

PAWLAK ROBERT

Seed production plus Triticum spelta and Glycine

Identification details

Name: Robert Pawlak

Location: Kamionka, Mazowieckie voivodeship, Poland

Farm size: 55 ha (15 owned)

Year of foundation: 2015

Main activities: triticale, maize

Web / Facebook / Twitter: N/A

Farm is managed by 33-year-old man, who completed the secondary technical school. He started the agricultural activity in 2014 when he bought his own farm. Total utilized agricultural area (UAA) of the farm is 55 ha, including 15 ha UAA owned by the farm manager and 40 ha UAA is leased. As for the specialised agricultural activities, the holding is involved in seed growing (triticale for seed production), growing spelt wheat for consumption and soya beans. Actually, production of seed cereals is the main specialization of the farm. Triticale (10 ha), wheat (10 ha) and maize (36 ha) are grown. The vast majority of production is contracted.

The farmer is not a member of any agricultural producers' group or organization, however, he is involved in social activities and is a member of the volunteer fire brigade. Farmer's motivation to start the agricultural activity was agricultural tradition. He points out that innovation is of key importance to the successful activity in agriculture. No non-agricultural activities are carried out on the farm. Apart from running the farm, the farmer is engaged in welding, construction and repair of machinery. In recent years, the farm has aimed to maximise its economic impact: the use of services has proved more advantageous than buying its own machinery.

He does not attend any trainings regularly and an only investment that was made on the farm was the land purchase. On the other hand he took part in a foreign exchange programme in Texas. Base on observations and experiences from international exchanges and the up-to-days knowledge he undertake his own experiments. He use of no-till and even zero-tillage. Thoses technologies had not resulted in a decrease in yield, i.e. it has proved economically advantageous. The innovation of no-tillage has been saving 15-20% of cultivation costs for about five years. In addition, the farm uses bacterial fertilizers.

The farmer is afraid about the future of the farm in a long run, especially when considering unstable economic conditions on the domestic market and in the world. Further specialisation is planned in the production of high quality cereals, e.g. durum wheat, which requires investment in storage and drying facilities to ensure quality and the ability to sell at peak prices.

To stabilise and improve the income situation of the farm, the farmer is going to enlarge non-agricultural activity in the field of welding, mechanics and machine building.

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

Photos:

