



Resilience for Dairy (R4D) has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101000770

**Farm: SOC. AGR. DELSANTE
ELVEZIO E SAVERIO
&
Cheese Factory:
CASEIFICIO SAN PIER
DAMIANI**

**ITALY
Emilia-
Romagna
Region**



Innovations

**Socio-economic
efficiency
&
Technical
efficiency**



Farming milestones with regard to resilience



2012

- Herd management software
- Photovoltaic system



2015

- Farm balance / economic performance



2018

- Automatic feeder
- Creation and developing of an e-commerce web-site and use of social media and web marketing



2019

- Cow's DNA and milk tests



2020

- Heifers monitoring with collar sensor
- A2A2 productions



2021

- improved cooling system in the barn (ventilation)
- new machine to optimize the cheese yield – automatic skimming system
- product innovation with the 1° Parmigiano Reggiano PDO A2A2





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THE HERD

- 350 Livestock Units (LU)
- 182 dairy cows
- Breeds : Italian Frisian
- 120 dairy heifers
- Calving period : all year round
- Age at first calving : 24.5 months

Agricultural Area



120 ha AA

- Alfa-alfa grass, wheat, ryegrass

Areas of interest

- Technical efficiency
- Milk quality

Workforces



- Family-run business
- 6 labour units (Full Time Equivalent):
 - 2 partners
 - 4 employees



Main buildings and equipments




- Indoor tied up stall on straw
- Milk Pipeline
- Automatic feeder
- Individual + collective boxes for young calves
- Collective boxes on straw litter for heifers
- Herd management software
- Photovoltaic system
- Heifers monitoring with collar sensor
- Improved cooling system in the barn (ventilation)
- Machine to optimize the cheese yield – automatic skimming system



Production / Technical results

- 1550000 liters of milk produced
- 4 % fat & 3,45 % protein content
- 30 liters of milk /cow / day (average)
- Parmigiano Reggiano Cheese; fresh cheese "Damianino"
- Parmigiano Reggiano "only brown- cows" and "naturally A2A2 protein"



 <p>Strengths</p> <p>Good management skills, exploitation of commercial niches and new sales media</p>	 <p>Weaknesses</p> <p>Sensitivity to climate change (hot summers with few rain)</p>	 <p>Opportunities</p> <p>PDO – Parmigiano Reggiano Cheese</p>	 <p>Threats</p> <p>Weather hazards: drought and heat</p>
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Farmer’s strategy for a “resilient” system

FARM

- 1. Animal health and welfare** → Reduction of antibiotics starting from calves (vax) and optimize the proportion dairy cows/heifers
- To be **self sufficient for forage production**
- DNA Tests and genetic **selection of A2A2** cows.

DAIRY PLANT:

- Make the **milk price stable** increasing **direct sales** in-store and **on-line**, profiled **marketing strategy** and **tourist reception** with new **shop and tasting room** (2019: >7.000 visitors)
- Diversifying the production looking for **market niches** such as Parmigiano Reggiano “**only brown- cows**” and “**naturally A2A2 protein**” (first PDO certified), **fresh cheese “Damianino”** out from quota system
- Control the full production** process from the land to milk to cheese to the final consumers.



Aspirations / Needs for the future

FARM

2023: build a new barn with **milking robot system**

DAIRY PLANT

Increasing direct sales via B2B and B2C targets to cover the **100% of the production**



“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/>