

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



JAROSLAV MATLO

Salaš Kopernica demonstration of cooperation between father and son.

Identification details:

Name: Jaroslav Matlo

Location: Kopernica, Slovakia

Farm size: 20 ha

Year established: 2015

Main activities: animal production – cows and sheeps

Web / Facebook / Twitter: N/A

Jaroslav Matlo is a farmer in the village of Kopernica, located in the district of Žiar nad Hronom in the Banská Bystrica Region.

In 2005, he graduated from the Secondary School of Agriculture in Zvolen. In 2015, Jaroslav applied to the municipal authority for the issuance of a certificate of a self-employed farmer. He gained experience working in agriculture from his parents, whom he helped perform agricultural support work from an early age. Since 2014, he has been an active member of the Association of Young Farmers in Slovakia - ASYF.

He farms 20 ha with six dairy cows and sheeps.

Within the agricultural landscape - is an area where the dominant element of the landscape structure are land with the cultivation of agricultural crops. According to the type and focus of agricultural production, we can divide this country into meadow-pasture, where permanent grasslands used as meadows or pastures predominate. The Kopernický stream springs above the village of Kunešov at an altitude of approximately 820 m above sea level. m., has a length of 17.87km. It flows mainly through meadows and pastures in the spring area to the south. Above the village of Kopernica, it partly flows through forested areas and has the character of a torrent. The stream is partially regulated in the village.

Ján Matlo represents the agricultural family; he aims to achieve complete income independence from agricultural activities. He tries to adapt his intention to that. In addition to beef, he also breeds sheep that complement grazing dairy cows in the meadows. As a young person, he has his ambitions and plans. He intends to make the most of the opportunities that the area provides.

Through livestock farming, he wants to complement the country's character. At the same time, he uses animals for milk production and meat. Slaughter calves and lambs for slaughter are a matter of course. So far, he has focused on opportunities in implementing meat or meat production.

Ján Matlo is already the next generation continuing the family tradition. He follows his parents' work smoothly while further developing agricultural activities. By being independent of his parents, he created his entity, where he realizes his plans and ambitions, but it also continues to cooperate with his farming parents.

His father focuses on the production of fodder, which is used by Ján. Quality hay is available to the animals, which creates conditions for producing a sufficient amount of quality milk, especially during the winter

months—own meadow hay given to animals results in characteristic features of the local product. The combination of herbs in the feed creates a specific aroma of milk and thus of its products.

Dairy production is processed in a dairy run by the farmer's mother. The characteristic taste experience is memorable for the customer, who then returns and spreads his reputation. A good customer experience with one small farmer increases the likelihood of confidence in domestic production overall. And this is the real benefit of supporting projects of this nature - building customer confidence in domestic production and the production of local family farms that appear to be viable enough to supply the population with food.

This form of cooperation ensures the independence of the young generation, where the transfer of experience from the older generation to the young are performed.

The older generation also maintains its tradition while implementing the knowledge and experience of the younger generation. Symbiosis while maintaining independence seems to be a way to keep the young generation in agriculture.

Photo:







