

## FARMER JÁNOS DÁVID JÁVORCSIK

*Small and young spelt wheat producer and bakery*

### Identification details

Name: Dávid János Jávorsik

Location: Békés county, Gádoros, Hungary

Farm size: 5 ha

Year of foundation: 2014

Main activities: production of spelt wheat and corn, sunflower, production of eggs, bakery products

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

Farmer János Dávid Jávorsik has been farming 5 hectares of land in the village of Gádoros (south-eastern Hungary, Southern Great Plain region, Békés county) since September 2014. The aim was to make living with his family as a smallholder where he lives, as there was land available for growing crops, especially wheat. Half of the land comes from inheritance, and the other half has become the property of the farmer through purchase. The inherited land was owned by the family even before the First World War.

Spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) is grown on half of the 5 hectares of the land, while corn (*Zea mays*) and sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) is grown every 4 years. Wheat is used entirely to produce homemade cakes and baked goods, while the cultivated corn and sunflowers are entirely sold. There is also a small hen farm on the land. Produced eggs are not marketed, they are used entirely for farms' purposes.

The farmer works closely with his father – whose machines he uses (the father has his own farm). In the processing of cultivated wheat, close relations have been established with several local farmers, such as peeling, grinding in a husker and a small stone mill with the involvement of other producers. In the production of cakes and bakery products made from spelt wheat, the products and services of other producers and economic organizations are also used to procure and process other raw materials (such as cheese) that are not produced by the farmer. In the framework of cooperation, trial production is carried out on bakeries and large-scale machines, the experience of which will be used later. To sell the finished product, the farmer cooperates with producer markets, such as the Bődön backyard and handicraft market.

The farmer strives to make the most of the benefits of membership in the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture, which primarily means the use of services that facilitate the operation in accordance with the law, help to apply for subsidies, and help to adapt to the external environment and market conditions. The farm is not a member of any other formal cooperation.

To process the raw materials, produce and sell the finished product, well-functioning relations have been established, but, according to the farmer, this is somewhat hampered by – in many cases the putative – conflict of interest between producers, processors, and sellers resulting in the lack of “real” co-operation. Informal co-operation is also hampered by the fact that young people do not see a perspective in this form of farming or life, so there are few young farmers; the majority are elderly people who grew up in other circumstances, have difficulty or do not want to adapt. According to the farmer, with the development and spread of large-scale production, small producers are becoming less and less competitive, and joint work does not pay off.

Over the past 7 years, relationships with producers and companies have made the production, processing and sales workflows more efficient. Thus, the farmer does not have to do everything in the supply chain on his own, he can also count on the help and services of others, and this will benefit the participating local farmers and farming organizations. According to the farmer, formal training is not typical, or there are few opportunities for it. However, producers engaged in similar activities know each other well. The farmers keep in touch within an informal framework and mainly during their conversations they exchange experiences, share their knowledge about the applied production methods and processes, so there is an opportunity for them to learn from each other. Older, more experienced farmers are also involved in this form of information and knowledge transfer.

The most significant investment in the farm since the beginning of the activity has been the purchase of land with a loan provided by the Széchenyi Card with a state interest subsidy, and a workshop construction with the support of "Development of small agricultural farms" tender. The unique nature of the farm is given by the fact that the type of bakery products (made of spelt wheat), and the production of crops supplying the bakery activity are only carried out by them in Hungary. One of the medium-term plans of the farm is simplifying and making production and processing more efficient. Currently, there are too many work processes after harvesting (bagging, storing, bagging up / down in a peeler, etc.), you have to grab the wheat 14 times before it reaches the customer. This should be simplified by designing bulk storage and handling. A long-term vision for the producer is growing out of the small producer scale, accompanied with a site development, and transformation into a larger company. This eventually would result in nationwide sales of its own products with other product in large cities in a proprietary store network.

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