

## Innovations

Socio economic  
Resilience /  
Environment



2012

Franck Le Breton takes over the family farm

2016

Conversion to organic farming started for the rest of the farm - 100% grass-based system

2017

Maud Cloarec partners

## Farming milestones

2012

Creation of a dairy cow building and a milking parlour - adhesion to MAEC SFEI

2016

Calving period set to autumn First closing of the milking parlour - adhesion to French environmental measures (MAEC SPE 12/70)

2018-2019  
3 km of hedges planted

2020  
Eating apple orchard planted

2021  
Considering creating a vineyard

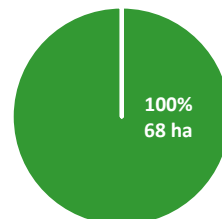
## The herd

- 90 LU
- 47 dairy cows + 10 females crossed with Belgian Blue or Charolaises for meat
- Breeds: Crossbreeds (100%)
- Replacement rate: 15%
- Calving period: Spring
- Age at first calving: 24 months
- Milking OAD all year round

## Agricultural Area

68 ha AA

- 68 ha perm. grassland
- 250 apple trees
- 68 ha forage area
- Grass: 100% / forage area



## Workforce

- 2 partners and 1 employee (20%)
- 2.20 work units - FTE
- = 21 dairy cows & 113,000 L /FTE
- Aims: 6 weeks of holiday/year, free time available, No work on Wednesdays and Saturdays

## Areas of interest

- 100% grass and hay-based
- Cost-effective system
- Grouped calving period
- Milking OAD
- Added-value
- Agroforestry



## Main buildings and Equipment

- Freestall housing, cubicles on dolomite sand
- 23 paddocks of 2 ha - 45 ha for dairy cows
- 3.5 km of stabilised roads
- 2x5 Milking parlour



## Production/ Technical results

- 250,000 L produced (dairy coop « Biolait »)
- 45 g/l fat & 36 g/l protein content
- Stocking rate: 1 LU/ha forage area
- 4,533 l/cow/year 6,100 l/ha forage area
- OAD milking for 290 days of lactation
- 290 days/year of grazing
- 1.6 t DM of stocked fodder/LU
- Feed cost = €13/1000 L
- 0 kg of concentrate/cow/year
- Operating costs = 6% of gross product



## Strengths

- Economic efficiency
- Technical skills
- Less worktime
- Diverse source of income



## Weaknesses

- Single fodder production



## Opportunities

- Strong involvement in networks and partnerships
- Knowledge sharing through communication and bookwriting



## Threats

- Increasing effects of climate change
- Context of the dairy industry

## Farmer's strategy for a resilient system

To build a resilient system, both farmers went for a cost-effective and independent strategy by grouping all calving over 6 weeks at springtime. By milking once a day and closing the milking parlour 2.5 months in winter, they both fulfil their aim of limiting worktime to under 35h/week. The grass-based system contributes to limit their environmental impact by reducing their GHG emissions. Carbon emissions are thus reduced thanks to grasslands and hedges, and by limiting the number of unproductive animals on the farm.

## Aspirations/Needs for the future

Both partners now intend to share on their quality of life, their good economic results and the low impact of their system to people outside of farming, in the hopes of attracting more people to their work.

## Improvement project - objectives

- Diversify the farm



**ECONOMY & LABOUR**

- Increase the added value per hour worked

- Tree-planting (bocage, orchards, vineyards)

**PROJECT**

- Improve animal welfare
- Develop biodiversity
- Reduce energy consumption



**RESOURCE Efficiency**

**ENVIRONMENT ANIMAL WELLBEING**



Partners



“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/>