

# Cellular grazing in Vosges





# GAEC de la Charmée

### **Description of the innovation**



Since many years, the GAEC de la Charmée tested several kind of pasture management: continuous, with wire... To finaly choose the rotational grazing.

In 2016, with the son'installation on the farm, the number of dairy cows double to reach 120 cows. The paddocks, witch are made to 3 or 4 days of grazing, don't allow to stay more than 2 days for grazing.

Rotational, then cellular grazing, allowed better valorization for area close to the farm building and to limit use of corn silage. In the simulations for son's installation, with



120 cows, the breeding need to have 50 ha of corn. In 2016 and 2017, only 25-30 ha were enough. Cows didn't eat corn silage from 1st april to 1st novembre 2017.

Difficulties were about the organization of paddocks and especially for the access track. This track had to be moved because it was'nt adapted. The water access is the next step for the paddock organization.



Valorize the area that can be use as pasture Less work time Improvement of flora

#### **FARMER'S STRATEGY**

- Dairy production due to pasture
- Limit income of concentrates and corn silage area



## Farm description

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Main soil type: superficial clay and limestone, could be very dry in summer

Climate: Oceanic to continental trend

Altitude: 350 m

#### **GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT**

Grazing: Yes, cellular grazing

Grazing 7-8 month a year

#### **STRUCTURE**

**Annual Work Unit:** 3

Agricultural area: 235 ha UAA

Temporay grassland: 23 ha

Permanent grassland: 88 ha

Area for cellular grazing: 32 ha

Corn silage: 27 ha

Breeds: Prim'holstein and Montbéliarde

**Stocking rate**: 1,34 UGB / ha forage area

#### **ANIMAL PERFORMANCES**

Milk production by head: 8000 L/year

#### WHY IT IS WORKING

Large accessible area close to the farm building

Grande surface accessible derrière le bâtiment

Importance of thinking time during the organization of paddocks.

Advices took from advisors, farms visits, agricultural newspaper...