



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

**Fam. Vanneste
Nico en Veerle
Pilot Farm Discription
Oedelem**

Belgium



Innovations

**Socio-economic
Resilience /
Environment**



Farming milestones

2003

Cooperating company with parents + new dairy barn

2021/2022

Want to build new dairy barn but face permit freeze

2015

Complete take over of farm + construction of new hangar for storage

2023

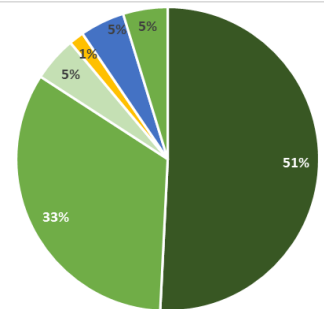
Challenge to buy a farm in Wallonië (move in aug 2023)

The herd (2021)

- 182 Livestock Units
- 101 Holstein
- 81 Young stock
- Calving period : all year round
- Age at first calving : 25 months
- Calving interval : 418 days

Cropping Plan

- Permanent Grass. 51%
- Maize Silage 33%
- Potatoes 5%
- Fodder beet 1%
- Grain 5%
- Catch Crop 5%



Workforces

- 1,5 labor units : Nico & Veerle
- **Aims** : Generate income, low cost production, optimisation and private time for taking care of the children

Areas of interest

- Animal welfare
- Labour organisation
- ?

Main buildings and Equipment

dairy cows

- Cubicle barn for cows
- Milking: herringbone parlour 7 & 8

Young stock

- < 6 months : straw

Production / Technical results (2021)

- 905 000 liters of milk produced
- Fat : 4,6 g/l & protein: 3,5 g/l
- Replacement Rate: 34 %
- 9 550 kg of milk /cow /year (FPCM)
- 1 140 kg of concentrate/cow/year
- 2 050 kg of concentrated feed/cow/year
- Return over feed cost : 21,5 €/100 l



Strengths

- Efficiency
- Labour planning
- Good technical key-results



Weaknesses

- Pressure of nature areas
- necessary replacement of barns is not possible.



Opportunities

- Open minded for relocation of the farm



Threats

- Rapidly changing legislation
- Increased feed and fertiliser costs
- Climate change, drought

Strategy of the farmers to improve resilience

The business leader is convinced of the 'what you do yourself you do better' strategy. So he fully commits to own labour and good organisation. The company can only grow until its own labour is saturated. This means, among other things, that land work is done in-house, repairs are done during quiet periods on the farm and renovations are also done in-house as much as possible.

Areas of interest / Aspirations / Needs for the future

Continue working on further optimization.

Improvement project - objectives

- Reduce work load
- Reduction of cost production



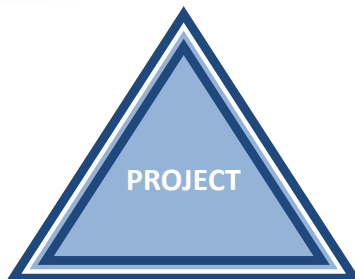
ECONOMY & LABOUR

- Private time and family

- More own protein production



RESSOURCE Efficiency



- Animal welfare

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 : www.resilience4dairy.eu