

BREED: Lacaune lait

NAME OF THE VISIT: Visite d'élevage ovin Lacaune Lait

DATE OF THE VISIT: 02/10/2024

ADDRESS: Baruptel, 63300 THIERS

CONTACT: upra@race-lacaune.fr

GAEC DES PRES

Grazing system, mixed farm (dairy sheep & cows and cereals), GAEC partnership with employees

Soil and climate context

Farm located at Baruptel,
63300 THIERS
Altitude of 300m
2 farm sites
Acidic soils



Farmland

330 ha (25% floodable)

- 140 ha of permanent pasture
- 70 ha of temporary pasture
- 65 ha of straw-based cereals
- 35 ha of maize silage
- 20 ha of maize grain

Manpower

Within the GAEC: 3 partners + 1 employee

Economic data

Farmer-paid milk price: 1.10€/L
Farmer-paid lamb price: 155€/head



Background

- Three-generation family farm (father and mother) with dairy cows
- First employee hired in 1991 and addition of a dairy sheep unit
- 3 sons join family farm, transformed into a GAEC, Increases in dairy cow herd from 40 to 150 head and the dairy sheep flock from 200 to 350 ewes)

Sheep herd

360 Lacaune milk ewes in total, with 300 ewes in milking

Annual production 70,000L, that translates into **240L/ewe in milking** during January to July/September

Delivery to the Terre-Dieu private dairy

1 Lambing /ewe /year

Lambing %: 75%

Prolificity: 1.6 lambs/ewe, 1.3 lambs/ewe lambs
AI on ewes using Lacaune ram semen (15 August) for the replacements

AI on ewe lambs using Suffolk ram semen (20 September)

Several Charollais rams (natural service) for any returns

Turned out to grass on 15 March after peak lactation until end of October

Finishing of lambs (37-42kg liveweight)
Sold through Copagno co-op