

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



#### SŁAWOSZ MAŁOTA

Crop farm managed by member og an Council of Young Farmers

#### **Identification details**

Name: Sławosz Małota

Location: Tapkowice, Poland

Farm size: 46,4 ha (owned) + 50,88 (leased)

Year of foundation: 2018

Main activities: crop production - rape, maize, wheat, triticale

Web / Facebook / Twitter: N/A

Farm is managed by 25-year-old farmer, who completed the MSc programme in Agriculture. He started the agricultural activity in 2018 when he leased the land from private persons, then took over 1.17 ha from parents, and than he purchased the rest of the land using the bank loan. The utilized agricultural area (UAA) of the farm is about 100 ha, but as a joung farmer he owns just 46 ha. He was born in the countryside and he always dream to connect passion of working on the farm with becoming a farmer. Exhibitions of agricultural machinery at agricultural fairs set his dreams - the desire to modernize and purchase machinery for the future farm. The deepening of agricultural knowledge and meeting people with the same interests confirmed the young man's belief that he would live in the countryside and run his own farm.

In the short period of running the farm, the farmer purchased a 3 m machine for no-till cultivation, a 240 HP tractor and enlarged the farm by purchasing agricultural land. For this purpose, he benefited from support from EU programmes, among others, the young farmer's premium. The farm is distinguished by high dynamics of development, modern equipment, and innovative technology introduced in the cultivation of cereals and rape. The farmer plans to carry out off-farm activities by providing services related to winter maintenance of car parks and access roads.

The farmer is not a member of any agricultural producers' group or organization. Nevertheless, he is an active member of ZMW and it is a rewarding activity and organisation where he is involved in various social actions. As a young farmer, he also has the opportunity to actively participate in and contribute to the monthly meetings of the National Council of Young Farmers. Participation in this type of activity is very important because problems related to the difficult situation on the market, drastic increases in fertilizers, plant protection products, etc. are discussed and solved.

The farmer takes part in all trainings organised by the Agricultural Advisory Centre. The farmer has closely cooperated with ODR in Nakło Śląskie from the very beginning and therefore takes an active part in every event organised. Thanks to this it acquires qualifications in the field of sprayers, the slaughtering of animals for the production of meat intended solely for personal consumption. He takes part in trainings organised by BNP PARIBAS Bank with which he cooperates on a daily basis. The trainings concern finance in agriculture, new products for farmers, and there are various accompanying trainings conducted by producers of Fertilisers and Plant Protection Products.

The vision of the farm in 20 years is to expand the acreage. Fundamental steps are related with modernization of the farm base; equip with a modern battery consisting of silos for storing agricultural produce with a drying room, and striving for self-sufficiency by having own photovoltaic farm, water collectors or heat pumps.

### **Photos:**





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