University of Kentucky:

"Nedap SmartTag Neck accurately monitors eating, ruminating, and inactivity behaviors"

The objective of this research project was to evaluate the accuracy of the Nedap SmartTag Neck for measuring dairy cow behavior. The behaviors measured were eating, ruminating, and inactivity. For this study 36 cows were observed for 125 hours.

Eating accuracy 93%

— Visual observation   13 min/hour
— Nedap SmartTag   12.3 min/hour

Ruminating accuracy 92%

— Visual observation   16.2 min/hour
— Nedap SmartTag   16.7 min/hour

Inactivity accuracy 88%

— Visual observation   27.5 min/hour
— Nedap SmartTag   29.2 min/hour

Conclusion

Nedap SmartTag Neck accurately monitors eating, ruminating, and inactivity behaviors and is expected to be effective in monitoring these behaviors.

Why is this important?

Validation of favorable and reliable results for the investment made is of the utmost importance. These results can provide peace of mind and give confidence to producers. For a dairy implementing Nedap CowControl, they can rest assured that the Nedap SmartTag neck will perform accurately in recording the eating, rumination, and inactive behaviors of each cow.

Source: Borchers et al, An evaluation of a novel device for measuring eating, rumination, and inactive behaviors in lactating Holstein dairy cattle, Animal, 2020

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