

USE OF AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM ON OUR PASTURES

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- 5) USE OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM
- 4) COMPONENTS OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM
- 3) ARRIVAL OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM
- 2) DESCRIPTION OF PASTURES
- 1) ENTREPRISE PRESENTATION

CONFERENCE PLAN

CONFERENCE PLAN (end)

- 6) COST OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM
- 7) GAINS OBTAINED BY IRRIGATION
- 8) MISTAKES MADE
- 9) STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE SYSTEM
- **10)SUCCESS TIPS**
- 11)FUTURE

ENTREPRISE PRESENTATION

- MEMBERS
 - PARENTS
 - BROTHER
- MAIN PRODUCTIONS
 - PUMPKINS, SQUASH
 - BEEF CATTLE (70 CH cows and 140 cross vaches)
 - SHEEP (100 Dorset crossbreeds)
- AREAS
 - 100 acres in PUMPKINS (41 ha)
 - 250 acres in CEREALS (101 ha)
 - 350 acres in GRASSLAND (142 ha)
 - 400 acres in PASTURE (162 ha)



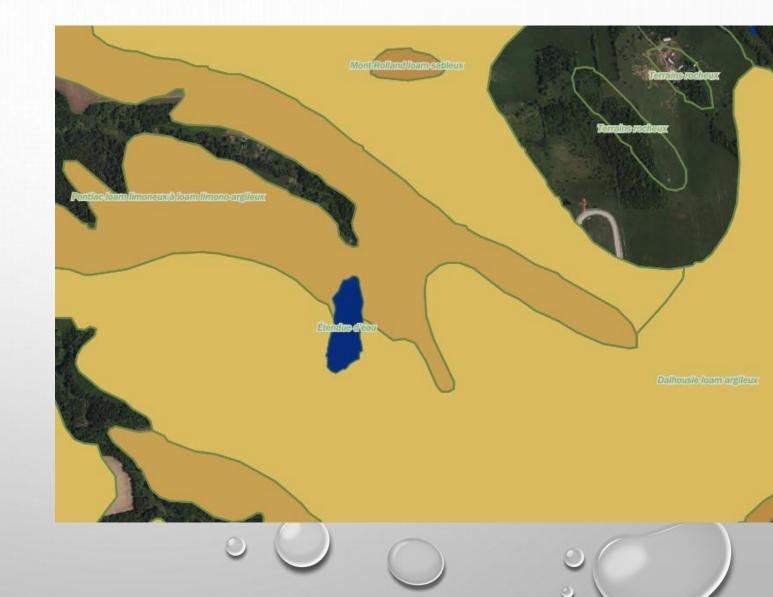
PASTURE DESCRIPTION

• AREAS

- 300 acres IMPROVED (121ha)
- 100 acres NATURAL (41ha)

• SOIL TYPE

- 60 % Dalhousie, clay loam
- 40 % Sainte-Rosalie, clay
- Water retention capacity
 - sand < silt < loam < clay



PASTURE DESCRIPTION

PASTURE SYSTEMS

- Improved strip grazing, daily movement
 - Plots all drained
- Natural pasture in rotation, grazing time \rightarrow 1 week

• PLANTS PRESENTS

- 70 % GRASS (mix of canary seed, timothy and brome)
- 30 % LEGUME (white clover)





PASTURE DESCRIPTION

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Natural Pasture

Natural Pasture

Improved Pasture

Water source



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ARRIVAL OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM

- WHEN
 - FOR THE 2012 GRAZING SEASON
- WHY
 - DISCUSSION WITH AN AGRONOMIST FROM MAPAQ IN 2010
 - AVAILABILITY OF A WATER SOURCE
 - ELABORATED SYSTEM OF WATER LINE PRESENT
- PURCHASE
 - K-LINE IRRIGATION SUPPLIER FOR THE SYSTEM
 - DUBOIS AGRINOVATION FOR TECHNICAL ADVICE





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SYSTEM COMPONENTS

- WATER SOURCE
 - OLD SAND PIT FILLED WITH WATER
 - 25 ACRES WITH A DEPTH OF 40 FEET
- PUMP
 - ELECTRIC, 5 HP
- 3 000 METERS OF 1"1/4 PVC PIPE
 - TO BRING WATER TO THE WATER BOWL/K-LINE SYSTEM



COMPONENTS (end)

