

## A PLOT EXCHANGE TO MAINTAIN A GRAZING SYSTEM DESPITE THE INCREASE IN HERD SIZE

When Florian set up on the family farm in 2018, his aim was to maintain the grazing system put in place by his parents while increasing the size of the herd by 40% (80 dairy cows today). The system of 40-45 areas of pasture per dairy cow meets their objectives: 7,200 litres of milk sold per cow, a controlled feed cost of less than €70/1000L and the maize silage silo closed for several months while grazing exclusively. With limited accessible land around the milking site, Florian and his father decided to install a mobile milking parlour to graze two more distant sites. In 2020, they began discussions with their neighbours and offered to swap land. In total, 11 hectares were exchanged, leaving Florian and his father with 7 hectares directly accessible to dairy cows.

This opportunity means that they will no longer have to move the milking parlour, which has shown its limitations in terms of arduousness and working time (washing and moving the milk in particular). Today, they can invest in a building for the dairy cows and a fixed milking parlour to further improve their working comfort, while continuing to graze the herd. Florian's advice: don't hesitate to talk to your neighbours, the renewal of farmers is an opportunity to shake things up and review the organisation of the land.

grassland management

## **Farmer Interview**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tX6H8EYEtoc







Photo credit: photos generated from farmer interview - Institut de L'Elevage – Idele









