

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



Veselá biofarma, z.s.

(Happy Organic Farm, interest association)

Association of Friends of Organic Farming, Velké Hostěrádky



Introduction

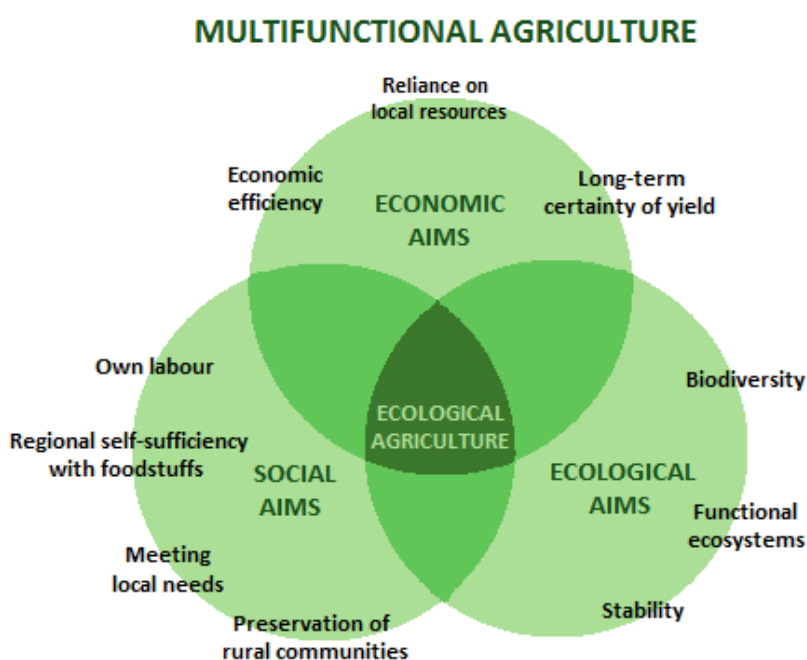
The Friends of Organic Farming interest group came into existence in 1990, under the banner of PRO-BIO Association of producers and processors of organic foods, with basically the same members as the association has to this day. The main parties involved later went separate ways to become advisers, managers, farmers and dealers in organic foods. Years later they came together again in Velké Hostěrádky to establish the non-profit project “Veselá biofarma” (Happy Organic Farm) with the aim of promoting the ecological approach to agriculture and food processing through practical examples.

The actual promotional activities on the organic farm in Velké Hostěrádky began as early as 2010, in those days under the name of individual partner companies, but also as private interest activities of the main participants. In 2014 the association was officially established as a non-profit organisation.

Idea, mission and aim of the organisation

The main aim of the association is directed towards sustainable development of society and protection of the environment at all levels. Organic farming has been chosen as a practical example for fulfilment of this general aim as it is a traditional, multifunctional model of management which ensures the spiritual and material needs of mankind, while providing full-value nutrition for humans with no negative impact on their surroundings.

The aim of the association is to demonstrate, through practical example and a positive, friendly environment, that it is possible to achieve the following aims of organic farming (M. Altieri, 1994) in Czech conditions:



Activities during 2015

In 2015 the association focused especially on promotional and educational activities within organic farming, on production and processing of certain crops, on preparation of themes and establishing the material-technical background for these, and gathering information on similar projects:

- Organisation of two sessions (August, October 2015) of “Growing field crops in Organic Agriculture” training course in cooperation with Biocont Laboratory company
- A public excursion to the farm in cooperation with Sonnentor company, an excursion from the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague
- An excursion / Excursions abroad (Moldavia) and foreign visits
- Cooperation with Rebio – sale of surplus organic potatoes and Hokkaido pumpkins to restaurants
- Arranging “organic” certification for free-gathering and production of promotional organic teas from local ingredients (in cooperation with Sonnentor)
- Establishing a herb-drying kiln
- Supplying association members and consumer groups in Brno with vegetables (potatoes, Hokkaido pumpkins, seasonal vegetables) and meat (organic pork and lamb)
- Sale of produce from farms at Organic Festivals (July 2014 and 2015) in Staré Město pod Sněžníkem
- Adaptation and ecologization of farm premises (former typical cooperative), creation of a Country Garden project, planting trees and shrubs, and establishing a
- Acquiring accreditation of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to carry out the following educational activities:
 - Medicinal plants, herbs and spices for school gardens,
 - School garden - Medicinal plants, herbs and spices
 - Support for natural science literacy of 2nd level primary school students / Methods and forms of work
- Within a farm event (traditional pig-killing) a meeting took place of representatives of a number of ecological/organic bodies and state institutions (Sonnentor, Bioinstitut, Veronica Brno, Veronica Hostětín, Partnership Foundation, PRO-BIO, Veritas winery, Rebio, ÚKZÚZ - Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture, Mendel University in Brno, League for Ecological Alternatives)
- Gathering information on similar projects in Czech Republic and abroad – visit to Veronica Hostětín and Brodowin in Germany
- Cooperation with local council (e.g. repair of religious elements in the landscape, planting greenery, promotional sale at pre-Christmas markets, sports events...), and with Oslavka local action group (project preparation).



