

RESULT 2: OPEN PLATFORM FOR SHARING KNOWLEDGE

WP 1: Learning Environment for SMEs

CASE STUDIES DEVELOPMENT

APPLICATION OF AUTOMATED FEEDING SYSTEMS FOR SOWS

Part 1: General information for the enterprise

1. Nam: José WAVREILLE
2. Location: Gembloux
3. Subject of activity
4. Legal status
5. Management
 - a. Gender: Male
 - b. Age: 56-65
 - c. Education: higher
6. Farm size
 - a. cultivated land
 - b. species and numbers of animals: Pig production

Part 2: Smart technologies used on the farm

What smart technologies does the farm have? When and where are they applied? Is the accumulated data used and how?

The automated feeding system for sows produced by GYGA technologies has been applied at the Center for more than 4 years. GESTAL, automated feeding systems for farrowing sows, was selected to install in the farm

The automated feeding system collects data and transfers to virtual cloud where owners can access if needs.

Part 3: Owners' satisfaction with the use of smart technologies

1. Utility assessment

Is the farm manager satisfied with the smart technologies used? What benefits and advantages have they brought him?

The manager responded that the technique is very useful which helps to reduce labor forces and the loss of feed thanks to precision system.

2. Observed difficulties and problems

What difficulties have they encountered or are encountering in using the new technologies? How did they learn to work with them? Do they have maintenance and consumables issues?

Too many alerts and notification came automatically from the system so that the manager has to be ready for intervention at any time. This problem leads to stressful attitude of owner.

3. Potential risks

Are they worried about issues such as post-warranty service, integration with next-generation technology, and being tied to a specific supplier or brand?

Technical workers might lose their competences on the sector due to non-practice and the manual techniques have no more applied.

Part 4: Financing the investment in smart technologies

How is the purchase of the new technologies financially secured - own funds, bank loan, financing under a particular program? Do they think that the prices of these technologies are beyond the means of most farmers? Do they feel that the decision to purchase their devices was astute and effective?

The technique was funded under a particular programme. The application of the technique also applied in some other Belgian large farms. The benefit is clear and confirmed, so the decision to purchase was astute and effective.

Part 5: Future intentions towards smart technologies

Do they intend to continue using new technologies? Do they plan to purchase new types, and if so, what kinds? What are their intentions with the devices they own - do they plan to replace them with more recent generations as they become available?

New innovation could be considered as the complex system that automatically fill feed quantity to the precision automated feeding box which is currently take place by a technical person.

Part 6: Some photos



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