Včelí kRaj

1. introduzione

Včelí kRaj - il centro educativo si trova vicino al villaggio di Kokava nad Rimavicou, nella valle della Liešnica fra le montagne della Stolica, nella Slovacchia centrale. Il progetto Včelí kRaj è iniziato nel 2013 come progetto dell'associazione civica kRaj. L'apiario attira nell’ambiente tranquillo e pulito di un terreno agricolo tradizionale i visitatori interessati all'apicoltura. L'apiario offre anche apiterapia. Gli edifici popolari tradizionali contribuiscono al carattere rurale dell'apiario e le nuove costruzioni multifunzionali costituiscono concezioni innovative.

2. PROMOTORE PROFILO



Nome
Dávid

Cognome
Turčáni

Anno di nascita
1985

Sesso
Masculino

Formazione

Tertiary, doctoral

3. FARM PROFILO















Address
Liešnica 1214/7 985 05 Kokava nad Rimavicou-Liešnica

Nazione
Slovacchia

Zona agricola in ettari
1.00

Data di costituzione dell'azienda
2013

Data da quando il promotore possiede / affitta l'azienda agricola
Mar, 01.01.2013 - 12:00

NUMBER OF WORKERS	**FAMILY MEMBERS**	**EXTERNAL WORKERS**
Full time	0	1
Part time	0	1

descrizione dell'azienda

The apiary is located in the Liešnica valley that is the local part of the village of Kokava nad Rimavicou. The apiary is not a part of a protected landscape area. Since the 15th century, the landscape had been used for mining and glass production. Later on, the paperwork industry was established. After the Velvet Revolution the industry gradually declined and disappeared. Today's landscape still shows signs of historical industrial land uses. Grasslands and arable land and scattered settlements are used often mainly for recreational purposes. Formations of non-woody vegetation and orchards located in the vicinity of settlements support the diversity of land structures. The apiary owner continues the family beekeeping tradition of more than 60 years. It is nationally and internationally known for its educational activities for people all age groups, experts and non-experts alike.

Sito web e social network links
www.kraj.sk
Facebook

4. Agricoltura multifunzionale/sostenibile e Paesaggi Agricoli Europei (PAE)

Multifunctional & sustainable farming Key Words
Social farming
Tourism and recreation related to EAL
Traditional buildings

Testo libero

Protected landscape areas are more profitable for beekeeping if a beekeeper applies for a trade mark of organic bee products because such bee products are more financially valued. However, this apiary is not located in the protected area. Nevertheless, its business strategy brings positive economic outputs that are being further invested into innovation and new educational activities. The success lies in a high-quality education provided directly at the apiary, primary schools or at seminars and trainings. Experiences are being shared with domestic as well as for foreign visitors on the topics such as beekeeping, eco-beekeeping, and the most recently apitherapy. Creative workshops, bee care experience, bee products tasting and hiking through the traditionally farmed landscape rich in biodiverse grasslands and fruit orchards are increasingly becoming very popular with the public. A fusion of innovative ideas and traditions is visible in the newly build multi-purpose constructions nearby old folk farming buildings that are still well-preserved and will undergo renovation in near future. The modern multi-purpose building will be used for educational purposes as well as for apitherapy. Its spatial disposition, material and features show deep understanding of cultural landscape values. The owner takes great care of the whole apiary, thus greatly improving the visual quality of the landscape type.

Consiglio/Raccomandazione

"Bees are not only honey producers but they also have another very important function – they serve as natural pollinators. Our food depends to a large extent on their work. The active management of traditionally used landscapes with grasslands rich in biodiversity and fruit orchards is crucial in providing bees enough food and clean environment. "

5. CONSIDERAZIONI, abilità/competenze coinvolte e domande/questioni

Considerazioni generali

A high rate of unemployment as well as many opportunities for multifunctional farming are a

characteristic feature of the Stolické Mountains. Recreational potential of the traditional farmland with scattered settlements is undervalued. Winter recreational activities are quite well developed but without adding value to this landscape type itself. Moreover, this kind of tourism boosts uncontrolled construction of modern recreational buildings, thus disturbing the characteristic appearance of the landscape. Such activities adversely affect agritourism. Therefore, the apiary owner highlights the necessity to manage traditional agricultural landscape in a sustainable way, one which is beekeeping. The owner of the apiary emphasizes that agricultural activities in the region shall be based on traditional farming practices, thus producing organic products of high quality as well as organizing agricultural events. To prove his point, the beekeeper introduced his product "Med Medveď z Liešnice" (honey) that was recognized and marked as the regional product of Gemer-Malohont region. There is a huge potential for bee products to reach the local as well as national market. Moreover, the apiary represents a symbiosis between modern and traditional architecture – a move that would be supported in revitalization efforts concerning other similar farms as well. The owner uses the historical oven for bread baking for baking home-made products like pizza. Furthermore, it should be noted that old farming buildings build in the local architectural style were renovated and a new building was constructed featuring carefully selected typical features of the local architectonic style as well as innovative design features, thus creating a unique and nice multifunctional building.

Strengths	**Weaknesses**
• Ambiente silenzioso e non inquinato. • Attrazione turistica tutto l’anno.	• Fattorie abbandonate o utilizzate solo raramente e terreni incolti. • Scarsità di infrastrutture ricreative sia nelle vicinanze che nel villaggio di Kokava nad Rimavicou (figurano anche siti fatiscenti).
Opportunities	**Threats**
• Le attività educative nelle scuole primarie possono suscitare nelle giovani generazioni l’interesse per l’apicoltura . • Le attività educative attraggono visitatori dalle altre regioni e dall'estero.	• Residenti che lasciano la campagna (il motivo è il basso tenore di vita a causa della disoccupazione). • Le malattie delle api potrebbero avere gravi ripercussioni su tutte le attività correlate dell'azienda.

Parole chiave

EAL Keywords
Farmland

Farming Key words
Beekeeping

Main Training/Skills/Competences

The apiary owner used his knowledge of ecology and environment gained from his study at the university as well as passed down from previous generations (over 60 years of tradition) to establish educational activities in the apiary. Finances from a grant were used for the further development of apiculture business, and income from educational activities financed the renovation of the apiary. Currently, the owner also focuses on apitherapy. The apiary cooperates with primary schools in order to establish a relationship between children and the art of making living with one's own hands - beekeeping. On top of the high quality education the project has an international impact as well as demonstrated by the presence of foreign visitors at educational events (and some of them regularly return). Since 2017, further educational activities on the traditional land use have started at the apiary and the surroundings. The activities also include an "open classroom project" where children can see domestic animals while listening to the explanation of ecological relations between pollinators and the landscape quality.

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Domande/Questioni

- Do you think that an apiary established in a protected area can further develop its business activities?

- Which activities would be organized by an apiary to carry out active landscape management activities that are important for the preservation of distinctive features of the landscape as well as functional ecological relations and biodiversity?

Riconoscimento e clausola di esonero della responsabilità.

Questo progetto ERASMUS+ n. 2016-1-SK01-KA202-022502 è stato finanziato con il sostegno della Commissione europea. Questa pubblicazione riflette solo il punto di vista dell'autore e la Commissione non può essere ritenuta responsabile per qualsiasi uso possa essere fatto delle informazioni contenutevi.

Funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union