

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



FARMERS' COOPERATIVE ČACHTICE

Large farm focusing on diversified crop production and wine.

Identification data:

Name: Ondrej Sučanský

Location: Čachtice, Slovakia

Farm size: 200 ha

Year established: 2014

Main activities: plant production, special plant production

Web / Facebook / Twitter: http://pdcachtice.sk/sk/

The history of this farm began in 2009 when Ondrej's father, then a self-employed farmer, selected their family land from a local agricultural cooperative and sowed for the first time. It would also be a mistake not to mention the fact that his great-grandfather was also involved in agriculture before 1989, but under the label "kulak" he was "cooperative" and he himself was severely persecuted by the state, ending up as a political prisoner.

The farm is located in Slovakia, Nové Mesto nad Váhom district in the cadastre of the village Čachtice, which lies at the foot of the Little Carpathians, whose slopes are destined for viticulture.

The farm manages 200 ha of arable land, of which approximately 80 ha is its own and 120 ha are leased.

On this farm, they focus exclusively on crop production, growing vines on 6.3 ha of land, fruit trees on 1.5 ha of land, wheat on 50 ha of land, corn on 50 ha, soybeans on 50 ha. The rest of the land is sown with rye, barley or oats.

Ondrej Sučanský is a member of the Association of Young Farmers in Slovakia - ASYF. He always likes to pay an annual membership of € 100 because he knows it's a good thing. ASYF is an association of a community of young people determined to fight for their rights and the rights of small and young farmers.

Cooperation on agriculture between other farms is minimal. Unless they help each other within the area for some consideration.

The farm also performs non-agricultural activities. Specifically, it concerns wine production and grape processing. The pastor is trying to process the grapes from her vineyards and thus finalize the production. However, as this farm is only devoted to viticulture for the second year, this world is still full of surprises for them.

As for farm financing, they have not been successful in securing funds through program financing. In order to refinance their operations, they had to use their own and family savings. European Union funds have always been stolen in Slovakia.



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Farming is a lifestyle that fills young farmer Ondrej and he cannot imagine doing anything else. It is his dream hobby that also feeds him.

Nothing distinguishes this farm from other farms. It is part of a machine called agriculture. Regarding the vision for the future, Ondrej states: "In 20 years I will be 20 years older, and it is useless to think about everything else."

Photo:

