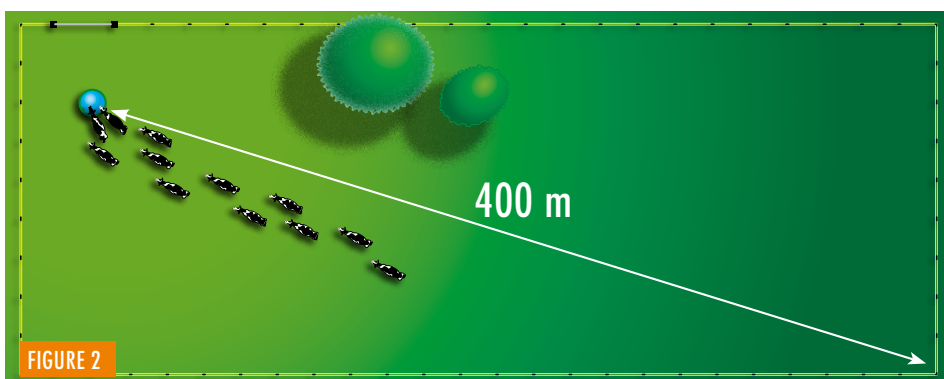
Ideally, the maximum distance between the watering place and the farthest end of the pasture should not exceed 200 m. If it does, the farthest corners of the pasture are less frequently visited as the animals prefer to stay close to the drinker. Furthermore, during very warm periods ( $> 28^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), the animals move less actively around the fields,



### Daily water consumption on pasture\*

LIVESTOCK	AVERAGE	SUMMER PEAK
Dairy cow	55 l/d	125 l/d
Nursing cow	35 l/d	75 l/d
Grass-fed calf (200 kg)	15 l/d	20 l/d
Dry cow, pregnant cow, bullock	35 l/d	70 l/d
Heifer 350-450 kg	30 l/d	50 l/d
Dairy sheep	7 l/d	15 l/d
Nursing ewe + lamb	6 l/d	12 l/d
Dry ewe	3 l/d	6 l/d
Dairy goat	5 l/d	12 l/d
Dry goat	3 l/d	6 l/d
Adult horse	20 l/d	45 l/d
Lactating mare	30 l/d	55 l/d

\*Considering they only feed on grass



When cattle has to walk less than 200 m to drink, they go alone, by two or by three (figure 1). When the distance is longer, they prefer to go drinking in a herd (figure 2). So, the size of the watering systems will differ substantially.

gathering in the shady areas and going to drink less frequently at the watering place if it is too far away. When the drinker is located at less than 200 m from the farthest end of the parcel, the animals regularly go drinking alone or in small groups of 2 or 3. A high water volume/flow is thus no longer essential.

## Considering herd instinct on large parcels

However, when the distance is considerable ( $> 200\text{ m}$ ), the animals tend to go to drink less frequently and in large groups. Therefore, it is recommended to install a watering system that is sufficiently dimensioned allowing a large number of animals to drink quickly and simultaneously. In this case, it might be worthwhile to

install more drinkers rather than to increase the volume of only one and to place them some 10 metres apart from each other to avoid pushing.

## GOOD TO KNOW

To limit the negative impact of dominant animals, avoid placing the drinkers:

- in a corner or a confined area
- directly in the shade (area congested with lying animals)

## IN PRACTICE

Made of 100 % pure, food-safe, high-density polyethylene, the PREBAC range is the quality benchmark for troughs on pasture. They come in a large variety of shapes and sizes suiting all needs:

- 3 oval models 400 / 550 / 950 l
- 6 circular models from 400 to 1500 litres.
- 6 rectangular models from 70 to 400 litres
- 10 year guarantee
- With or without high-flow valve (standard or low pressure)





### Rotational grazing system, according to the number of animals

In a rotational grazing system, the pasture is divided in smaller parcels, allowing the herd to stay 1 to 5 days on one parcel, while the other parcels get 20 to 25 rest days in spring and 30 to 40 in summer.

