

Technology in Agriculture

DAIRY

On average, it costs between **\$150,000 to \$200,000** per robot that will milk 50 to 70 cows each. Researchers have reported producers saved between zero and up to 29% in labor costs with robotic milking systems

Quick facts

- Robots are good at milking and can harvest high-quality milk consistently.
- Robots improve lifestyle, decrease labor and allow family labor to milk more cows.
- Proper management is key to robot success.
- Using our comparison tool can help you decide if it's better for you to invest in robots or parlors.

Common reasons to install robots

Producers don't install robots because it's the lowest cost option for harvesting milk. Surveys show that they install robots for three reasons.

- To improve lifestyle
 - Flexible daily schedule to attend kids' activities or family events
- To decrease labor
- To milk more cows with family labor only

Robots allow producers to free up labor previously dedicated to milking chores. Thus, producers may need to hire less labor, which could go towards loan payments for robots.

A producer may expect labor-saving within family labor. In this case, the producer must use it for something more productive than milking to improve total farm income. The most common option is to expand the herd size. Other options may include improving:

- Reproduction
- Crop management to increase yield and forage quality
- Youngstock quality through better care
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnfH5qRuRrE>

<https://video.gea.com/gea-dairyrobot-r9500-robotic>

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Wind Turbines

<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/small-wind-electric-systems>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3eJxUc9ltE&t=32s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPvTH7Siclg>

