



# SHEEP & BEEF FARM VISIT



## GAEC ELEVAGE OLIVIER 03440 Buxières les Mines

Mixed farm, family GAEC (farm partnership), pedigree-registered Charollais flock & Charolais herd.

35 km de Moulins et  
Montluçon



### Background

1973: Guy sets up as an individual farmer with 100 Charollais ewes and 5 cows on 50 ha.

1995 : His son, Jean-Yves sets up in partnership with Olivier. Purchase of 100 crossbred ewes for fat lamb production. 100 Charolais suckler cow herd.

1999: Florence, Jean-Yves' wife joins the farm business.

2000: Lambing shed increased in size for 150 ewes.

2007: Guy Olivier retires.

2019: Mathieu, Jean-Yves' & Florence's son, joins the farm business. More land taken on. The farm currently totals 210 Charolais cows & 80 pedigree sheep. Project to increase the sheep flock with 50 non-pedigree ewes for the production of butcher's lambs. New shed to be built.

### Environment

Farm located in the bocage (many hedgerows) bourbonnais, at 300m above sea-level.

Damp sandy-clay soil

### Farmland

460 ha

Of which 100 ha of cereals

30 ha of maize silage

330 ha of grassland

(of which 80 ha rye grass & clover)

### Main-d'œuvre

2 Full-time staff

### Beef herd

210 Charolais cows, of which

120 are non-pedigree, autumn calving

90 are pedigree-registered, winter calving

Natural service (bulls)

Pedigree-registered herd since the 80's

Sale of pedigree yearling heifers & finishing of all other heifers & culls.

Sale of males as stores or young bulls

### Sheep flock

80 pedigree Charollais ewes

7 rams

Flock pedigree-registered, one of the founder members of the Charollais flock book

Sale of both male and female breeding stock

Reproduction using rams

Lambing period from January to March

Ewe lambs first put to the ram at 9 months

### Technical results

Prolificity: 190%

Fertility: 91%

Lambing %: 160%

Male lambs 30-day weights

□ Singles: 15.3 kgs

□ Twins: 12 kgs

Prolificity index: 101

Ewe milking index: 109

