

Ferme La Balzane



About the operation

- La Balzane Farm is a business located in Montérégie, just east of St-Hyacinthe.
- This region mainly consists of large-scale row crops on flat lands and is known for its fertility.
- Since the establishment of the company in 2023, Émilie Soto and her partner Mathieu Claessens have reintroduced 50 acres of permanent pastures on the 125-acre family farm to regenerate and protect these ecosystems. Each year, they raise around 40 steers, 100 laying hens, as well as a growing number of pigs and pasture-raised chickens.
- The producers manage the marketing of their products themselves at the farm and on their website, which allows them to supply communities of customers throughout the province.

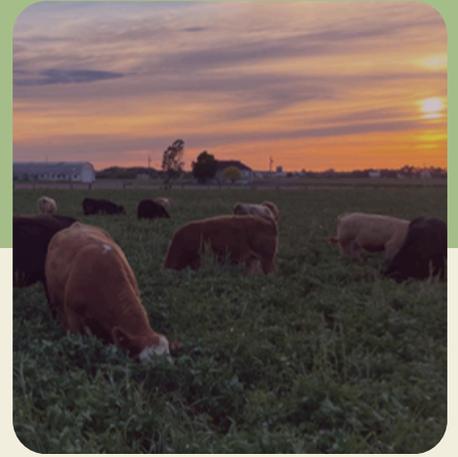


Rotational Grazing Management

All farm-raised animals grow on pasture, without soy or corn.

Depending on the time of year, cattle can be moved up to four times a day using temporary fencing. This ensures a period of rest for the ground while providing high-quality forage for the steers. Since La Balzane Farm produces various species, the resting plots will later be trampled by poultry.

Moreover, producers are integrating cover crops into their row crop rotations. These plants are also grazed by the herd, aiming to maximize the grazing season and minimize the need for supplementary feed.



La Balzane Farm hosts numerous projects and events, including:

2025: Conscious Fork Day

2025: Participation in Regeneration Canada

2025: Construction of mobile chicken coops

2025: Visits of educational institutions (annually since 2023)

2024: INPACQ Pasture Day

2022: More than one kilometer of windbreak hedges

What is an advanced grazing system?

An advanced grazing system uses rotational grazing practices adapted to the context of the farms and their environment.

This system helps farmers by:

- Extending their grazing period
- Increasing field productivity
- Improving forage quality
- Reducing weed pressure
- Enhancing nutrient cycling
- Helping build soil resilience

Why a Grazing Plan?

A grazing plan is an important part of your business, tailored to your farm. A well-designed plan removes guesswork in managing resources and livestock.

Develop a Grazing Plan

There are mentors all across the province and funding to help you!

Scan the QR code or visit canadianfga.ca for more details.

