

## Innovations

**Environment /  
Resource efficiency**



**2013**  
New free walk  
barn with  
wood chips

**2020**  
lower and longer  
silage storage walls

**2021**  
Change of feed  
strategy without corn

**2021**  
More grassland, less  
tulips and field beans

**2021**  
Feed strategy  
changed to herb rich  
feeding

**2022**  
Change of  
ownership

## Farming milestones

To reduce silage losses

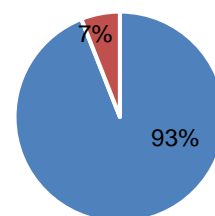
### The herd

- 105 dairy cows (44 young stock)
- Breed : HF
- Calving period : all year round
- Age at first calving : 25 months
- Calving interval: 420 days

### Agricultural Area

#### Total 68 total ha AA

- 63 ha grassland
- 5 ha corn



### Workforces

- 1,5 labour units (Full Time Equivalent)
- 102 dairy cows & 620000 l / 1,5 FTE
- Succession is likely

### Areas of interest

- Circularity; soil quality
- Feed efficiency
- More natural methods of feeding and manure application

### Main buildings and equipments

- 1 main free walk stall with wood chips
- 2x Milking robots
- Air ventilation engine/system



### Production / Technical results

- 930000 liters of milk produced, with 5,2 average present age (42500 L at culling)
- 4.3% Fat, 3,5% Protein
- Stocking rate: 1.5 LU / ha forage area, 6kg concentrate / cow day
- 9100 l of milk /cow /year & 13600 l /ha forage area



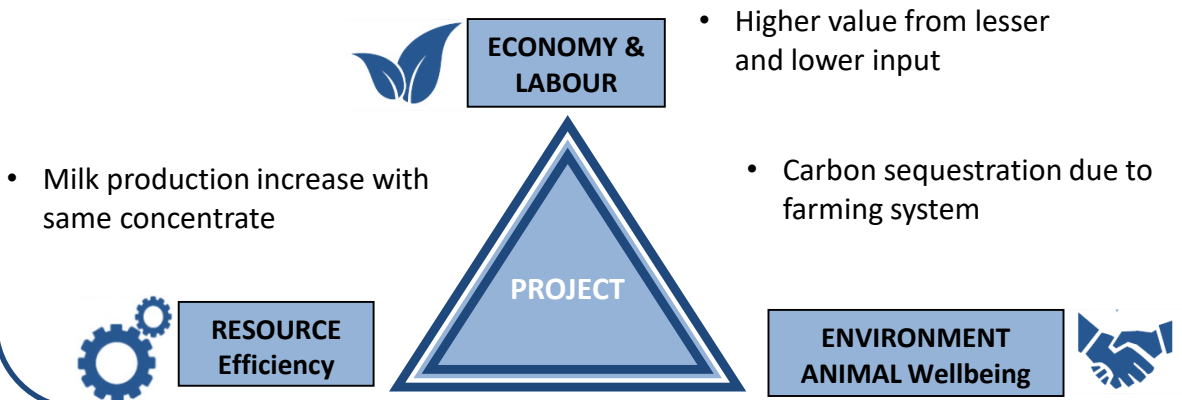
### Farmer’s strategy for a “resilient” system

- 1) Work on soil/cow quality and health to work towards organic/fertilizer free
- 2) Free walking system to support farming philosophy
- 3) Reduction of derogation will lead to having less livestock and sales of higher value composting material

### Aspirations / Needs for the future

Clear policy (regional) and security of those, ability to make sustainable plans. Free walking system recognized as an emission low farming system.

### Improvement project - objectives



“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/>