

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



CHOLEWICKI POULTRY FARM

Modern poultry farm with awarded quality meat hens production

Identification details:

Name: Michał Cholewicki

Location: Siąszyce Trzecie, Wielkopolskie Voivodeship, Poland

Farm size: 48 ha (26 of own)

Year of foundation: 2001

Main activities: poultry, hens, cereals, ridding school

Web / Facebook / Twitter: https://www.facebook.com/FermaDrobiuCholewiccy/

Farm is managed by 38-year-old man, who is a holder of the PhD degree in Agriculture, specialization in mechanization of animal production. He started the agricultural activity in 2001 when his parents gave him 1.5 ha UAA. Currently the utilized agricultural area (UAA) of the farm is around 48 ha, including nearly 26 ha UAA owned by the farm manager. That is a commercial, poultry farm, with specialization in production of hatching hen eggs for broilers. Around 26 500 meat hens are produced annually. The farm is also a producer of cereals (maize, wheat, rye) for the local market. Moreover, the non-agricultural activity is driven on the farm, including ridding school and various forms of educational activities, dance courses, singing courses or musical instrument courses which are a part of the Horizons Foundation activity. The Horizons Foundation is managed by the farmer's wife, while its aim is to disseminate and implement innovative educational programs and forms of education for children and youth. The farmer is not a member of any agricultural producers' group, however, he is a member of the Community of Agricultural Producers of the Września Region.

A series of investments was made since the farm manager has started the agricultural activity. In 2007, 2017 and 2018 agricultural land was purchased: 8 ha UAA, 6 ha UAA and 4 ha UAA respectively. In 2008 a new livestock facility was built, and in 2010 agricultural machines including 95KM tractor with front loader, reversible plow, cultivating unit, skimming unit, cultivating and sowing unit were bought. These two investments were supported by The Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture (ARMA). The farm is highly mechanized. It has automatic poultry feeding systems, as well as egg collection, watering, ventilation, heating and lighting systems. The farm uses modern, environmentally friendly technologies and technical solutions in accordance with the Code of Good Agricultural Practice.

Renewable energy from the sun in the form of a photovoltaic installation is also used. The farm manager is also involved in social and scientific activities. He is a deputy chief of volunteer fire brigade (since 2017), a speaker at the conferences and trainings and an author of many scientific publications related to the production of hatching hen eggs for broilers. This way he can share his experience with other producers. The farmer is a representative of the 3rd generation dealing with the breeding of meat hens. Agricultural tradition made him run a family farm with good production results. High quality of products, that was confirmed by numerous awards and distinctions, gives the farm an advantage over the competitors.

Photos:



