

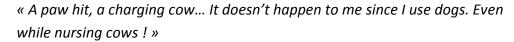
# Using herd dogs to increase work efficacity





# GAEC du Petit Fer

## 1 Description of the innovation



Bruno Banon is a farmer and a former about « herd dogs ». So he isn't very present on the farm. So his working time must be efficient and without risk.

With a fragmented plot set, animals have to change of paddock very frequently to have a good grass management. That normaly demands to be several people with a trailer, to install fences ... or to be alone with a 4x4 and a dog. The use of herd dog allows to move quikly the cattle and to increase work efficacity, for all of the GAEC du Petit Fer associates.

The dog allows to create a different relation of dominance with the cattle. Globaly, cows are stressless and more calm. The work security and comfort are so consolidated.



### **FARMER'S STRATEGY**

- Be able to graze small and distant plots
- Increase work efficacity and cofort
- Secure work



# Farm description

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Types of soil: Clay and limestone

Climate: océanic to continental trend

Altitude: 300 m

### **GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT**

Grazing: Yes

Grazing 7 month a year

### **STRUCTURE**

Annual work unit: 3

Agricultural area: 206 ha UAA

Temporary grassland: 15 ha

Permanent grassland: 86 ha

Corn silage: 30 ha

Breeds: Prim'holstein and charolaises

Stocking rate: 1,58 LU / ha of forage area

### **ANIMAL PERFORMANCES**

Milk production: 9000 L/year/cow

### WHY IT IS WORKING

Real will to work with dogs. It is a necessity to increase the work efficiency and the farm perform.

The farmer is vigilant to his behavior and to the dog and cattle behavior. It is important to have a coherence between the three.

A consolidated vigilance is done on the dogs training.