



# Grazing and economic efficiency in organic production



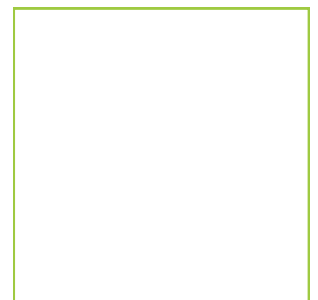
## M. GRANDIN Gérard

### 1 Description of the innovation



The production system is exclusively based on grass and grazing and is very economical.

An overall consistency of the system is aimed at with a search for optimization of working load. The farmer seeks forage autonomy, he applies a very high load and produces in Organic Agriculture (without nitrogen). He uses crossbreeding to have more rustic animals and aims to move into a mono-milking system.



### Economic results



Work time

Working conditions

### FARMER'S STRATEGY

The strategy of the farmer goes through the reduction of food costs.

Grazing management and optimization help to achieve good economic efficiency.

He has chosen organic farming by conviction since his installation with the will to reduce the work time (partial mono-milking).

## 2 Farm description

### ENVIRONMENT

Soil type:

- Sandy
- Clayey-loam

Climate: temperate oceanic

Altitude: 130 m

### GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing management type: rotational

Length: 10 months/year

100% of the grasslands are grazed

Fertilization: organic only (12 t/ha) for mowed grasslands

Dominant grass and legume species in grasslands: Perennial Rye-Grass, Tall Fescue, White Clover, Cocksfoot, Meadow grass, Meadow soft grass...

Forage conservation type:

- Hay
- silage

### STRUCTURE

#### 1.1 Annual Work Unit

**Agricultural Area** : 58.6 ha UAA

**Production system based on grass** (58.6 ha of permanent grasslands)

**Farm type**: Specialist organic milk production

**Breed**: Crossbreeding (Jersiais/Rouge Suédois/Prim'Holstein)

**Livestock Unit**: 100 (77 dairy cows)

**Stoking rate**: 1.76 LU/ha main forage area

### ANIMAL PERFORMANCE

**Milk production per head**: 4 000 L

### WHY IT IS WORKING

The innovation works thanks to a good technical proficiency. The farmer participates in the « PNR » and the observatory of grass growth network.

The farmer is willing to experiment things and ensures the consistency of the system.

He has numerous exchanges with groups of other farmers and participates in online discussion groups (CIVAM, Facebook, experienced tutors).