

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



## ZSOLT ZSÓTÉR

A primary producer farming on his father's land and cooperating with organizations in the framework of informal cooperation

## **Identification details:**

Name: Ing. Zsolt Zsótér, farmer

Location: Békés county, Mezőhegyes

Area size: 9,99 ha arable land

Year of foundation: 2006

Main activities: field crop production

Web / Facebook / Twitter::

Zsolt Zsótér is a primary producer. His father bought the land for him nearly 15 years ago, and he has been farming it ever since. The area of the farm is 9.99 ha arable land. The crops grown in crop rotation are: corn, wheat, barley, sunflower. There is currently fodder corn in the area. No farm animals are held, and the farm is not engaged in non-agricultural activities. The estate is located on the outskirts of Mezőhegyes.

He is not a member of farmers' association or of any organization of agricultural holdings. However, in relation to the farm's operation, he cooperates with other organizations in the framework of informal cooperation. In case of soil works, he cooperates with Mezőhegyesi Agrárgazdasági Zrt. (harrowing, plowing, fertilization, sowing, plant protection, harvesting), and he even sells the plants he produces to them. Another cooperating partner of his is the National Chamber of Agriculture, for example through the so-called village farmer. The farm also works with surrounding livestock farmers. Typically, in a year, when wheat is sown in the area, the farm gets the straw baled by neighbouring livestock farmers, and in return they are supplied with free bales. As an exchange, the farm is supplied with organic manure. As he does not have his own employee to do the earthworks, he is forced to cooperate. Another advantage of the informal cooperation is that baling and the bales be carried away can be provided free of charge. The village farmer supports him when applying for area payments. Information and knowledge sharing takes place through the village farmer in the form of personal counseling and information lectures. However, the transfer of machinery and equipment is not typical in the context of the collaborations.

No significant investments has been made in the area since the start of operations. Long term plan and objective is to maintain current activities on the long run.

## **Photos:**



