



**IRDBF and Animal Breeders' Association of Estonia have a pleasure to welcome you** to the International Red Dairy Breeds conference 2023 in Estonia. There will be a pre-conference tour in Denmark and the July 3<sup>rd</sup> conference will be followed by farm tours in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Please visit <https://etky.ee/irdbf/> to see what each country has planned to offer you.

Estonia is a country in the Baltic region of Northern Europe bordered to the north by the Gulf of Finland, to the west by the Baltic Sea, to the south by Latvia and to the east by Lake Peipus and Russia. Across the Baltic Sea lie Sweden and Finland. We have plenty of space – 30,3 people per km<sup>2</sup>. We are proud to live in Estonia, county with 4<sup>th</sup> best air quality.



Estonian milk producers are in the absolute top in Europe for average milk production per cow. The development of the Estonian Red cattle breed began in parallel with other



European breeds. 1862 is considered to be the beginning of Estonian Red cattle breeding. Today, Red cattle are raised in 208 farms out of all 371 (56%) Estonian farms. The largest Red population is in Saare county (on the biggest island in West-Estonia) and in the southern part. We are happy to show you 3 farms (Jurna,

Karja and Kõljala/Valjala farms) on this unique island and 2 farms (Kõpu and Tartu Agro AS) on our way to Latvia.

Jurna Farm – family farm with 124 Red cows who milked 9830 kg of milk in average. Karja farm has 257 cows with milk production 10600 kg. Both have robot milking. Kõljala/Valjala farms are located in one large Haeska farm complex and are 2 top red herds of Estonia with 12139/12612 kg milk per cow. Both have also Holstein cattle.



650 cows of Kõpu farm gave 12074 kg milk in average and 80% of them are Red cows. It is one of the largest red herds in Estonia. Tartu Agro AS has totally 1300 cows (Ø 11791 kg milk), 265 of them are Red. Both farmers are enthusiastic Red cow championship participants.

**RED COWS – OUR COMMON PASSION!**