

Swiss Future Farm collaboration

31 May 2017 by AGCO

Creation of Swiss Future Farm responds to changing technical requirements and consumer behaviour with development of future-orientated solutions

The project addresses the possibilities that have been created by global digitalisation which is having a significant impact on agriculture, leading to major changes in the perception and management of farming. New technologies are at the heart of this approach which provides opportunities to link and optimise different areas of agriculture.

The Swiss Future Farm will offer a unique and comprehensive platform for the professional exchange of knowledge, data and information with farmers. The concept offers great potential in the areas of education, knowledge transfer and agricultural development, and opens up new synergies between research and the practical application of technology.

The project is the combination of three partners' vision for the future of agriculture - AGCO Corporation, the Arenenberg Agricultural College and GVS Agrar AG. This public/private collaboration is driven by the underlying belief that pooled knowledge leads to innovation.

The three partners – all based in Switzerland - bring different core competencies to the project. AGCO Corporation is a worldwide manufacturer and distributor of agricultural equipment and solutions offered through leading brands. Its European headquarters is located in Neuhausen. In the field of knowledge and knowledge mediation, the Arenenberg Agricultural College in Salenstein, which operates the Tänikon agricultural test facility, has positioned itself as a progressive education centre for agriculture and home economics. In the area of services and consultancy, GVS Agrar AG, headquartered in Schaffhausen, is an importer of farm machinery and a service provider with a nationwide dealer network.

The Swiss Future Farm will utilise the existing Tänikon facilities to make optimal use of the capabilities of each of the three partners. Farmers will be able to experience state-of-the-art machinery and technology at first-hand and under real-life conditions as well as real time data transfer to different farm management software. For research, and especially valuable for Agroscope, the Swiss Federal Agricultural Research organisation, the operation allows for the recording and evaluation of data which can be employed in the development of new technologies and services. The resulting knowledge can then be passed on to farmers

who can usefully integrate it into their businesses in line with their own requirements.

The Swiss Future Farm is focused on the future of agriculture with the aim of making it both tangible and accessible to all. An information centre will introduce visitors to current agricultural issues and provide an overview of the development of ongoing projects. A tour of the operation will facilitate further understanding and ensure visitors experience the practical application of technology being carried out there.

This pioneering initiative is setting new standards with its development of innovative relationships between wide-ranging expertise and resources. Full details of the project will be released at a later date.

Source: AGCO Italia SpA