Country Report for the Czech Republic

History
Czech individual farmers started their own demonstration activities after “Velvet revolution” in 1989. There were mainly activities leading to the higher crop production, involving new technologies, machinery, pesticides and herbicides, new products of breeding etc.

The history of organized agricultural demonstrations
It goes back to the period of Austro-Hungarian Empire. Agricultural associations directed to the agricultural enlightenment were developed in six time periods:

1. 18th and 19th centuries - agricultural economic societies engaged in the spread of agricultural knowledge.
2. 1872 - 1924 Agricultural Councils overtook the main role.
3. 1924 - 1952 Czechoslovak Agricultural Academy followed.
4. 1953-1962 Czechoslovak Academy of Agricultural Sciences
5. 1963-1989 Centralized control of the of the agriculture.

Types of Demonstrations

Access Issues

Other Issues

Distinguishing Characteristics

- Since 2016 Czech Ministry of Agriculture started a formation of the method for a subsidy policy called “Demonstration farm” to help farmers in the form of illustrative practical demonstrations of comprehensive sustainable farming practices.
- The main topic for the year 2017 was “Soil protection”.
- The first seven individual farms got supported in 2017:
  - Zemědělské družstvo Krásná Hora nad Vitavou
  - Zemědělská společnost Devtě křižů
  - Školní zemědělský statek Žabčice
  - Družstvo Pooshlav Nová Ves
  - VESA Česká Bělá
  - Družstvo Vyskočina
  - Statek Bureš – Bučina

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