This way, the entire surface of the pasture is used, the height of the grass controlled and the risks of parasitic infestation limited. And above all, rotational grazing offers the animals on pasture grass that is always of the highest quality.

- A good solution for small herds (up to 20 cattle) would be to move a small trough together with the animals. A model with double access and high flow rate (30 l/min) such as the PREBAC 70 is perfectly suited. It should be placed at mid-length of the pasture. In this case, one water supply line with shut-off valve is necessary for each pasture.

- For larger herds of animals, one big circular drinking trough could be placed in the centre of a drinking area situated at the junction between 4 parcels. In this case, only one water supply will be needed (Figure 3).

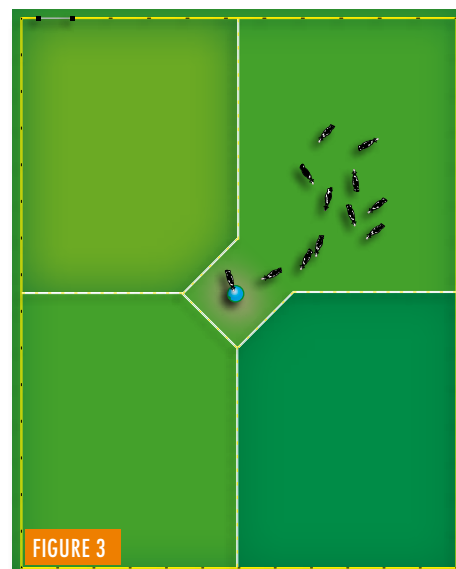


FIGURE 3

## 2. INSTALLING A PASTURE PUMP

**Your pasture is situated near a water source and you would like to secure the water supply for your animals. The installation of one or more AQUAMAT II pasture pumps allows you to provide water to animals with moderate needs.**

### Secured water supply

The solution of the pasture pump allows the animal to drink when needed by directly pumping up high-quality water. The water is directly consumed, avoiding stagnation and without the risk of spilling.

This system also prevents the animals from drinking directly from a water course, which contributes to the preservation of the river banks. The Aquamat II pump from La Buvette, with its very smoothly operated mechanism for cattle and horses, has been an established product since more than 20 years.

It pumps water up to a depth of 7 m (or a length of 70 m) and can be installed everywhere: water course, pond, well.

### Fresh water at request

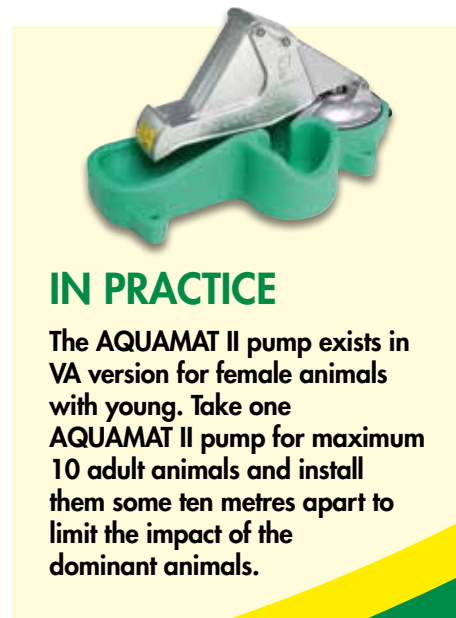
The major advantage of the pasture pump solution is the drinking autonomy of the animal. While



Watch the video with installation tips on our YouTube channel.

pushing, the animal activates a diaphragm drawing the water through the tube. A non-return valve prevents the pump from running dry and the water flows over into the small bowl under the push lever. Each push allows to pump up 0,5 litre of water, a fairly limited flow adapted to animals with moderate needs.

For lactating cows or mares followed by their young, a model with integrated bowl allows the young to drink at the same time as the adult. With its rearward inclined bowl, the animals naturally learn to push the lever when they want to drink the residual water.



### IN PRACTICE

The AQUAMAT II pump exists in VA version for female animals with young. Take one AQUAMAT II pump for maximum 10 adult animals and install them some ten metres apart to limit the impact of the dominant animals.

### 3. INSTALLING SOLAR WATERING SYSTEMS

You have a well, river, borehole or other water source at your pastures and you would like to have an independent watering system that offers plenty of water to your herd, then the solution of a solar watering system meets your expectations. With a SOLAR-FLOW system, the daily chores of hauling water are over! Let's have a look at the LA BUVETTE solutions that have already been developed for more than 15 years.

#### High pumping capacity for major water needs

The principle of solar watering systems is based on one or two solar panels that recharge one or two batteries that power a submersible pump. A level sensor activates the pump as soon as the water level in one of the troughs lowers.

When the pump is not operating, the electrical power generated by the panels recharges the batteries. The immersible pump can be installed in a (drilled) well, a river or a water point. It pumps up water from maximum 20 or 50 m depending on the model with a pumping rate that varies between 160 and 360 litres per hour.

#### Autonomy of the herd and time saving for the breeders

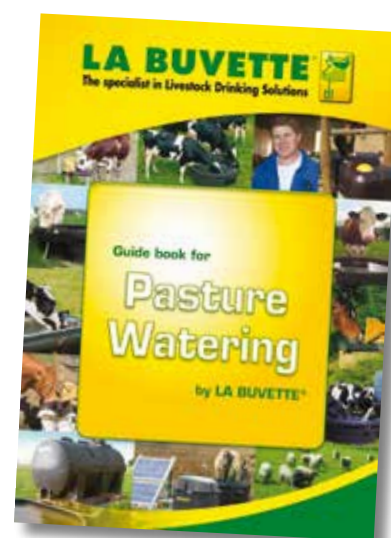
The main advantage of these watering systems with solar pumps is their autonomy even when it is clouded. When the sun is shining brightly, the energy is stored into the batteries,



The all-in-one SOLAR-FLOWS such as the 900 L model shown above are the most widely used, but the modular SOLAR-FLOW installations that can provide water to several troughs set up several hundreds of metres apart are becoming increasingly common.

which guarantees that water is also pumped when the sky is overcast. The Solar Flow 900 litre and 1500 litre models have an autonomy of 10 days with a consumption of 1200 l/d and 2500 l/d respectively. The herd can come to drink at any time without polluting the water course or damaging the river banks. This is an important time saver for the breeders who can rest assured that the supply of water is guaranteed in the period when they are often busy with haymaking and harvesting and to see their animals drink without them

pushing each other is also very satisfying. Considering the time saved, the reduced wear of the tractor and the fuel savings, a solar drinker pays for itself very quickly. ■



**FIND ALL OUR TIPS AND ADVICE  
IN THE GUIDE FOR WATERING  
SOLUTIONS ON PASTURE**

**free download at  
[www.labuvette.com /](http://www.labuvette.com/)  
«Documents»**



#### IN PRACTICE

- The **SOLAR-FLOW 900 L** model pumps up to **2200 litres/day** during the high season, which is sufficient for the needs of a herd of 15 lactating cows and their calves or 15 dairy cows.
- The **SOLAR-FLOW 1500 L** model pumps up to **3500 litres/day** during the high season, which is sufficient for the needs of a herd of 30 lactating cows and their calves or 30 dairy cows.



## TRIBUTE

## Serge RENARD, a passionate man



It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death of Serge RENARD. As a sales representative of LA BUVETTE in the North-West region of France since 3 April 1995, Serge was an independent, devoted, competent man who listened to the customers and was passionate about his work. We pay tribute to him both for his work and his human qualities. ■

## SERVICE

## Subscribe to the LA BUVETTE YouTube channel

The La Buvette teams are always eager to answer your questions. You can also find educational information on our YouTube channel.



