



Earl Martin
Patrick Martin
St-André sur Vieux Joncs
(Rhône-Alpes - France) – 2016

The herd / dairy cattle

- **86 dairy Livestock Units (LU)**
- **65 dairy cows & 30 dairy heifers**
- **Breed:** Montbéliarde
- **Calving period :** all year round
- **Age at first calving:** 24 months
- **500,500 kg of ECM milk produced**
 - 99 % sold
 - 4.00% fat and 3.40% protein
- **7,710 kg ECM/cow year⁻¹ (milk yield)**
- **9,635 kg ECM milk per ha forage area**
- **Stocking rate:** 1.7 LU /ha forage area
- **170 g kg⁻¹ ECM concentrate feed intake and all year feed ration based on 50% of maize silage.**
- **Cows housed in cubbicles with straw and sand on lying area.**

Innovations

- **Buildings are functional and fodder area are gathered closed to the buildings and storage area.** By this way, it allows a high labour productivity without too much workload from their point of view (60 hours a week per partner)
- **To get a good feed self-sufficiency and a kind of resilience,** they build a **forage system based on double purpose crops (forage or grain)** with maize and cereals, and **catch crop** with Italian ryegrass & red clover. So, they maximise the yield of the fodder area (18 to 20 T DM per ha per year).
- Home made **full dry feed ration** for heifers
- **Added values activity with direct sales** of dairy meat (Montbéliarde breed offers better meat yield than Holstein)

The farm

- **Workforce: 2**
(2 partners: father & son)
- **Crops and dairy farm**
- **80 ha agriculture area** (arable, drained)
- **47 ha fodder area**
 - 32 ha of maize silage
 - 15 ha permanent grassland
 - 30 ha of Italian ryegrass & red clover as catch crop

Areas of interest/Aspirations

Socio-economics resilience
 Resource efficiency

- *Improve their cost of production results.*
- *Make profits with current buildings and equipment*
- *Looking after added value (meat direct selling)*
- *Anticipate generation renewal*