



CURDOVI WINERY

Jiřina - since her youth a winemaker, a winemaker by profession and a horse breeder.

Identification details

Name: Jiřina Pavelková

Location: Bořice, Āesko

Area size: 9 ha

Year of foundation: long family tradition

Main activities: vĭno, chov konĭ

Web / Facebook / Twitter: <https://www.facebook.com/vinarstvi.curdovi/>

Jiřina Pavelková is 29 years old. She graduated with a master's degree from the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of South Bohemia in Āeskĕ Budejovice.

She farms on a farm in Bořice in the South Moravian Region. The area of the farm is 9 ha. Currently, all the land she cultivates is leased from the family and the state.

Jiřina focuses mainly on vine growing and wine production. In addition, she operates horse breeding. She uses arable land and meadows to self-supply the farm.

As for the vineyards, Jiřina grows vines in an integrated way. Most vines are older than 30 years. She gradually restores old and sick individuals. The main cultivated varieties are typical for the given vineyard route and area, they are Veltliner Grĭn, Sauvignon, Mĭller Thurgau, Mopr Blanc, Welschriesling. Other varieties in the vineyard are: Pinot Gris, Zweigeltrebe, Riesling and Chardonnay. The grapes are harvested gradually, depending on their ripeness and the conditions of the given year. Most of the harvest takes place until the grapes reach a sugar content of 21° NM.

On arable land, Jiřina mainly grows oats and corn for feeding her horses. Complementary crops are barley, millet, and sunflower. The farm also has a pasture of 1 ha for horses, another 2 ha of grassland is used for mowing the grass for hay production. There are now two mares (female horses) on the farm. One mare is a Slovak warmblood and is kept for breeding purposes. The other horse is her daughter. Jiřina currently expands the stable. As soon as the stable is ready, she plans to add two breeding mares, and at the same time she will offer space for commercial housing of recreational horses.

Thanks to the vineyard, Jiřina is a member of the Cooperative of local winemakers (<https://cs-cz.facebook.com/dbv.bozice/>). Only winemaker from the locality could become a member. All together they cultivate one block of vineyards that has in total 16 hectares and is managed by 35 members. Jiřina sees the great advantage of membership that part of the work in the vineyard (mainly mechanical work such as maintaining land between wine lines, application of synthetic means allowed in integrated production, weed control under vine bushes) is ordered and done for all winemakers at once. This means significant time savings and economic savings. However, she identifies one disadvantage - service is ordered little bit later than the young winemaker would prefer (e.g. due to preventive treatment). Furthermore, the members of the cooperative, in cooperation with the municipality, organize various wine events like so-called "open cellars" (event when many local winemakers open their cellars to public, offers production and sell their wine) or wine exhibitions.

The cooperative also connected the winemakers in another way. Cooperation is mostly visible at harvest time; it is common to borrow technology or helping with wine processing in the cellar. The advantage of such cooperation is the constant transfer of experience, expanding knowledge of different winemaking

technologies used in the cellar management. Technologies in viticulture are constantly expanding, new trends are coming, under normal circumstances an independent individual producer is not able to follow all the trends. In this way, the whole community improves together by learning from each other.

Investments are still being planned by Jiřina. It is necessary to expand the wine storage facilities. It means she will need to construct another cellar or purchase and renovate some older cellar. Over the next five years, it will be necessary to invest in the restoration of the oldest part of the vineyards. It means grubbing up part of the vineyard (approx. 0.5 ha) and replant it. Jiřina would very much like to make these investments with the support of the Rural Development Program of the EU.

The young winemaker started doing business in agriculture by inheriting a business in which she has been moving since she was a child from the founder of the winery - her grandfather. Gradually, depending on the economic possibilities, the company is expanding and modernizing.

In the future, Jiřina plans to buy or rent more vineyards so that the winery can become its main livelihood.

Photo:

