

# **SHEEP FARM VISIT**



#### DEBARNOT Etienne 03160 COUZON

(25 km from Moulins)



Installed as a pedigree breeder as well as their job as the farm employee.

#### Background

<u>2017:</u> Creation of a sheep flock and membership of the OS Mouton Charollais breed society, in parallel with his job as an agricultural employee on a farm near Charolles in the Saône-et-Loire.

<u>2021</u>: Etienne returns to the family farm at Couzon in the as a farm employee and brings with him his flock of sheep and continues his activity as a pedigree Charollais sheep breeder alongside his work on the farm.

## Geo-climatic context

Farm located in the bocage bourbonnais (pastures surrounded by hedgerows) mixed livestock/crop farming area 230 metres above sea-level.

#### Clay soil

### **Farmland**

Ewes graze roughly 10 ha of permanent pasture of the family farm.

### 🖗 Farm staff

1 full-time





## Sheep flock

50 Charollais sheep, with plans to expand 4 rams (2 of which is co-owned) Principal traits sought in the selection of rams are conformation and breed qualities Pedigree-registered flock since 2017 Sale of male and female breeding stock Mating by natural service Lambing period from January to April Ewe lambs first put to the ram at 9 months or a year later for the smallest ones

## Technical results

Prolificity: 188% Fertility: 74% Productivity: 150% 30-day male lamb weights → Singles: 17,8 kg → Twins: 13,5 kg Flock average prolificity index: 95 Flock average milk index: 98

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