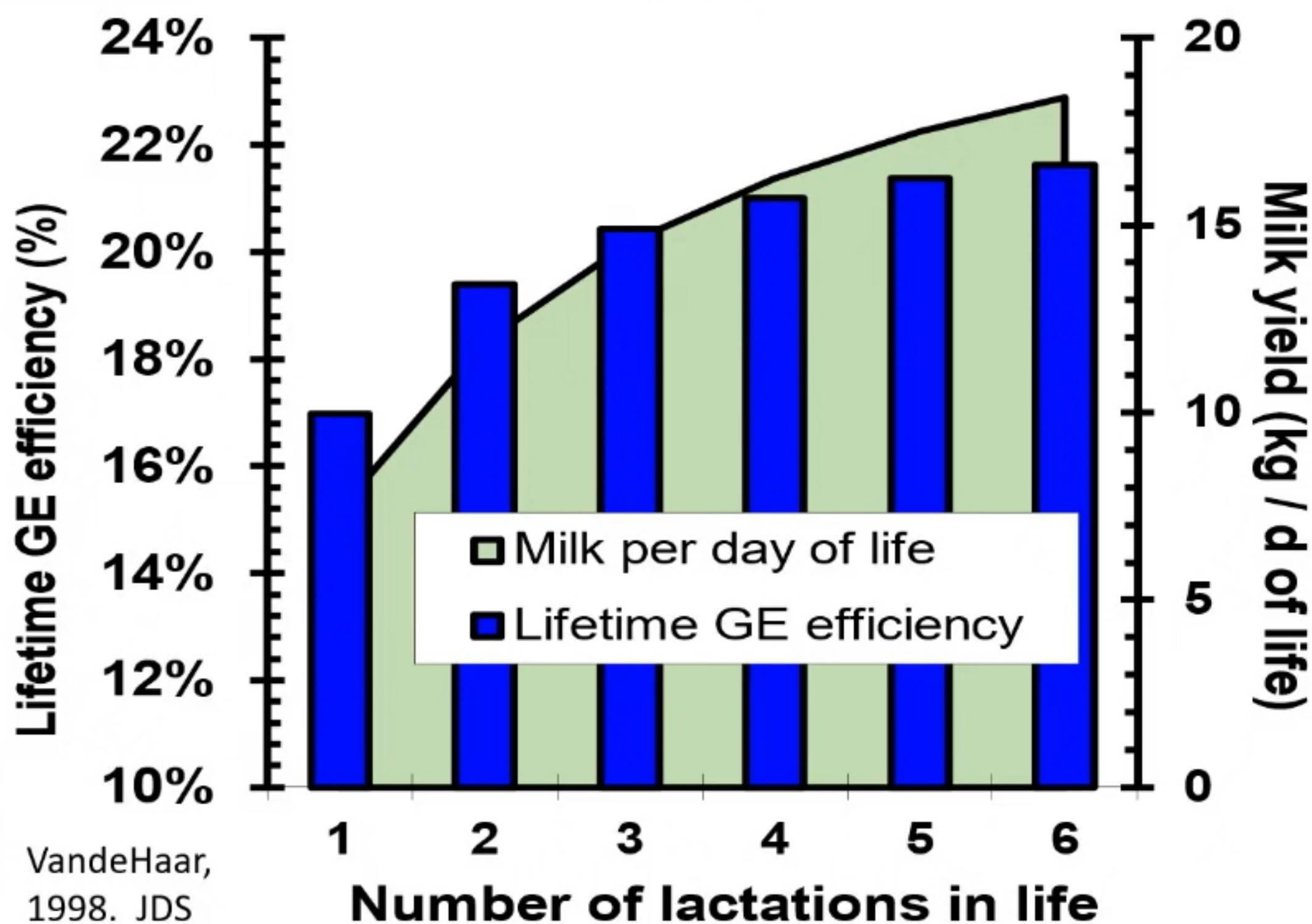


What is optimal for productive life?

Energy is captured in milk, body tissues, and conceptus.

Lifetime Efficiency = Captured energy / Gross Energy intake



VandeHaar,
1998. JDS

These calculations are for a cow that calves at 24 months, produces 9000 kg (20,000 lb) milk/year at maturity, and leaves the farm as quality beef that will be harvested.