



BK ANGUS AND MURRAY GREY FARM

Hungarian cattle farm operating in NATURA 2000

Identification details

Name: Katalin Kordás

Location: Csongrád-Csanád county, Balástya and Ópusztaszer, Hungary

Farm size: 24 ha, and a further 75 ha rented NATURA 2000 grass field

Year of foundation: 2011

Main activities: beef cattle keeping

Web / Facebook / Twitter: N/A

The BK Angus and Murray Grey stock farm has been operating since 2011 on the premises of Búrge tanya, at Ószeszék 65, Balástya, and in the area of Ópusztaszer. The total area of the farm is a field of 24 ha owned, and another 75 ha rented NATURA 2000 grass field, which is used as a pasture. The farm's main profile is beef cattle production, mainly for Turkish exports.

Currently, the farm has 150 beef cattle and also owns ten horses. However, it is not engaged in non-agricultural activities. The farm manager is Katalin Kordás, who holds a degree of an agricultural engineer in environmental management. Her primary motivation in setting up the farm was her commitment to animal husbandry. The farm is a member of the British Beef Breeders' Association, the Murray Grey Breeders' Association, which memberships are equally advantageous from a professional point of view.

The farm has the area mowed by another farmer and helps neighbouring farmers with its bale wrapper in return. This cooperation provides both parties with the benefit of exchange. Among the cooperating partners of the farm are the purchaser of the beef cattle, the National Chamber of Agriculture and the Hungarian State Treasury. As farming takes place on a NATURA 2000 grass field, the farmer must participate in a different training program organised by the National Chamber of Agriculture, which is finalised by an exam. Also, because the area is a NATURA 2000 grass field, the farmer is entitled to agricultural support, which can be applied through the help of a consultant. If the farmer complies with the rules learned during the training, the Hungarian State Treasury will pay the agricultural support. The cooperation with the National Chamber of Agriculture and the Hungarian State Treasury is primarily aimed at transferring knowledge and information.

When operating, no transfer or sharing of machinery or equipment is realised by the farm. The advantage of the established cooperation is the successful access to agricultural financial support. However, in case of improper management or non-compliance with the rules, the support may be withdrawn, or the farmer can even be fined. Among the number of rules that must be observed is, as an example, that the territorially competent nature conservation directorate must be notified five working days before mowing in a written form. The mower must be equipped with a game alarm chain on the mower, and the direction of mowing is also mandatory. The area must not be irrigated

or drained. Fertilisation is prohibited. The organic manure produced by animals grazing may remain on the field. However, ducks, geese, hens, and pigs must not be grazed on the grass field.

Significant investment on the farm was the acquisition of livestock, which was implemented through a young farmers' grant scheme. Since the farm intends to sell the meat produced directly, an investment in building a packaging room is in progress. Long-term plans include establishing their brand and making branded products (e.g. salami).

Photos:



Viability of small farms managed by young farmers under new
"farm-to-fork" strategy (2020-1-CZ01-KA203-078495)

