

2nd National Networks Meeting – Leszno, Poland

Factsheet: Field visit 1

Programme of the visit

- › 8:15 Departure
- › 10:15 - 11:15 Farm in Tłubice – Mr Adam Umiński will give the participants a tour of the farm
- › 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch in Pilichówko
- › 13:00 – 14:00 Rural Homemakers' Club (KGW) Pilichówko – Ms Agnieszka Pielat and Mr. Piotr Budziszewski will make a presentation on the activity of the Club and cooperation with the Miód i Malina [Honey and Raspberry] Foundation in running a backyard apiary. During the visit the participants will see the apiary.

Farm in Tłubice – Aneta and Adam Umiński

The farm is part of the National Network of Demonstration Farms and is engaged in raising dairy cows. It applies innovative technologies, including precision farming techniques and production methods that are environmentally friendly and counteract climate change.

Description

The farm in Tłubice has for 24 years been run by Aneta and Adam Umiński and their five children. In the future, the eldest son is to take over the farm. Agricultural production is carried out on an area of 250 ha. Within the structure of the crops grown, plants used as feed for cattle dominate: maize for silage and grain, cereals, alfalfa, grasses with leguminous plants, but also rapeseed and a combination of maize and runner beans.

Objective

The main objective of the farm is to increase production efficiency by introducing innovative solutions in both field crops and milk production, while reducing the environmental impact. In addition, passing on knowledge and expertise of the solutions used on the farm to other farmers and rural residents is of great value.

Activities

The main agricultural activity on the farm is milk production. The dairy cattle population is 320 head, with a foundation livestock of 200 cows (of which 160 cows are milked and the remaining ones are heifers) with an average annual milk yield of 8,000 – 9,600 litres. Three milking robots are used for milking.



In 2017 a state-of-the-art cowshed was built, equipped with robots for feeding, cleaning grates and cow brushes, a computer for reading results and monitoring cows' health. Milk is stored in a 12,000-litre cooling tank and delivered to the Sierpc Dairy every second day. The farm is currently switching to no-till farming, which rebuilds biological life in the soil and increases its fertility in the long term. In addition, manure ploughing and balancing fertilisation with nitrogen, phosphorus and liming is carried out on the farm. The farm belongs to the system of the Farm Accountancy Data Network – FADN.

Mr and Mrs Umiński are finalists in the nationwide Farmer of the Year competition and they participate in many events organised by the Farmer of the Year Association. They cooperate with the Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Milk Producers, Parzniew Region.

Future plans

The farm owners plan to build a biogas plant using manure and silage and to sell energy to the grid, while further reducing the farm's environmental impact.

Financing details

The farm benefitted from financing under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. Under measure M04. Modernisation of farms, a milking robot was purchased in 2018 for EUR 117 647 and a tractor with a spreader was bought for EUR 235 294 in 2022.

More information:

- › Farm – Aneta and Adam Umiński
- › Poland, Mazowieckie voivodship (region), Płocki powiat (county), Tłubice
- › <https://gospodarstwademonstracyjne.cdr.gov.pl/gospodarstwo/gospodarstwo-rolne-aneta-i-adam-uminscy/>

About Demonstration Farms

Demonstration farms receive groups of farmers and rural residents interested in deepening and exchanging their knowledge of farm management. Such farms are a place where farmers acquire knowledge and expertise, particularly valuable as current and viable solutions successfully implemented in practice are demonstrated there.

The National Network of Demonstration Farms was founded in 2021 and brings together voivodship networks coordinated by the voivodship agricultural advisory services. Starting with the 2023-2027 CAP the National Network of Demonstration Farms will come under the umbrella of the Polish Rural Network.



Rural Homemakers' Club (KGW) Pilichówko

The Rural Homemakers' Club in Pilichówko works for the local community by organising events aimed at disseminating good beekeeping practices and running health promotion campaigns. The Club has 10 beehives and it cooperates with a beekeeper to learn about the behaviour of bees and their importance for biodiversity and their impact on the natural and social environment. The members of the Club pass on their knowledge to local farmers.

Description

The Rural Homemakers' Club (KGW) Pilichówko was founded in 2022 and currently has 55 members. Since the beginning of its activities the Club has been working actively for the benefit of the local community, representing the village of Pilichówko at various events as well as maintaining and disseminating local traditions. An important part of the Club's activity is the organisation of events aimed at disseminating good beekeeping practices and health promotion campaigns, as well as meetings integrating the local community.

Objective

The idea behind the activities of the Club in Pilichówka is to undertake environmental initiatives and to promote them among the local community.

Activities

The Pilichówko Club cooperates with Mr Piotr Budziszewski, President of the 'Association of Beekeepers of Northern Mazovia Region' and of the 'Miód i Malina [Honey and Raspberry] Foundation for Nature and Beekeeping Education', who has made a donation of 10 beehives to Club members from which they obtain rapeseed, acacia and multi-flower honey. Under the watchful eye of the beekeeper, Club members are trained on how to use the equipment properly, how to take good care of the bees and how to handle the apiary. The aim is to preserve biodiversity in the area and, at the same time, to encourage local farmers to ensure that any chemical treatment, if at all, is done properly and has as little negative impact as possible on the environment and on local biological life.

Future plans

The Club in Pilichówko plans to provide training to share their knowledge and expertise with other Rural Homemakers' Clubs interested in setting up apiaries in their localities and protecting biodiversity. Encouraging Clubs to run small backyard apiaries raises awareness among local residents, especially farmers, of various ways of protecting the environment and increasing biodiversity.

More information:



- › Rural Homemakers' Club in Pilichówko
- › Poland, Mazowieckie voivodship, Płocki powiat, Pilichówko
- › <https://www.facebook.com/kgwwpilichowku>

About Rural Homemakers' Clubs

Rural Homemakers' Clubs (KGW) are a very important part of the social fabric of modern villages in Poland. The Clubs are voluntary and independent women's organisations that have been acting in the form of local associations mainly in rural areas for over a century. Their activities focus mainly on preserving and disseminating local traditions, culture and customs, including those related to culinary specialities unique to a given locality or region. Clubs take part in local, regional or even nationwide events during which they pass on knowledge or present local traditions and culinary products. Nowadays, more and more Clubs pay special attention to environmental and climate aspects when launching their initiatives. Many initiatives are related to local biodiversity, adaptation of agriculture and rural life to climate change, or to loyalty and reduction of the value chain.

Rural Homemakers' Clubs are a privileged partner of the Polish Rural Network, with conferences and workshops organised for this stakeholder group on environmental and climate change topics. The Network has also provide grants to Network partners that have published publications to support the establishment and running of Clubs.

