



 Ioan Vălean - family farm



Ioan Vălean



15 hectares



workload reduction

AN EFFICIENT MANURE COLLECTING AND UTILIZATION SYSTEM

A Mountain agriculture in Romania is mostly carried out traditionally, in an extensive system, characterized by small farms with low production. For this reason, in order to perform, these farms must be oriented towards quality and efficiency. The most common problems faced by farmers are difficulties accessing to financing instruments, reluctance to join cooperatives, groups of producers to ensure a unitary production, possibilities to create storage, processing and marketing infrastructure, as well as reduction of operating expenses. The mountainous area of Romania is a supplier of quality food raw materials. This aspect can be well exploited in the long term, primarily due to the increase in demand for products obtained from sustainable agriculture and coming from a territory that preserves a wide biodiversity.

The Valean family, farmers from the village of Spermezeu, Bistrița-Năsăud county and members of the Cooperative Someș-Tibles-Meles have built a solid business focused on raising 13 cows of the Baltata Romaneasca breed, for meat and milk production, working an area of 15 hectares of land, of which 13 are dedicated to pastures.

Being aware of the limited workforce and the importance of protecting the environment, the Valean family made a responsible choice, investing in building a modern and efficient stable.

This innovative stable significantly reduces the farmers' work by implementing an efficient system for manure collection. The integrated manure collection and utilization system contains the following elements: manure collection platform and compost management equipment (tractor and dumper).

A manure collection and utilization system brings several important benefits. First, it contributes to efficient management of waste resulting from agricultural and animal husbandry activities. By collecting and using it effectively, valuable organic fertilizer for agricultural crops can be obtained. Also, the proper collection and management of manure contributes to the prevention of environmental pollution, especially regarding water contamination with harmful substances.

More than simple farmers, the Valean family represents an example of perseverance and innovation in Romanian agriculture, by adopting a model of responsible management of natural resources and adaptation to the requirements of a modern and sustainable agriculture.

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Farmer Interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0njCOjbzG4>



Photo credit: photos generated from farmer interview - University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca and AgroTransilvania Cluster