Financial review of 2015

Costs	CZK
Material consumption	49 195
Other services	44 916
Salaries	4 034
Other taxes and charges	950
Other costs	2 097
Deductions	272
Total	101 464

Income	CZK
Income from sale of services	10 280
Fund accounts (donations)	101 463
Other income	2 388
Income from sale of materials	1 376
Membership contributions	19 000
Total	134 507

Business result	CZK
Total income	134 507
Total costs	101 464
Total	33 043

Bodies of the organisation, members of the association

Senior body of the association: General Assembly

Association Board:

Chair of Association Board: **Ing. Jiří Urban**

Deputy Chair of Association Board: **Ing. Martin Hutař**

Association Board members:

- **Ing. Karel Matěj**
- **Cyril Urbánek**
- **Marie Urbánková**
- **Ing. Jiří Bureš**

Control body:

Control committee members:

- **Ing. Jarmila Urbanová**
- **Ing. Tomáš Mitáček**
- **Ing. Pavla Hutařová**

Other Association members:

- **Ing. Petr Trávníček**
- **Ing. Mojmír Kopecký**
- **Irena Burešová**
- **Jiří Matěj**



Cooperation

The Association cooperates with the following bodies:

- PRO-BIO, trading association s r.o.
- VH Agroton, s.r.o.
- Sonnentor, s.r.o.
- Agrisen s.r.o.
- BIOVIVA s.r.o.
- ÚKZÚZ - Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture
- Bioinstitut o.p.s.
- REMÍZKA
- Veronica Brno, Veronica Hostětín
- Partnership Foundation
- Veritas Winery
- Rebio
- League for Ecological Alternatives
- Oslavka, o.p.s.
- ZERA – Regional Agency for Agriculture and Ecology, z.s.
- Czech Society for Ornithology
- Gengel o.p.s.
- MAS Hustopečsko
- Biocont Laboratory s.r.o.
- Velké Hostěrádky Council



Aims of the organisation for the following year

OA certification – we want to convert all areas within the premises of the former agricultural cooperative to organic management – vineyard, orchard, vegetable garden, shrubberies, pastures.

product processing – within OA certification we are preparing to process produce for jams, syrups, dried fruits, dried herb mixes, dried tomatoes etc.

on-farm sales point – sale of our own produce (potatoes, vegetables, herbs, “Pohodář” tea (“Easy-Going”), PRO-BIO and Sonnentor products, perhaps other organic products from neighbouring farms

field crops – potatoes, Hokkaido pumpkins, beetroot – part of production will be moved to the Organic Country Garden, where irrigation will be possible

growing vegetables and aromatic and medicinal plants for farm use – cooking with our own produce for various farm events, seminars and training sessions

growing, gathering and drying herbs for teas – continuing to grow and free-gather herbs for the tried and tested “Pohodář” tea.

preparation and submission of projects:

Ministry of Agriculture – a project aimed at promotion of organic products, regional products, organic agriculture

Viticulture fund – support aimed at promotion of organic viticulture and production of organic wines via excursions to organic growers and seminars focusing on organic viticulture for consumers and wine-lovers

South-Moravian Region – in a project aimed at environmental education, training and information, the association will cooperate with the local council and Primary School in Hustopeče to prepare a programme for children, young people and adults in order to present the work of the organic farm in an entertaining way.

Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt – A project aimed at consumer education

A wander through the organic vineyards of South Moravia – an event by the Friends of Organic Wine Club at Happy Organic Farm. The aim is to map organic wine-makers in South Moravia

Farm open days - a series of informational and educational activities throughout the whole year within the project “Get to know the organic farming year with us”, e.g. a day focusing on growing organic fruit and vegetables, a day focusing on medicinal and aromatic crops, etc.

Inclusion of the farm in Ekocentres – inclusion of the farm in the Ekocentra.cz project, which is supported by the Ministry of the Environment

Establishing a base for processing organic pork (“traditional pig-killing”) to offer “farm-processed” pork products to the general public.

Acknowledgements

Our thanks to our corporate sponsors and individual donors for their support in our non-profit activities.

Thank you to all the members of our association, external co-operators and colleagues in partner organisations for the part they have played in the fulfilment of our projects.

We also thank all the visitors to the farm and participants in our educational events for their expression of faith and interest.



Donations

If the activities of Veselá biofarma association interest you and you would like to give your financial support, you can make a donation by bank transfer to the account no. 107-9336650227/0100 held in Komerční banka a.s.

We welcome whatever financial is given for our activities. If you would like us to send you confirmation of your donation (e.g. for the purpose of a tax statement), please e-mail us the relevant information (name and permanent address). We thank you in advance for whatever financial contribution you are willing to make.

Contact

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