- 2 K-LINE UNITS OF 400 FEET EACH
 - Description of one unit
 - 8 sprinkler pods placed at 50 foot intervals
 - Covers 50 feet in diameter
 - Covered area 400 X 50 = 20 000 square feet (0.5 acre)

>THE 2 UNITS IRRIGATE

➤ an area of 1 acre



USED OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM

- TERMS OF USE
 - NO PRECIPITATION FOR 7 DAYS
 - WHEN DUST RISES ATV PASSAGE
 - ACCORDING TO SOIL MOISTURE (touch)



- AFTER PASSAGE OF CATTLE
 - TAKE OUT THE CATTLE WHEN THE GRASS HAS REACHED THE HEIGHT OF 5-6 inches
 - INSTALL THE SYSTEM AS SOON AS THE ANIMALS LEAVE (THE SYSTEM FOLLOW THE COWS)

USED OF THE SYSTEM (end)

- TIME OF THE DAY
 - 2 TIME PER DAY
- IRRIGATION DURATION
 - 10-12 HOURS OF WATERING
- QUANTITY OF WATER SUPPLIED TO THE PASTURE
 - 2 INCHES OF WATER IS 200 M³ (200 000 LITERS/ACRE)
- REINTRODUCTION OF THE HERD INTO THE PLOT
 - DRYING PERIOD OF AT LEAST 30 DAYS
 - COWS NEVER HAVE ACCESS TO A WET PLOT

COST OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM

	INITIAL COST	ANNUAL COST ¹			
2 K-Line system ²	3 400.00	340.00			
Pump and operation	2 500.00	250.00			
K-Line labor installation (2 h@20\$/h)	40.00	40.00			
Water pipe for water bowl and K-Line	15 000.00 ³	1 500.00			
Water line labor installation	2 000.00	0.00			
Total Cost	22 940.00	2 130.00			
Irriguated Area (acres)	300	300			
Cost per Acre	76.50	7.10			
 DIRTA 10 % (Depreciation, Interest, Repair-maintenance, Taxes, Insurance) Includes pipes, pod and sprinklers Cost subsidized by Prime-Vert program 					

GAINS OBTAINED BY IRRIGATION

- SUMMER 2020, 40 DAYS WITHOUT RAIN
- MUCH LESS ROUND BALE SERVED IN PERIOD OF DROUGHT BECAUSE
 WITHDRAWAL OF ANIMALS FROM THE PASTURE ONLY 2 WEEKS
- NO OVERGRASS MADE ON PASTURES
- IN 2012 WE HAD TO SERVE 250 R.B. WHILE THIS YEAR, WE ONLY SERVED HALF
 > A SAVING OF \$ 9 375 (125 R.B. @ \$ 75)

MISTAKES MADE • MOVING SYSTEM, ONLY ONE WAY TO DO Proper way Wrong way

- ABSOLUTELY REMOVE THE SPRINKLERS AND PODS FOR THE WINTER OTHERWISE, CRACKING AND BREAKAGE
- WATER FLOW NOT POWERFUL ENOUGH, ESPECIALLY WITH 2 K-LINE UNITS

SYSTEM STRENGTHS

- ECONOMIC
- EASY INSTALLATION
- EFFICIENT IRRIGATION
- NO NEED FOR SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE FOR ITS OPERATION
- SUITABLE FOR ALL LANDS
- EFFICIENT USE OF WATER
- EASY TO STRETCH
- QUICK AND EASY TO MOVE WITH AN ATV





SYSTEM WEAKNESSES

- NEED A CONTINUOUS WATER SUPPLY
- DOES NOT WORK WITH A WELL
- REQUIRES A SOURCE OF WATER UNDER PRESSURE OR BY GRAVITY
- MUST BE MOVED MANUALLY
- MUST BE MOVED WHEN IT IS WORKING
- MUST DISASSEMBLE IT FOR THE WINTER PERIOD
- NOT DESIGNED FOR VERY LARGE AREAS

SUCCESS TIPS

- AVAILABILITY OF A WATER SOURCE
- REPAIR ALL LEAKS FROM PIPE AND GASKETS
- USE THE SAME NOZZLE SIZE THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEM TO ENSURE UNIFORM WATER DISTRIBUTION
- AT THE INLET OF THE SYSTEM, THE WATER MUST HAVE A PRESSURE OF 60 PSI
- GOOD MATCH UNIT AREA



• CURRENTLY HAS A SYSTEM FOR TROUBLESHOOTING, WISH TO EQUIP WITH A SYSTEM FOR THE TERM OF THE GRAZING



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

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