



 Hort Augustin - family farm



Hort Augustin



15 hectares



workload reduction

USING TECHNOLOGY FOR FARM MANAGEMENT IN THE MOUNTAIN AREA

During the summer, the farms in the submontane and mountain areas of Romania generate many human-bear conflicts. A bear attack on livestock can result in human, livestock or bear injury. Against the background of the existence of gaps in the legislative framework and the damage compensation system, people try to protect their assets. Also, grazing in the forest background and the use of non-competitive guard dogs is another cause of the large number of losses recorded among domestic livestock.

Hort Augustin, a farmer from the village of Halmasau, Bistrița-Năsăud county, skilfully manages 15 hectares of land, used as pasture, where he passionately cares for 17 cows of the Romanian Baltata breed, for milk production.

To improve the surveillance of animals on the pasture and optimize the management of the farm, Hort invested in the latest technology, purchasing drones. This innovation allows him to more effectively monitor the land and quickly identify any problem or potential threat for the animals.

A drone can quickly fly over, detect threats and provide aerial images and real-time footage (the drone has a 4k video quality camera, it is an easy to fly quadcopter with 30 min. fly time in optimal). Depending on the weather, the cow's proximity to the farm and calving season, he flies it from 0 to 10 times per day.

This allows the farmer to assess the level of danger and identify the appropriate response. This can help save time and money.

Drones can monitor vast areas and provide high-quality images and video footage in real time, which could also mean that fewer on-site work force is needed to monitor the animals. Speed is another advantage. Drones are much faster than a human or a car, which allows the farmer to reach the location of the animals on the pasture several times quicker and give the opportunity to provide a rapid response.

In an age where agriculture faces increasingly complex challenges, such as climate change and increasingly high market demands, Hort Augustin is an inspirational example of adaptability and perseverance. Through determination, expertise and the adoption of modern technology, he demonstrates that success in agriculture is also measured by the ability to innovate and adapt to changes in the economic and natural environment.

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Farmer Interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFCA0T8tCXE>



Photo credit: photos generated from farmer interview - University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca and AgroTransilvania Cluster