



# Case Study Poland: Grabów National Center for Practical Training

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Grabów NCPT is focused on arable crop production (i.e. cereals, leguminous, maize, potato, feed plants) and livestock (milk cows). The new Center was established this year in an agreement between the Institute for Soil Science and Plant Cultivation and the Agricultural Advisory Center. The main goals are to improve transfer of knowledge and training advisers and farmers. The farm owns 142 ha arable land and milking cows husbandry with more 120 cows. There is 10,8 hectares of organic farming. Trials and field experiments in conventional part about 3500 plots and about 500 plots in organic production.



## Objectives

- Improve the collaboration with research institutes and advisory system
- building a practical training system for advisers and farmers.

## Motivations

- Building relationships between researchers and advisors: continuous improvement of organic and conventional production system.
- Improving advisory and practical training system.

## Topic selection

- Selected to cover main aspect of conventional and organic production
- Determined by advisors and farmers together

## Evaluation peer-to-peer learning environment

- 18 participants, farmers, postgraduate students, data: 15 of April
- Main topic was using mixtures cereals and pulses. Trials ReMIX H2020 project.
- Second topic: comparison organic and conventional production systems.
- Practical training: examination of soil samples, species and density of weeds
- Further learning outcome: extension of training for the small-scale processing on the farm

## Audience & participation

- Audience: effort is made to involve regional farmers, young farmers and postgraduate students.
- No participation fee.

## Demonstration set-up

- Initially top-down, presentation of whole farm problems, differences between production systems. Explanation of trials.
- Presentation of the case study about single crop productions.
- Practical training on the evaluation of weeds and soil quality. Discussion on drought prevention
- Evaluation: surveys, group discussion (45 min.) about main and additional topics.

- **Host farmer (manager of the farm): open to cooperation with farmers and advisors**
- **Participants emphasized holistic view on farm: milk production, arable and feed crops, new machinery. Comparison of two production systems: organic and conventional. Presented trials with many varieties, density of sowing, crop mixtures, plant protection, drought prevention.**
- **Very good contact, honesty, openness between host manager of the farm, organizer and participants.**



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