

BEZENYE AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location of farm	Hungary, Bezenye
Name of the farmer	Dr. Tóth Kálmán
Size of farm	393,3 ha
Permanent staff	3
Main products of farm	Wheat, grassland (8 ha), alfalfa, winter barley, pohanka (Successive secondary crop)



CURRENT REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE PRACTICES ON THE FARM

Farmland cultivated with RA practices	All	
Crops produced with RA practices	wheat, alfalfa, winter barley, pohanka	
Duration of using RA practices	Since 2012 (approx 10 years ago)	

Description of RA practices used in the farm

The farm practices organic farming and cultivates its crops in an environmentally responsible manner, using minimum tillage to achieve this. To reduce soil moisture loss, the farm applies mulch and promotes beneficial biological activity in the soil by using green manure. In addition, the farm cultivates secondary crops such as pohanka and maintains 8 hectares of grassland.



STARTING AND MOTIVATION BEHIND REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Main motivation	As an organic farmer, the owner of this farm believes that it is important to protect the environment and prioritize sustainable farming practices. For this reason, they have implemented various techniques to cultivate their crops in an environmentally responsible manner.
Learning the RA farming practices	The owner of this organic farm values knowledge and experience in sustainable farming. They have sought out practical experiences through workshops and travel, as well as pursued higher education in sustainable agriculture. By drawing on this combination of experience and education, the owner is well-equipped to implement effective strategies and meet the demand for environmentally responsible products. But in the education system should place greater emphasis on environmental practices, such as Regenerative Agriculture practices.
Did the farmer receive training?	No
Did the farmer receive financial support?	Yes (When switching to organic, they received full subsidies for 2 years and half subsidies for 1 year from the organic farming scheme.)

RESULTS OF REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Benefits of using RA practices

The farm recognizes the positive impact of its environmentally responsible practices, both in terms of protecting the ecosystem and meeting the changing expectations of consumers. By prioritizing sustainability, the farm is not only contributing to a healthier environment, but also positioning itself to meet the growing demand for products that align with consumer values.

Obstacles of using RA practices

One of the challenges faced by the farm is a reduction in yields as a result of their commitment to organic farming practices. This has resulted in slower returns on investment, which can be a significant challenge for small-scale producers. In addition, the strict controls imposed by organic certification have increased the administrative burden on the producer, requiring additional time and resources to maintain compliance.

Another challenge faced by the farm is the lack of organic farming in the surrounding areas. This can make it difficult to source organic inputs and engage in peer learning and knowledge-sharing with other organic farmers. Despite these challenges, the farm remains committed to sustainable farming practices and recognizes the long-term benefits of prioritizing environmental responsibility.

Is the farmer happy overall with RA?	Yes. Because of the use of Regenerative agriculture, we improved soil health, enhanced biodiversity, and reduced erosion. By using methods such as cover cropping, reduced tillage, and crop rotation, regenerative agriculture can increase the amount of carbon stored in the soil, which can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Does the farmer intend to continue RA?	Yes
Does the farmer intend to introduce changes in RA methods or crops?	Although I may not have any immediate plans to make significant alterations, I would like to take a look at the crops that are currently being cultivated and make any necessary improvements to our current methods.



Regenerative agriculture. An innovative approach towards mitigation of climate change through multi-tier learning.





