



## Innovations



**1985:** Foundation of the merger by Pinnel and Boonen

**2010:** Major fire and reconstruction of the stables

**2020:** Conversion and new construction of a dairy cow barn



**1986:**  
Resettlement farm for 100 dairy cows

**2020:**  
Farm takeover

**2022:** Completion of the new cow barn for 380 animals

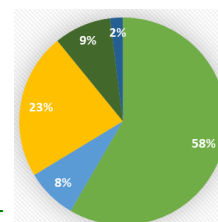
### The herd

- 480 Livestock Units (LU)
- 290 dairy cows
- Breeds : Holstein Friesian
- 300 dairy heifers
- Calving period : all year
- Age at first calving : 27 months

### Agricultural Area

#### 330 ha AA

- 195 ha **perm. grassland**
- 25 ha **temp. grassland**
- 75 ha **Maize silage**
- 5 ha **fodder beet**
- 15 ha **barley**/ 15 ha **wheat**
- 300 ha main fodder area
- 75 % of grassland / forage area



### Workforces

- 7 labour units (Full Time Equivalent)
- 69 dairy cows/FTE & 550.000 l /FTE
- **Aims:**
  - increase to 400 cows
  - increase efficiency & performance

### Areas of interest

- Milk production
- Main fodder quality
- Biogas production

### Main buildings and Equipment

- Conversion of the old dairy cow barn into a dry cow and young heifer barn
- New dairy cow barn with 5 milking robots
- Calf and young heifer barns
- Fodder hall, machine hall & workshop

### Production / Technical results

- 2.500.000 liters of milk produced (100 % sold)
- 4,3 % fat & 3,52 % protein content
- Stocking rate: 1,6 LU / ha forage area
- 8.800 l of milk /cow /year & 6.500 l/ha forage area



### Strengths

- specialisation in milk production
- simple workflows



### Weaknesses

- only one mainstay
- 130ha in the water protected area
- LU stocking at maximum



### Opportunities

- food shortage
- large area structure
- good cooperation with neighbour farms



### Threats

- price fluctuations on the world market
- feed shortage during dry years
- heavy rainfall events reduce forage quality

## Farmer’s strategy for a “resilient” system

- *Develop a plan for all known recurring risk situations*
- *For unforeseen situations, reduce the risk of harm through replacement*
- *Respond more quickly to situations through better collaboration between administrations and practitioners*

## Aspirations / Needs for the future

- *Exclusive milk production in a state-of-the-art robot barn with 400 dairy cows*
- *Entry into biogas production in the future*

## Improvement project - objectives

- Labour saving
- More free time



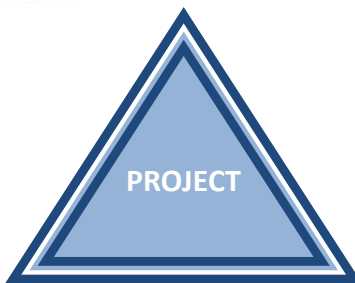
**ECONOMY & LABOUR**

- Increase milk performance
- Increase efficiency, cost saving, profit increase

- Improve main fodder quality



**RESSOURCE Efficiency**



**PROJECT**

- Increase animal welfare in the barn
- Manure application at the optimal time

**ENVIRONMENT ANIMAL Wellbeing**



### Project

“Resilience 4 Dairy” is a European project involving 15 European countries and 18 partners. R4D is a thematic network on innovations and aims to support EU dairy farming in these regions where dairy farming is a main economic activity.



R4D pilot farmers are involved in a National Dairy Akis group where needs, solutions and knowledge are exchanged with other farmers, advisors and scientists on their way to build a resilient system. More information <https://resilience4dairy.eu/>