

## PRACTICE ABSTRACT #3

## PA3 - Dairy in agroforestry system for self-sufficiency in protein-based feed



*Image 3. Foraging cows.*  
Source: USAMVCN

This Practice Hub introduces a group dedicated to supporting small dairy farmers operating within an agricultural forestry system, particularly in mountainous and hilly terrain regions. These farmers manage diverse landscapes comprising grasslands, orchards, pastures, and arable lands. Despite the richness of their environment, they face challenges such as low profitability and a lack of knowledge regarding the optimal utilisation of natural resources.

To address these issues, the Hub collaborates with farmers and colleagues to identify solutions that focus on enhancing product quality, improving market organisation, fostering cooperation among farmers, and diversifying their activities. By working together, farmers can potentially overcome common challenges more effectively.

One key emphasis is on the quality of products derived from these farms, particularly milk. The Hub aims to establish a "living lab" where the quality of forage and the diversity of grasslands are connected to the quality of the milk produced. This approach considers the unique cultural and social context in which these farms operate.

In summary, the presentation highlights the importance of collaboration and innovation in addressing the challenges faced by small dairy farmers in mountainous areas. The proposed initiatives aim to not only improve the economic viability of these farms but also enhance the quality of their products within their specific cultural and social environment.

More information on the Practice Hub [here](#).

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