



# Milking robot and grassland management as a family father



## Pol Tonglet - Ferme du château de Tahier

### 1 Description of the innovation



Pol Tonglet is constantly improving his grazing management system. Currently he practices:

- Rotational and continuous stocking
- Overseeding technique on grassland with Gütler precision equipment
- Grazing followed by low cut.

Pol has a milking robot.



The added value of practices implemented by Pol covers both:

- Grassland quality (species composition, feeding value)
- Livestock production quantity or yield
- Environment quality (soil, water, pollution, odour, etc.)



**Farmer's strategy is focusing on higher production and permanent curiosity**

For Pol Tonglet, the climate remains a constraint on the productivity of his grassland and the non-use of pesticides products a challenge.

## 2 Farm description

### ENVIRONMENT

- Soil types : Clayey-loam, Clay, Limestone
- Temperate oceanic climate
- Altitude : 200 m
- Slope : 0-5%

### GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grasslands, mostly permanent, are both grazed and mowed down (4 times a year). The duration of permanent meadows is longer than 20 years. Grazing management type: rotational and continuous stocking. Forage is stored according 3 types: silage, haylage and hay.

### STRUCTURE

**Annual Work Unit: 3**

**Agricultural Area: 105 ha UAA**

The farm is managed by the owner and his wife (rural tourism). 63 ha are dedicated to crops and the rest in permanent (35 ha) and temporary (7 ha) grasslands.

The dairy cattle is Pie Noire Holstein : 75 lactating cows. The milk production is average: 8,500 kg of milk / cow / year. The beef cattle is Blue-white Belgian breed (BBB) : 170 heads

### WHY IT IS WORKING

Pol Tonglet set up a performing grassland management based on a long practical experience developed in particular with his brother