

BREED: GASCON

NAME: FARM TOURS | GASCON SUCKLER COW UNIT

DATE: THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2026 | 13.30 – 18.00

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HERD DESCRIPTION AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Farm background

Start of GAEC¹ DU PLEIN AIR II in 2012 when Nicolas, the son of Hubert JOUVE, set up as a farmer. **115 ha of farmland** primarily grazing.

Boning room on the farm employing 2 full-time staff. **Direct sale of cuts** at the farm gate and at farmer markets.

¹ GAEC = Groupement Agricole d'Exploitation en Commun = Farm business with minimum 2 partners

Herd description

60 Gascon suckler cows reared outside. Calving throughout the year, natural service using 3 bulls. All livestock finished.

Principal farm production and secondary livestock activities

Livestock:

- Suckler cow herd
- Pigs / Sheep

Crops:

- AOP du Puy green lentils
- Production of forage & cereals (for on-farm use & payment in kind)

2026 Technical data

Ave. Calving interval: 363 days

Ave. Number of calvings/cow: 4.8

% of calves weaned: 98%

Ave weight at birth: 40kg for males / 38kg for females

Easy calving: 98% easy calving (not requiring human assistance)

Purchase of several bulls with high genetic potential (from top performing herds or via artificial insemination).

Selection of replacement heifers based on conformation, dam performance and pedigree neutrality (offsetting inbreeding).

Females not selected for breeding are culled and slaughtered at 3 years of age, whilst all males are reared until they are 15–18 months old before being slaughtered. Purchase and fattening of cattle for direct sale.

Year-round forage-based ration (rotational grazing, group management, etc.). Indoor fattening using the farm's own produce.