## EVENTS

Two not-to-be-missed events this autumn:

- **SPACE 2019,**  
from 10 to 13  
September,  
the international  
livestock trade show in Rennes.



- **SOMMET DE L'ÉLEVAGE,**  
from 2 to 4  
October  
2019,  
European trade  
show for professional breeders  
in Clermont Ferrand.



## YOUR CONTACT

## In Your Country



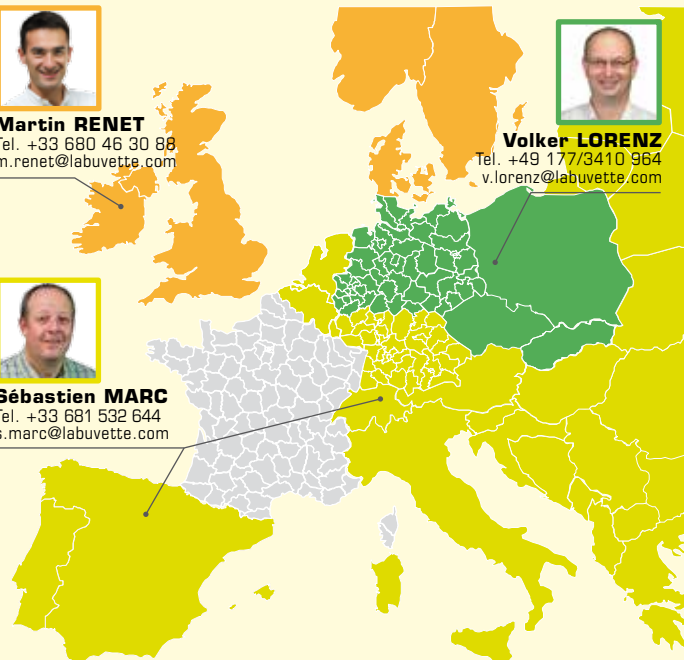
**Martin RENET**  
Tel. +33 680 46 30 88  
m.renet@labuvette.com



**Volker LORENZ**  
Tel. +49 177/3410 964  
v.lorenz@labuvette.com




**Sébastien MARC**  
Tel. +33 681 532 644  
s.marc@labuvette.com



## At the Office




**Sébastien MARC**  
Export Manager  
Tel. +33 681 532 644  
s.marc@labuvette.com

Languages: 




**Clémence RAMBOUT**  
Commercial Assistant  
Tel. +33 324 52 37 23  
c.rambout@labuvette.fr

Languages: 




**David BROSSE**  
Technical-Commercial  
Assistant  
Tel. +33 324 52 37 21  
d.brosse@labuvette.fr

Languages: 




**Valentine RAIMOND**  
Commercial Assistant  
& Installation Advice  
Tel. +33 324 52 37 10  
v.raimond@labuvette.fr

Languages: 




**Didier CORNIQUET**  
Head of After-Sales Service  
& Installation Advice  
Tel. +33 324 52 37 27  
d.corniquet@labuvette.fr

Languages: 



**Élodie COLLINET**  
Head of Marketing  
& Communication  
Tel. +33 324 52 37 22  
e.collinet@labuvette.fr

Languages: 



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The Specialist in Livestock Drinking Solutions

Rue Maurice Périn - Parc d'Activités Ardennes Émeraude - CS 50749 Tournes  
08013 CHARLEVILLE-MÉZIÈRES Cedex (France)  
Tel. +33 324 52 37 23 - Fax +33 324 52 37 24  
After Sales Service +33 324 52 37 21 - Fax +33 324 52 37 24

All commercial documentation, installation instructions, exploded views of spare parts  
can be viewed on our website: [www.labuvette.com](http://www.labuvette.com) • E-mail: [commercial@labuvette.com](mailto:commercial@labuvette.com)