

PRACTICE ABSTRACT

SHARING EXPERIENCES FROM: FRANCE

Key issues to reflect on when returning livestock on an arable farm

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The reintegration of livestock into crop farms is presented as a favorable solution for the spread of agroecology. But this return has a series of direct (e.g. on labor) and indirect (e.g. on subsidies) impacts that need to be anticipated.

What are the key factors to consider when reintegrating livestock into crop farms?

The priority objectives associated with this reintegration (e.g. a new source of income vs. livestock manure for fertilization),

Outlets for reintegrated livestock products in short or long chains, depending on local operators,

Subsidies made possible by the reintroduction of livestock,

Impact on the organization, workload and nature of work,

- Investments required by the presence of a livestock operation (e.g. fencing, drinking troughs),

The presence of input and service suppliers (e.g. veterinarians) associated with the livestock operation,

Regulatory constraints associated with the joint management of crops and livestock (e.g. the removal of animals from fields before harvest periods),

Availability of the knowledge needed to manage livestock operations,

The presence of professional networks (e.g. technical advisors, farmers' groups) linked to livestock farming.

Based on these elements, it is easier to determine the project for reintegrating livestock into a crop farm, be it the species and breed concerned, management and marketing methods, or how this reintegration will be carried out, by adding a production on the farm, or in collaboration with a breeder by temporarily hosting animals on the farm.





ABOUT MIXED IN FRANCE

In France MIXED is implemented by AGROOF and INRAE in collaboration. The project is working with two groups of farmers practicing MiFAS (Mixed Farming and Agroforestry Systems) in different ways.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

MIXED (Multi-actor and transdisciplinary development of efficient and resilient MIXED farming and agroforestry systems), an EU-project, is supporting the development of European Mixed Farming and Agroforestry Systems (MiFAS) that are more efficient and resilient to climate changes.

7M€ BUDGET	19 PARTNERS	10 COUNTRIES
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Agriculture in France can be characterized as highly specialized and reliant on inputs (synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, feed, etc.). Indeed, livestock is concentrated in a limited number of regions and has almost disappeared in cropping areas. This segregation in space has led to a disconnection between crop and livestock farms.



MIXED partners from France:

