



Resilience for Dairy (R4D) has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101000770 Leider Gilbert
Pilot Farm description
Erpeldange-sur-Sûre 2021



Innovations









Farming milestones

2007: Milestone: Business takeover & classroom

2017: new dairy cow barn

2022: farm manager 60 years old, son 18 years old

2011: Modification of young cattle barn

2019: pedagogical farm

The herd

- 1,3/1,4 GVE
- 60 dairy cows

Breed: Holstein Friesian

- 70 heifers
- Calving period : all year
- Age at first calving: 25-26 months

Agricultural Area

90 ha AA

- 60 ha permanent grassland
- 10 ha silage maize
- 10 ha barley 10 ha Wheat
- 13 ha forest
- 70 ha main forage area
- 85 % of grassland / forage area

Workforces

- 1 labour unit (Full Time Equivalent)
- 60 dairy cows/FTE & 600.000 I /FTE
- Aim: outsourcing field work

Areas of interest

- breeding
- digitalisation

Main buildings and Equipment

- Milking robot
- Young cattle in older buildings (deep straw & cubicles)
- Slurry stockage (capacity for 11 months)

Production / Technical results



- 600.000 liters of produced milk (100% sold)
- 4,2 % fat & 3,3 –3,4 % protein content
- Stocking rate: 1,3 LU / ha forage area
- 10000l of milk /cow /year & 8571 l /ha forage area





Cattleman

classroom, group activities



Weaknesses

site near the barn



Opportunities

visit of LTA



Threats

- no expansion possible at the site
- land loss

Farmer's strategy for a "resilient" system

- Sustainable management: water protection, optimal spreading of slurry
 - Pedagogical farm will be extended
- Low mineral nitrogen fertilisation (12 t KAS), 17 ha in agri-environmental and climate measures

Aspirations / Need for the future

- Plant some fruit trees → make apple juice with the classes

Improvement project - objectives

More free time



- 10.000 l, milking milk profitably
- Better forage

Young cattle on pasture



RESSOURCE **Efficiency**



Water protection → optimisation of slurry spreading

ENWIRONMENT & 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/