

HONEY BROTHERS

Lithuanian farm of the year selling most of their products online.

Identification data:

Name: Ignas and Vilius Jackevičiai

Location: Lukonių village, Kupiškio district., Lithuania

Farm size: 14 ha of own land

Year established: 2011

Main activities: Bee products - honey, pitch, queen bees, education.

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

The twin brothers started beekeeping before they had a driver's license. The twin brothers are 28 years old but will soon have their tenth honey harvest! While still in school, Vilnius and Ignas became so fascinated by their uncle's beekeeper that they decided to try it by themselves. Beekeeping was initially just a hobby, but now they have more than 200 bee colonies. Not only honey, bee products and their quality are essential to the brothers, but also the opportunity to help people overcome fears, get to know bees better and maybe even love them.

The farm isn't large. The farm is in Kupiškis district, Lukoniai village. The farm owns 14 hectares of land, where hives are kept. Brothers offer consumers not only honey but also royal jelly, bread, honey delicacies, pollen, and bee pitch. The farm products' quality and exclusivity also meet the expectations of the biggest gourmets, lovers of traditional Lithuanian honey.

The farm organises educational programs for both children and adults. The aim of this activity is to introduce as many people as possible to bees and their importance to the whole ecosystem.

The brothers received the Lithuanian "Farm of the Year 2020" award. An assessment of national significance, the essence of which is to notice those who have made the most significant progress in economic development in recent years, is particularly important for young people. 2021 The gratitude of the Mayor of Kupiškis District "For the glorification of Kupiškis region in developing beekeeping traditions and meaningful educational activities" was presented.

Most of their products are sold by young farmers online through their web page.

Despite the accumulated experience, young farmers pay a lot of attention to learning, improving their knowledge in Lithuania and abroad; they are members of the Beekeepers' Association. The Association provides training, organises specialised lectures, and supports the whole industry by representing the interests of Lithuanian beekeepers in the Ministry of Agriculture.

Ignas and Vilius are not members of any formal cooperation. However, they cooperate with other farmers informally. For example, farmers bring together bees to fields, consult problems, spread vital information.

The brothers' plans are to more than double the number of bee colonies. They produce hives themselves and try to apply innovative solutions in their activities.

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

Photos:

