

BREED: Salers

NAME OF VISIT: Salers beef farm tour

DATE OF VISIT: 01/10/2024

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GAEC PASCAL TRAPENAT



The farm is located in the heart of the Cézaillier national park at 1,300m above sea level, near Besse. 5th generation farmers.

Organisation

- Set up as a farmer in 1981
- 5th generation farmer
- Herd Book Salers registered since 1981

Farmland

- 260 hectares, of which half is used for summer grazing for 100 females
- 100% permanent pasture!

Herd management

- Grass-based ration
- 2 calving periods
- Sale of breeding stock
- Diverse origins

Technical stats

- Calving interval: 388d
- Replacement rate: 12.6%
- Calf weights: 180kg at 120d, 280kg at 210d

Herd

- 80 Salers cows, 10 % crossed with Charolais bull
- 20 heifers kept back as replacements/year
- And 10 to 15 2-year-old females
- 3 bulls (2 Salers & 1 Charolais)

Buildings

- Stanchion barn for 80 cows.
- Sheltered outdoor area for yearling heifers
- Open space for 2-year-old females (free to come in or stay out)

Selection criteria

- Being in the mountains, need for strong legs adapted to walking
- Cows with plenty of bone
- Sorted by character (docility)