



## OUR OBJECTIVE IS COMPETITIVE AGRICULTURE

Let's look for good farming solutions TOGETHER!

The Lithuanian Agriculture Advisory Service (LAAS) was founded in 1993, it is a public institution. The mission of which is to help all farming people to develop their businesses profitably without causing damage to environment, produce competitive production, survive and be leaders under the conditions of market economy.

The Advisory Service's founders are:

- The Lithuanian Ministry of Agriculture;
- The Lithuanian Farmers' Union;
- The Lithuanian Association of Agricultural Companies.

The interest of LAAS services' users are represented by the national Advisory Board. It participates in submitting proposals and preparing the Activity Programme of the Advisory Service.

The Advisory Service functions on two levels: the central level represented by the Central Office in Akademija, the geographical centre of Lithuania and the regional level represented by district offices in each district of the country (48 offices in total). The department specialists of the Service's Centre take care of in-service training of advisers, provide them with trainings materials, help them to carry out purposeful planning of their activities, provides regular monitoring of the implementation of their work plans and quality of services and participate in the international projects and different work groups.

LAAS has established a farmers' advisory system covering the whole country.

The Service employs more than 370 employees, who improve their skills in the Lithuania and abroad on regular basis.

## OUR MISSION

**We commit ourselves to our clients** – to be an impartial and a long-term partner, to reach for your successful and environmentally friendly farm business with the help of our professional advisory services.

**We commit ourselves to our employees** – to develop the values creating the institution's value; safeguard systematic evaluation and promotion of work results; promote creativity and corporate cooperation.

**We commit ourselves to science and innovation creators** – to cooperate regularly in the field of investigations, develop and implement innovation technologies on farms and to safeguard the distribution of innovations.

**We commit ourselves to the institutions forming the Rural Development Policy** – to participate in rural development processes in line with our competences and to create a sustainable farming system.

The institution's organizational system coordinates the teams of employees of different specialization from the Centre and 48 advisory offices. They cherish the following values:

**Openness** – the advisers know their clients, therefore, communication is clear and open.

**Innovation** – the advisers and specialists study and scrutinize the environment of activities, they are open to change.

**Impartiality** – the support provided is impartial, long-term, necessary and useful for the farmer. A business prospect of the farmer is always important for the adviser.

**OUR VISION** – to be a strategic partner of farmers, to stimulate successful agricultural business professionally and responsibly by using experience and innovations; to safeguard the development and self-expression of the employees by increasing the institution's value.

## **ACTIVITY PRIORITIES**

- Thorough explanation of agricultural and rural development policy changes to all farmers.
- Assistance to farmers to achieve EU production standards, consultations in reorganizing technological processes paying special attention to issues of environment, food safety, animal welfare, safety and health at work and appropriate soil condition.
- Provision of services (filling applications, preparation of farm development investment plans) for farmers willing to participate in the programmes of support to agriculture.

## **ECONOMY SERVICE**

- Farm accounting and economy advisers;
- Keep farm activity books and accounts;
- Assess farm economic viability;
- Prepare business plans and perform their long-term observation;
- Prepare land consolidation projects;
- Fill in applications for a farmer to obtain loans from credit unions, the National Paying Agency and banks;
- Submit data to the Lithuanian Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN).

## **TECHNOLOGICAL SERVICES**

Plant production, animal husbandry and mechanization advisers provide services in order to increase competitiveness of commercial farms, improve production efficiency and maintain environmental quality and land fertility.

The advisers:

- Takes soil and feed samples;
- Assess crop condition and provide recommendations;
- Prepare crop rotation, soil structure, fertilizing and plant protection plans;
- Fill the registers of activities of ecological production farms;
- Plan budget of crop production activities;
- Make rotations;
- Calculate feeding needs and production costs;
- Prepare animal movement, grazing management and feeding plans;
- Prepare documents for dairy farm certification;
- Evaluate manure storage activities;
- Check and adjust agricultural machinery;
- Assess and analyze technologies and investments in agricultural machinery;
- Prepare documents and consulting on safety and health of employees;
- Prepare construction and reconstruction designs of production buildings;
- Make construction designs.

## **EDUCATION ACTIVITIES**

The advisers of each district office develop educational activities related with the topics urgent to farmers: implementation of advanced agricultural production technologies, agricultural economy, book keeping an accounting, environmental protection, sustainable farming, etc.

Educations activities include:

- Courses, seminars, workshops;
- Field days, demonstration trials;
- Individual consultations;
- Competitions, contests;
- Publications (informational leaflets, articles in press, educational video films).

## **FARM MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE “E-GEBA”**

Farm management software “e-GEBA” is made of for modules – Animal husbandry, Economics, Farm accounting, Plant production. The program has possibility to collect data of the farm, manage farm activities and manage existing farm stocks. Farmer will have opportunity to get recommendations how to improve results of the farm, to make reports for controlling institutions.

## **MASS MEDIA CHANNELS OF LAAS**

A separate branch of the Advisory service – editorial office “Mano ūkis“ (“My farm“) publishes as an informative 100-page magazine for farmers. The magazine was established in 1995.

The mission of the magazine is to acquaint farmers, rural communities and agricultural specialists with the innovations of plant production, animal husbandry and horticulture technologies, inform the readers about changes in Lithuania and EU agricultural policies and to announce agricultural machinery and business news. The editorial board has established a website [www.manoukis.lt](http://www.manoukis.lt) which announces the national and foreign agricultural news.

The editorial board also publishing magazines “VETinfo” and “Žemės ūkis“ („Agriculture“).

## **AGROBUSINESS PORTAL –[www.agroakademija.lt](http://www.agroakademija.lt)**

[www.agroakademija.lt](http://www.agroakademija.lt) – it is webpage for farmers and businessman who are working in rural areas, who want to develop their business by using rational and modern methods. It is the first webpage in Lithuania where people can find information about varied branch of agriculture and technologies, support for agriculture, research of scientist, recommendations for farm accounting, business creation and development, information about IT technologies in agriculture, foreign experience. [www.agroakademija.lt](http://www.agroakademija.lt) in 2010 got award in exhibition “Sprendimų ratas”.

**Stoties g. 5, LT-58343 Akademija,  
Kėdainiai district, LITHUANIA  
Tel.: +370 347 37 870, fax: +370 374 37 026  
E-mail [info@lzukt.lt](mailto:info@lzukt.lt)  
[www.lzukt.lt](http://www.lzukt.lt)  
[www.agroakademija.lt](http://www.agroakademija.lt)  
[www.manoukis.lt](http://www.manoukis.lt)**