



This is a private medium sized farm focused on arable crop production (i.e. corn, wheat, soybean, oilseed rape, barley, sunflower) and livestock (i.e. Pig husbandry). The farm owns 2325ha arable land (540ha irrigated) and big husbandry with more than 5000 pigs.

The farm invested about 2.5Mil Eur in advanced farming technologies striving to adopt precision agriculture approach in it common practice. Notable effort is made in sharing experience and knowledge with local farmers.



Objectives

- Initial objective: collaboration with research institute
- Objective expanded over time: finding local partners.

Motivations

- Finding partners with an interest in Precision Agriculture – building local network
- Building relationships with researchers: continuous improvement of production system
- Stand out in the local farming community

Topic selection

- Selected to cover main aspect of arable production
- Determined by researchers and farmers together

Evaluation peer-to-peer learning environment

- 50 participant split up over smaller groups
- No multisensory activities, limited hands-on tools opportunities
- Prior knowledge = essential for discussion and in-depth exploration
- Further learning outcome: not clear at this point

Audience & participation

- Audience: effort is made to involve local farmers and students.
- No participation fee.

Demonstration set-up

- Initially top-down, but interest to have this more bottom-up (possible effect on audience)
- Farmers demonstrate side-by-side with researchers, and assist in preparation (selection of production segments, event schedule)
- Presented topics are separated: allows participants to group and focus on what is of their interest
- Evaluation: mainly on content, not on outcome or demonstrator performance

- Host farmer: open to collaborate with research institute
- Nearly impossible to make demonstration possible alone
- Although many participants emphasized incompatibility of presented topics with their farms (e.g. due to difference in size) all find demonstration useful and would recommend it to others
- The variety of topics throughout season allows for continuous knowledge transfer and building stronger relationships between host farm and participants.
- Host farmer learning outcome, approach to transfer from top-down to bottom-up demonstration

