



Guillaume Family

Gaëc Ferme du Marjon
Soucieu en Jarrest
Rhône-Alpes
France
2016

The herd

- **102 dairy Livestock Units (LU)**
- **64 dairy cows** and 65 dairy goats
- **Breeds:** Holstein (100 %)
- **Two calving periods:** summer and winter
- **Age at first calving:** 30 months
- **507,000 kg of ECM milk produced**
 - 80 % sold + 20 % direct sold
 - 3.87% fat and 3.16% protein
- 7,982 kg ECM/cow year⁻¹ (milk yield)
- 5,899 kg ECM milk per ha forage area
- **Stocking rate:** 1.1 LU /ha forage area
- 226 g kg⁻¹ ECM concentrate feed intake
- **Sleeping on stalls with straw**

Innovations

- **Added value research and adapt the farming system to its peri-urban environment:** organic system and direct sale of cheese, produced on the farm
- **Build a forage system to get a strong feed autonomy and resilience** by the diversity of forage: irrigation of corn and alfalfa; more dry forage trials (multiswards grasslands, moha and sorghum)
- **Barn hay drying:** to harvest early, to get a good quality hay, to be autonomous for the harvesting
- **Harvest ear of maize:** to get fodder with high level of energy contents, simple to distribute (tractor and feed mixer are not necessary)
- **Good organisation of work.** Weekly meeting to organize and distribute tasks amongst partners and employees
- **Dairy goats cattle** is reared to produce and diversify cheese on farm and to allow one of partner's wife to join the farm

The farm

- **Workforce: Seven** (7.3 full time)
(Five partners and two employees)
- **Specialised dairy farm** (cows and goats)
- **108 ha Agriculture Area**
- **13 ha crops** (wheat, barley)
- **95 ha Fodder Area:**
 - 72 ha grassland (76 % FA)
 - 6 ha alfalfa (6 % FA)
 - 13 ha maize epi (14 % FA)
 - 2 ha grain sorghum + 2 ha moha
 - +10 ha catch crops

Areas of interest/Aspirations

- Socio-economic resilience,
Resource efficiency, Biodiversity
- *Build a sustainable system*
 - *Look after feed self-sufficiency with fodder species adapted to dry climatic conditions*