

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES (RES) IN DAIRY PRODUCTION



PLAID
PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING:
ACCESSING INNOVATION
THROUGH DEMONSTRATION



COUNTRY/REGION

BULGARIA

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MORE INFO

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The main providers of demonstration in Bulgaria are individual farmers, NAAS, Agricultural Academy, Agrarian Universities, NGOs and supply chain companies. Especially for the current case, the demonstrations are organized by Foundation for Organic Agriculture BIOSELENA and Trakia University - Stara Zagora. **The demonstrations address problems that the farmers have with non-effective energy use and big energy consumption costs and with the milk quality and compliance with hygiene standards.** It is demonstrated using renewable energy sources (RES) in milk production especially using RES for production of hot water for washing and cleaning is demonstrated. Sustainability underlies most of the demonstration activities since most of farmers participated on demonstrations could start use the similar RES. **It is giving priority to ecologically safer methods, minimizing the use of non-renewable energy, and enhancing the safeguard of the environment.** This case study supports the PLAID project to learn about what farmers, advisors, agrarian speciality students and suppliers learn and how and what is interesting for participants in demonstrations. The main lessons from this case study are:

- In most cases only one demonstration on the topic is not enough for most farmer to be convinced to apply demonstrated innovations.
- The case study demonstration enabled the farmers and advisers who participated in it to get acquainted with some of the best scientists working in the field of RES and to establish better contacts with the host farm of the event.
- It is appropriate via AKIS to be organized training for researchers and university lecturers on moderation and presentation techniques during demonstrations.

ABOUT PLAID

The project has been designed to encourage farmers and farm employees to embrace innovations in agriculture by accessing high quality demonstration activities on commercial farms. Demonstration activities may also contribute to network building in agriculture communities, leading to longer term sustainability and economic development in rural areas. However little has been documented on agriculture demonstration activities in European countries and the lack of an inventory or on-line resources have been identified.

All practice abstracts developed by PLAID H2020 project are available in EPI-AGRI official website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/peer-peer-learningaccessing-innovation-through>



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