

CROATIA

Farm's performance, restructuring & modernisation

Location

Sveti Urban

Programming period

2014 – 2020

Priority

P2 – Competitiveness

Measure

M4 – Investments in physical assets

Funding (EUR)

Total budget 26 000
RDP support 10 400
Own contribution 15 600

Project duration

2015 – 2017

Project promoter

OPG Zdenka Medenjak

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Website

www.medimurje.info/knehtl-medenjak/

A family farm specialised on wine production used RDP support to acquire a new tractor and in this way improve its productivity and competitiveness.

Summary

The family farm Medenjak specialises in wine production. The farm consists of about 5 ha of vineyards and is located in Sveti Urban, Štrigova. The family has owned the farm for four generations.

The family needed a new tractor for their vineyard. Before this investment they used a 30 year old tractor which was no longer suitable. In order to improve production and remain competitive they used support from the Croatian Rural Development Programme to buy a new Goldoni Cluster 66 HP tractor.



Results

The new tractor helped the farm to increase its revenue, improve working conditions, save time and fuel.

The work became easier and faster which has enabled the farm to become more competitive.

Less fuel is now used which means less pollution.

The farm owners now intend to plant new vineyards and create new jobs.

Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ New equipment can be an expensive up front cost but can save time and money in the long term.

Context

The family farm of Ms Zdenka Medenjak specialises in wine production. The farm consists of about 5 ha of vineyards and is located in Sveti Urban, Štrigova. The family has owned the farm for four generations. The first cellar was built in 1927 and in the early 1990s they began to intensify their wine production activities. They cultivate several varieties including chardonnay, silvaner and pinot gris.

Prior to this investment the farm used a 30 year old tractor which was no longer suitable for the production requirements. The old tractor could not be used in the vineyards when the soil was wet. Also it could not be used for harvesting grapes on steep terrains and so additional workers needed to be hired. This increased the production costs and the harvesting time. The fuel consumption of the old tractor was considerable with negative financial and environmental impacts.

Objectives

This investment aimed to:

Increase the efficiency of the work in the vineyard by making vine cultivation easier and faster.

Reduce the amount of fuel consumed and therefore save money and reduce the environmental impact.

Activities

The farm owners were supported in preparing their application by the Čakovec Advisory Service. They submitted the project proposal on 31.03.2015. The

provisional decision on allocation of funds was given on 01.08.2016. The final decision was received on 22.12.2016. They received the approval for the final payment on 27.06.2018.



Main results

The new tractor helped the farm to increase the farm's revenue, improve working conditions and save time and fuel. This investment changed the way the project owners work in the vineyard. The work became easier and faster, enabling the farm to become more competitive. Less fuel is now used and this means reduced environmental pollution.

The farm owners now intend to plant new vineyards and create new jobs.

Key lessons

- ❑ New equipment can be an expensive up front cost but can save time and money in the long term.

Additional sources of information

<https://bit.ly/2VLZUhh>
<https://bit.ly/2DafwEx>