

BULGARIA

Farm's performance, restructuring & modernisation

Location

Stara Zagora

Programming period

2014 – 2020

Priority

P2 – Competitiveness

Measure

M4 – Investments in physical assets

Funding (EUR)

Total budget 890 780.2

RDP 524 551.3

Private 366 228.9

Project duration

2017 – 2017

Project promoter

AGROCHIT LTD

Contact

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Website

n/a

Installing a net to reduce the risk of damage from natural threats such as hail, torrential rains, birds and insects.

Summary

In the area of the municipality of Pavel Banya, agricultural production is often affected by natural threats. Hail storms are common every year, causing damages to crops and large financial losses to farmers. During the summer torrential rains, combined with strong winds, are also very common. Orchards are also vulnerable to attacks from birds and insects.

RDP support financed the installation of an anti-hail net over existing perennial crops of cherries and plums. The process involved installing the protective net along with support infrastructure.



Results

The anti-hail net will protect the orchards from hail, strong winds and heavy rains, thus greatly reducing production risks;

The net will provide some shade to reduce sunburn on the fruit and allow for better colouring.

The good commercial appearance and increased production volume will bring better prices for the producer.

One full-time job was created to support the day-to-day work at the holding.

Context

In the area of the municipality of Pavel Banya, agricultural production is threatened by a number of natural phenomena. Hail storms are common every year causing damages to crops and large financial losses to farmers. During the summer, torrential rains combined with strong winds are very common, while orchards are also vulnerable to attacks from birds and insects.

In order to reduce the impact of these threats without compromising the competitiveness and sustainability of the farms, it was necessary to implement solutions to effectively protect orchards from hail, torrential rains, strong winds, insect birds and sunburn. One of the holdings in the areas that decided to take action was the farm AGROCHIT Ltd.

Objectives

The project aimed to improve the competitiveness of the farm by helping them to adapt to the now-more-frequent adverse weather conditions and natural events that can impact production.

Activities

The project financed the instalment of an anti-hail net over existing perennial crops of cherries (214 decares) and plums (151 decares). The process involved installing the protective net along with support infrastructure. The safety net will cover the garden during the production period, and during the rest period (in winter) the net is removed for storage.

Main results

The anti-hail net will protect the orchard from hail and the harmful effects of strong winds and heavy rains. This will greatly reduce production risks;

The net will provide some shade and thus improve the microclimate around the trees during hot summer days. It will also reduce sunburn on the fruit and allow for better coloration.

The good commercial appearance and increased production volume will bring better prices for the producer and improve their overall financial performance. This enables easier access to credit and new investment opportunities for expanding the orchard.

One full-time job was created to support the day-to-day work at the holding.

Additional sources of information

n/a