

## Innovations

Technical efficiency & cow longevity



2001  
next generation take over the mixed farm

2011  
focusing on dairy production

2006  
quit pig production and switching to beef production

Farming milestones

### The herd

- 180 cattle heads
- 93 dairy cows
- Breeds : HF
- 87 dairy heifers
- Calving period: all year round
- Age at first calving: 26-28 months
- Increasing the cow herd - evaluation of the breeding value of cows



### Agricultural Area

- 100 ha
- 15 ha perm. grassland
- 15 ha temp. grassland
- 37 ha maize silage
- 33 ha cereals
- **100 % forage area**



### Workforces

- 1 family labour unit (FTE)
- 1 employee (FTE)
- 1000 hours for seasonal workers (600-700 hours in crop production)

### Areas of interest

- Increase milk cow yield
- Investment in machinery
- Increasing the cow herd

### Main buildings and equipment

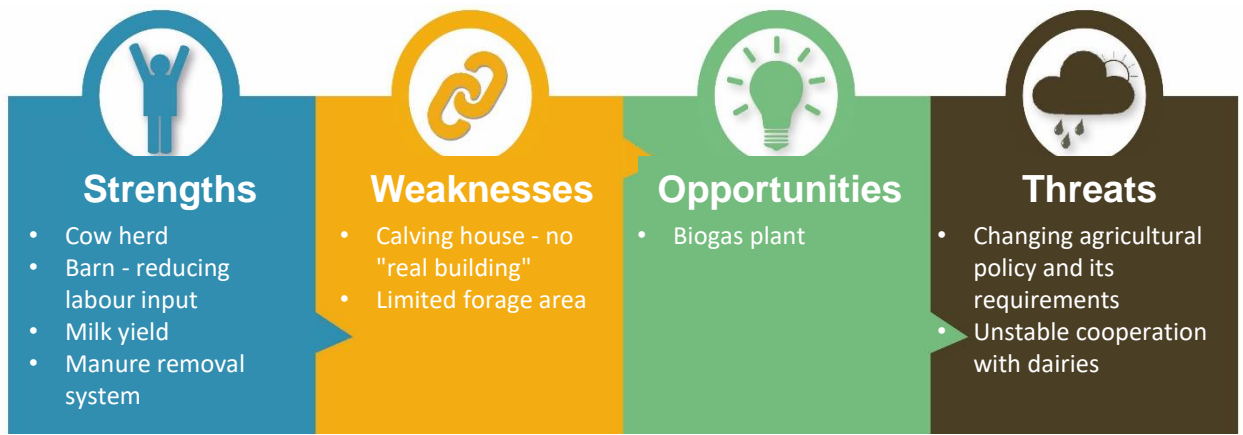
- Freestall housing
- Loose keeping of calves
- Fishbone milking system 2x8
- TMR feeding system



### Production / Technical results

- 900 000 liters of milk produced (99% sold)
- 4,0 % fat & 3,2 % protein content
- 11 000 l of milk /cow /year
- Focus on cow longevity
- Milk yield





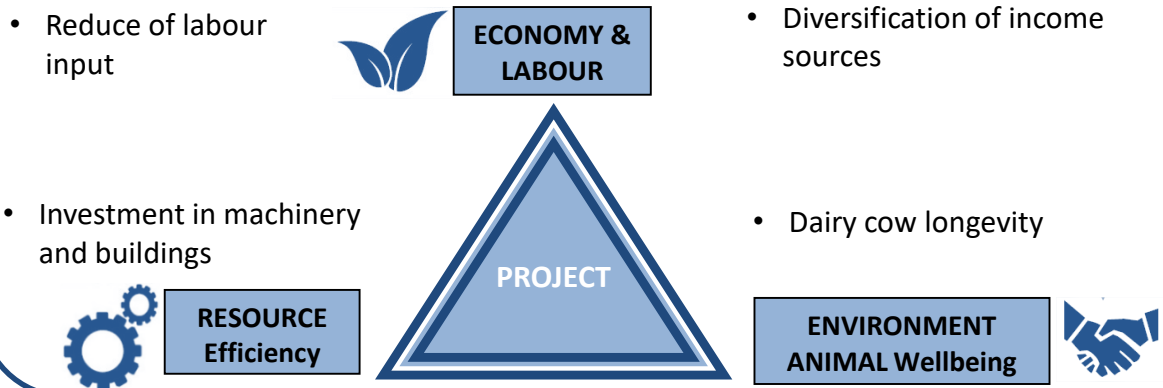
### Farmer's strategy for a "resilient" system

- Diversification in income sources - not directly linked to agricultural production (e.g. machinery services)
- Farm generating an income

### Aspirations / Needs for the future

- Increasing resource efficiency
- Income from the sale of milk by-products
- Improving mechanisation of production

### Improvement project - objectives



#### 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/>