

## Young Feed Professionals Meeting – October 3, 2023

My name is Daan Sillekens and I am currently doing an internship at Feed Design Lab. I study Applied Biology at the HAS green academy in Venlo. My internship at Feed Design Lab gave me the opportunity to participate in the meeting of the Young Feed Professionals on Tuesday, October 3. We went to the Abbey of Lilbosch in Echt. This is one of the locations where Livar has been keeping monastic pigs since 1999. The program consisted of a tour, a presentation and a networking drink at the end. We learned a lot about the Limburg Monastery Pig.



On arrival we got coffee and a delicious piece of pie of Limburg. Thereafter the tour of the abbey started with the pregnant sows. These were resting peacefully in their stable filled with straw and were not surprised by such a large group. The tour then continued along the pasture of these pregnant sows where they have access to mud puddles. We then arrived at the stables of the piglets where the sows were resting in the shade and the colorful piglets were fully playing. Finally we arrived at the fattening pig stables, where different housing systems were tested. There were a lot of questions during the tour and I learned a lot about Livar's working method.

The tour was followed by a presentation which was also very interactive. Here, all parts of the Livar chain were explained and how they get from locally grown raw materials to a piece of quality meat. After this, we were also told about Livar's future plans and there was a lot of discussion about the bottlenecks in the current working method. The presentation ended with a tasting of the Livar range followed by networking drinks. This was a great opportunity to catch up with some acquaintances, but especially to meet new people within the sector. It was a very interesting and educational afternoon and certainly one you will not soon forget.

Daan Sillekens.