

# Ruminant Cross Visit Grass-fed beef production

## TALLINN, ESTONIA 27-28 AUGUST 2025

The OrganicAdviceNetwork project aims at building a strong network of advisors with organic competences across Europe. As part of this mission, the project organizes cross visits for agricultural advisors to meet, exchange and share their innovative organic farming practices.



#### What you can expect from this cross visit

Participants will be introduced to common practices and innovative solutions of Estonian organic beef production, and more specifically:

- Knowledge about an organic grass-fed beef quality scheme requirements, control, cooperation, marketing, advisory
- Good practices of organic beef production rotational grazing, enhancement of biodiversity, maintenance of semi-natural habitats
- Knowledge exchange solutions for organic beef production in AKIS group advice /study groups, trainings, farm visits

# **PROGRAMME**

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	
DAY 1 - 27 AUGUST 2025			
8:00 - 8:15	Meeting point in Tallinn City centre	Gathering and pickup of participants.	
8:15 - 9:00	Introduction session (on the bus - transfer to the farm)	Introduce the cross-visit program and agricultural context (On the bus - transfer to the farm)	
9:00 -11:00	Visit 1, Allika farm	Introduction round of participants. Farm introduction: Grass-fed beef and sheep, mixed grazing of beef and sheep, rotational grazing, outdoor management year-round, small on-farm butchering unit. Discussion on knowledge needs of the farmer. https://www.facebook.com/AllikaTalu/?locale=et_EE	
Transfer 2 h			
13:00 -14:00	Lunch at Puutsa farm		
14:00 - 16:30	Visit 2, Puutsa farm	Farm introduction: Organic farm since 2004, grass-fed beef production, herd size 160, rotational grazing, maintenance of semi-natural habitats, enhancement of biodiversity, arable fields (cereals). https://www.facebook.com/airi.kulvet  Overview of the organic beef production and practices in Estonia. Main challenges of the sector in Estonia and in other participating countries, discussion round.	
16:30 - 17.30	Reflections on the first day	At Puutsa farm. Exchange on observations and lessons learnt from the visit. Discussion on innovation and advisory needs	
Transfer 2,5 h			
20:00	Social dinner	Social dinner and relaxing at Marja farm, accommodation https://www.marjatalu.ee/	

# **PROGRAMME**

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	
DAY 2 - 28 AUGUST 2025			
8:00 - 9:00	Breakfast	At Marja farm	
9:15 - 11:00	Visit 3, Vilsi farm	Introduction of the farm: Organic beef cattle farm since 2013, Aberdeen Angus herd size ca 100. Housing systems, grasslands quality, rotational grazing, weaning. Cereal growing ca 130 ha. <a href="https://vilsiangus.ee/">https://vilsiangus.ee/</a>	
11:00 - 12:00	Reflections on the visit	Exchange on observations and lessons learnt from the visit.	
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	Lunch at Marja Talu	
13:00 - 15:00	Closing session	Discussion on lessons learnt from visits and feedback to the farms/places visited	
Transfer to Tallinn, 2,5 h.			
19:30	Dinner	Optional common dinner in Tallinn	

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

#### Requirements

Participation in the entire cross-visit program is required. It is not possible to arrive late or leave early, except for local participants. All participants must arrive in Tallinn on the 26th, as the pickup for the trip is at 8:00 AM on the 27th. Return to Tallinn on the 28th will be no later than 6:00 PM. Participants have to book their own accommodation in Tallinn

#### **Participants**

Agricultural advisor supporting organic farmers or famers in conversion as well as, advisors or young graduates willing to gain competences in organic advice are welcome to join this cross visit. Maximum 15 participants.

#### Registration

You will be asked to provide some personal information, a brief description of your interest in joining this visit and your capacity in covering your travel costs. Participation is not guaranteed, because the number of advisors who may join the visit is limited. Participants taking part will receive a confirmation message.



#### Travel costs

In case you do not have budget to cover your travel costs, the project advisory partner in your respective country can reimburse part of your travel costs.

Eligible countries for cost reimbursement are FR, BE, DE, IT, BG, EE, DK, AT, CH, HU, ES, PT, HR, RO, IE, NL, SE, FI, CZ, PL, GR, SI, RS.

Eligible costs for reimbursement are transport (train, flight), accommodation (2-3 nights), social lunch and dinners, up to a limit of 400-800EUR/participant.

Once your participation to the cross visit is confirmed, you will receive more detailed information by the advisory project partner in your country about the conditions for cost reimbursement.

The estimated cost for expenses on August 27 and 28 (including breakfast, social lunches and dinner, activities, and one night accommodation) is approx. €160. In addition to this, participants will need to cover their cost of food and accommodation in Tallinn, as well as transportation to and from Tallinn.

#### **Contact information**

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For any additional information, please contact: airi Vetemaa (coordinator): airi.vetemaa@gmail.com

