

Innovations

Environment / Resource efficiency



2003

Start dairy farm on an original arable farm

2007

Cow comfort + focus on longevity + dry cow ration

2009

Youngstock rearing improvement

2012

Focus on cow comfort, housing improvements

Farming milestones

Including a new barn, focus on self-development & management (feeding, cost price efficiency)

Improving (udder) health

Increase bed sizes, calving pen increase, removing walls

2015

Farmwalk (more milk from grass)

2020

Biodiversity and energy (mills/panels, self sufficiency)

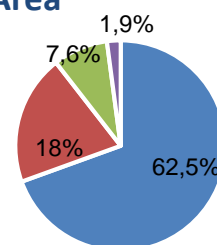
The herd

- 130 dairy cows (42 young stock, 20 calves)
- Breeds : HF + FH
- Calving period : close to all year round (except July/August due to insemination stop)
- Age at first calving : 25 months

Agricultural Area

Total 95 ha AA

- 66 ha grassland
- 19 ha nature grass
- 8 ha corn
- 2 ha arable



Workforces

- 1,5 labour units (Full Time Equivalent)
- 130 dairy cows & 766666 l / FTE
- Support from in-house sustainability and grazing coach

Areas of interest

- Societal acceptance
- Optimization of (farm) management; land (soil/crops/herbs), cow and energy production, biodiversity

Main buildings and equipments

- 1 x barn (3 x 3 free stall)
- Separate barn for youngstock
- 2x12 parallel milking parlor
- Blueprints for H2 – Electrolyser
- Windmills and solar panels



Production / Technical results

- 1150000 liters of milk produced
- 4.47 % fat & 3.61 % protein content
- Stocking rate: 1.74 LU / ha forage area
- 8800 l of milk /cow /year & 15333 l /ha forage area

 <h3>Strengths</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balanced approach towards cow, land, barn Strong, optimistic team Work pleasure Self sufficient Externally and society focused 	 <h3>Weaknesses</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy financing Possible balance between ideology and economy Need to be in control Sense of powerlessness 	 <h3>Opportunities</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing to many projects that help development, open to change Regional support The province desires to be agriculturally focused 	 <h3>Threats</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public opinion Framing of NGO's Unbridled, unilateral negative communication Lack of focus Shortage of time Insecurity regarding licensing and policy making
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Farmer's strategy for a "resilient" system


- 1) Sustainability with regards to energy (towards community).
- 2) Self-sufficiency and reduce external dependence (commercial advisor, feed, input, soil)
- 3) Animal welfare focus
- 4) Being open to change, balance between ideology and economy

Aspirations / Needs for the future

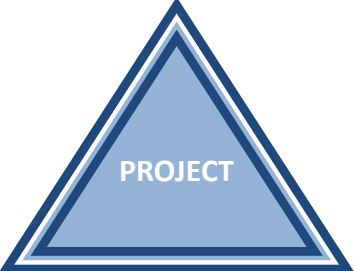
Knowledge (about policy and legislation, innovations, agricultural developments (i.e. on soil/herbs)). License to keep producing as a dairy farm and priority on the N-space.

Improvement project - objectives

- H2 conversion
- Artificial N reduction
- Reduce external input




ECONOMY & LABOUR




PROJECT

- Thinking about future prospective on economic models (open minded)
- Increased herbs
- Longevity (6,7 yr on average)



RESOURCE Efficiency

ENVIRONMENT ANIMAL Wellbeing





"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/>