

Project Bio-economy Drentsche Aa in short (1/2)

It's about opportunities for agriculture within the context of the National Park Drentsche Aa.

- NP Drentsche Aa is unique in its kind: agriculture side by side with nature, living and recreation
- Striving for harmony and sustainable development: balance between environment, people and economy
- Agricultural target audiences: dairy farms (90), arable farms (40), meat cattle husbandry (10), beekeepers (4 associations)
- Other target audiences: inhabitants (35k), visitors (1.5 M), catering industry, farm shops, food retailers, consumers, schools



Project Bio-economie Drentsche Aa in short (2/2)

EIP-Agri (European Innovation Project Agri) funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development ELFPO & POP-3 (Provincial Rural Development Program). Project period Feb 2017 – Feb 2021. Total budget € 163k.

- Objective: preservation of the NP Drentsche Aa identity by a gradual switch from conventional farming to bioeconomy
- Development and cooperation for new supply chains of agricultural products in the area
- Work program sets: meat, dairy products, combined harvested crops, honey; communication & extension, demo field
- Case descriptions and revenue models



EU website ELFPO :

 $\underline{https://ec.europa.eu/regional\ policy/nl/policy/what/glossary/e/european-agricultural-fund-for-rural-development}$

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EIP-Project Bio-economy Drentsche Aa on Youtube



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RmmeS7ng_4

Areas of interest and topics connected with the Bio-economy project:

- Circular agriculture (Environment)
- Nature inclusive agriculture (Environment and Economy)
- Income position in agriculture (Economy)
- Biodiversity enhancement (Environment)
- Soil and water quality amelioration (Environment)
- Scenery and landscape experience conservation and enhancement (People)
- Environmentally enhanced agricultural output and supply chain development of food products for local markets (People, Economy, Environment)
- Education / training (People and Economy)



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Meat cattle husbandry

What has been worked on?

- Mapping the playing field of meat cattle farmers, nature conservation organisations, market parties, individual consumers and caterers.
- Bottleneck and wants & needs inventory
- Exploration of models for supply chain cooperation
- Development of a revenue model

Conclusions

- Cooperation is an essential element for meat production and marketing under the Dubbel Drents (Double Drents) label with respect to quality, uniformity and supply continuity for individual consumers and caterers.
- 2. Cattle husbandry matches very well with nature conservation



Dairy

What has been worked on?

- Mapping the playing field: dairy farms and their milk flows
- Bottleneck and wants & needs inventory
- Cooperation options with arable crop producers for local fodder supply
- Exploration of dairy product provision for local supply chains and development of a revenue model
- Proposals to advance development of a typical local cheese that represents the Drentsche Aa region with respect to shape, colour, aroma, flavour and taste.

Conclusions

- 1. There is an interest in outsourced cheese production with own produced milk and local marketing
- 2. Cooperation between dairy and arable farmers works



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Beekeeping and honey

What has been worked on?

- Met with beekeeper associations in the area and discussed environmental issues
- Bottleneck and wants & needs inventory
- Development of a revenue model for local production and marketing through local retailers and farm shops

Conclusions

- Interest in production under the Dubbel Drents label with sustained beekeeper's personal identity
- 2. Urgent need for honey bee-friendly plants, trees and crops





Combined harvested crops (arable farming)

What has been worked on?

- Built on the experience with the local "Cereal project for bread'
- Feasibility testing on the cultivation of 'forgotten' and new grains, oil seed rape, field beans, fodder beet (10)
- Research on the possible role of tagetes en field flowers in crop rotations
- Involvement of supply chain partners
- · Description of existing and future revenue models

Conclusions:

- Ámple opportunities for bread wheat and other grains for local bakeries, malting barley for local breweries, oil seed rape for regionally produced edible oil
- Growing opportunities for field beans and fodder beet production in cooperation with neighbouring dairy and meat cattle farmers
- Local and regional processors are open for cooperation with local farmers
- Cereals, oil seed rape, tagetes and field flowers are ideal as rest crops in a crop rotation with potato and sugar beet, good for soil improvement, water quality and biodiversity



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Demo Field Wedbroeken, Tynaarlo (NP gate and parking area)

General

- Open for farmers, inhabitants and visitors to the NP
- Excursions in summer
- Annual evaluation on growth, development and yield of a number of combined harvested crops
- Application of nature inclusive cropping systems



Crops

- Bread wheat and spelt
- Malting barley
- Oats
- Rye
- Teff
- Oil seed rape
- Field beans
- Fodder beet
- Tagetes (african marigolds)
- Field flowers



