



Søren Ilsøe appointed "Green farmer of the Year 2013" in Denmark

The Board FRDK (The Minimum tillage association of Denmark) proposed its vice president as a candidate in the contest and across all kinds of farms and farming systems he went straight to the top

All farmers and all kinds of farming systems was able to participate in the first ever contest "Green farmer of the Year" in Denmark.

With no doubt the board of FRDK decided to propose Søren Ilsøe, vice president of FRDK and member of the board of ECAF as a candidate to the honor.

The jury in the contest was Ella Maria Bischoff-Larsen, President of The Danish Society for Nature Conservation, Jakob Bisgaard, Manager, Land, By og Kultur Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality and Torben Hansen, President of Plant production, Danish Agriculture and Food Council.

They appointed Søren as the winner in unity.

The main reason was that Søren runs his farm with sharp focus on "more for less" at his family operation Knudstrupgaard with 250 hectares and fattening of 5,000 pigs annually.

"My idea is to let all kind of organisms on the surface and below the surface of the soil do the job instead of using a lot of steel, time and fuel," he states.

By using cover crops and having the soil covered all year by plants and residues from the previous crops the number of night crawlers and other essential organisms to the health of soil is remarkably high.

This is also an advantage to more species of birds that thus are higher by Søren than elsewhere in his region.

Søren is also very keen to use as few pesticides in as low doses as possibly. Both pesticides and fluid fertilizers are applied by using a sprayer in his CTF-system that is based on RTK GPS.

But Søren Ilsøe is not just focused on environment.

"My focus is also to achieve high yields and a profitable farming system. That is absolutely necessary," he says.

FRDK consider the appointment of Søren Ilsøe as "Green farmer of the Year 2013" as a milestone for CA in Denmark.

More info, contact the secretary of FRDK association, Jacob Winther Nymand, jwn@lro.dk or mobile +45 3057 0949