

## NÁVARA FARMSTEAD

*Farmstead producing and processing meat, milk, and wood.*

### **Identification data:**

Name: Drahoslav Návara

Location: Velechvín, Czechia

Farm size: 80 ha (50% arable land + 50% grassland) + 20 ha of forest

In farming since: 2013

Main products: beef, milk, cottage cheese, cheese, wood

Web / Facebook / Twitter: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Local-Business/State-u-N%C3%A1var%C5%AF-329957037059377/>

Drahoslav Návara, 30, is a graduated agricultural engineer from the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice in the field of zootechnics. He farms on a family farm in the South Bohemian region near České Budějovice, which lies at an altitude of 550 m. Drahoslav's wife, father and brother also work on the farm. He farms on an area of 80 hectares, of which about half is arable land and half is permanent grassland. They also manage 20 hectares of their own forest. The farm is focused primarily on animal production. All crop production is used to provide a feed base for their own animals.

They keep between 80 and 90 cattle. Of these, most beef cattle are for fattening and beef production. They have some beef calves from their own beef cows, and they buy some calves from nearby farmers. The family also breeds several dairy cows, which form the basis of the dairy herd. The obtained milk is planned to be used in the newly established small milk processing dairy. This dairy is part of a new building, together with the farm shop and meat cutting facility. The annual production of beef comes from 40 cattle pieces. All meat will be processed in the newly emerging cutting plant and sold directly to consumers. The planned dairy is to have a capacity of approximately 100 liters of milk per day and will mainly prepare yoghurts, kefir, cheese, and cottage cheese. Cooperation with neighbouring farmers works, they mainly share agricultural machinery or provide services.

The family diversifies its economic activities outside of agriculture. They operate a band saw. They cut construction timber from logs, both from own forest and in the form of a service for customers.

Drahoslav became fully involved in the farm operation after completing his university studies and completing a six-month internship on a farm in Ireland (2013). His parents built a stable for fattening bulls without any subsidy support. They also built stable for hay and straw storage. After Drahoslav starting his own agricultural activities, he successfully purchased an articulated loader and round baler with 50% support from the Rural Development Program. He also used the possibility of financing agricultural machinery through a national investment loan. He purchased an older combine harvester, where the loan principal was reduced by 50% through de minimis support. This year, Drahoslav used another program - he bought a firewood processor.

His wife has applied for a subsidy for beginning young farmers. She would like to use the funds, if successful, to buy dairy equipment and start the dairy business. Drahoslav was also successful in obtaining a subsidy for equipment of their own meat cutting facility.

In the future, the family wants to process all the production itself in its own establishment, they plan to sell all production directly to the final consumer, in local stores or deliver it directly to restaurants. Today, the

family sees the sale from the yard as the only chance to ensure optimal financial income and thus ensure the possible development of our business.

In the next 20 years, they want to continue in farm development in a modern spirit. They are also considering a gradual transition to organic farming, which, however, must be well thought out and technologically ensured. They consider working in agriculture as a life mission, which can increase quality of land if done properly.

**Photos:**

