



## FARMA GRUNÍKY

*Sustainable farm aiming to also become a food producer.*

### **Identification data:**

Name: Ing. Róbert Palider

Location: Zubrohlava, Slovakia

Farm size: 42 ha

Year established: 2015

Main activities: cattle production

Web / Facebook / Twitter: <https://www.farmagruniky.sk/>

The history of the Gruníky farm dates back to 2015, when the young farmer Róbert, with the support of the European Union under sub-measure 6.1, decided to go to a project where the European Union financially supports young farmers in the form of a "start up" of 50,000 €. On August 9, 2015, he founded the farm and all the essentials for this, i.e., he became a private farmer with the allocation of ID number, etc.

It was this year that the farmer felt a trend that was changing, and despite the fact that he was still young, he saw a huge future in it, so he decided to use the above-mentioned grant - € 50,000. That's when he realized that right now is the time when this form of work would help a person not only to survive, but also to make a living. Robert has a positive attitude towards agriculture, as he has always lived in the countryside, always keeping animals at home and growing vegetables. His father and uncle are trained farmers, so he comes from a relatively farming family. All this motivated him to start farming and continue the family tradition. He became a part of the Association of Young Farmers in Slovakia - ASYF, in which he is a member of the audit committee.

His farm, as well as the farms of other members of the presidency of the Association of Young Farmers in Slovakia - ASYF, differs from other farms mainly by the vision for the future, resp. they know what they would like to achieve further.

Gruníky Farm is located in Zubrohlava, Námestovo District, Žilina Region, Slovakia. The size of the farm is currently 42 ha, of which 5 ha are sown areas, which are used for the production of bulk fodder, 2 ha are non-productive areas such as fallow and 35 ha are grasses and other areas - permanent grasslands. These are used for fattening cattle, either as grazing methods in the summer or for the production of fodder for the winter for these cattle.

This farm specializes mainly in the production of meat from the Aberdeen Angus breed, which is characterized by typical marbling of the meat, which is especially suitable for steaks or burgers. In steaks, the quality is known, which distinguishes this breed from other breeds. Thus, it specializes exclusively in meat production and does not currently carry out non-agricultural activities, but would like to change that in the coming years.



The main goal of this young farmer is to finalize primary production and become not only a farmer but also a food producer. He currently had two halls built - one hayloft measuring 18x12m and a shed measuring 24x24m. It is a farm with modern elements of breeding, where animals can feel maximum comfort and where the farm can guarantee that they will not be exposed to stress, heat in summer or weather in winter.

The Gruníky farm was financed from European Union resources, in the form of a grant, and subsequently all other things were financed from the farm's profit, which was produced from the sale of hay and, to a minimum, from direct payments. Subsequently, they financed the farm from loans, either family or through friends. Only in this way can something be done here in Slovakia.

Currently, the Gruníky farm does not cooperate with any farmers' association or agricultural cooperative. Only the Agricultural Cooperative from Tvrdošín, chaired by Rob's uncle, helps out on the farm. This cooperative is also engaged in non-agricultural activities, specifically construction activities. So in this way he can help or carry out construction work on the farm.

The goal for the future is to finalize production in such a way that they are going to build a slaughterhouse with meat matting machines on this farm, where this meat will be processed and ready for consumption for the end consumer.

In the future, Róbert sees his farm as one of the best farms, at least in Orava. A farm that supplies local consumers with healthy food. So in the near future meat, in the distant future maybe other foods. The aim of the farm is also to set an example of nature conservation, an example of good practice and to be a farm that serves people and those people then enjoy it.

**Photo:**

