



# Adapt grasslands to climate change



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### 1 Description of the innovation



The soils of the farm are very dry in summer. The grass growth during summer never was important, but last years, it is absent.

Classical species (ryegrass, white clover) are too much impacted by the repeated drought. Other species are developed on the farm with more success : fescue, dactyl, lucerne and sainfoin.

With these species, the main difficulty is to be precise on the grazing management. It is especially true with tall fescue and dactyl.

The sainfoin have an important first cut and a little second cut. This plant give a fibrous and very sweet forrage, witch is very appreciate by cattle, and rich in protein. The sainfoin have too health virtues usefull for calves breeding.



Summer growth  
Health effects

### FARMER'S STRATEGY

- Production of grass during summer
- Adapt his grasslands to climate change

## 2 Farm description

### ENVIRONMENT

Soils : superficial, very dry in summer

Climate : semi continental

Altitude : 400 m

### GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

**Grazing** : Yes, rotational grazing

Grazing 7 months a year

### STRUCTURE

**Annual Work Unit** : 1

**Agricultural area** : 55 ha UAA

Temporay grassland : 22 ha

Permanent grassland : 19 ha

Corn silage : 8 ha

**Breeds** : Prim'holstein

**Stocking rate** : 1,37 UGB / ha of forage area

### ANIMAL PERFORMANCES

**Milk production by head** : 7 900 L /year

### WHY IT IS WORKING

Species are choose specially for the adaptation to the soil and climate context  
Farmer is vigilant during the seeding of temporary grassland, because the quality of seeding explain the productivity of the grassland.