



BQP attracts young farmers keen to start and run their own business.

If you are an aspiring farmer in the pig industry or just looking to start and run your own business then the story of Paul Hume, who has recently set up his own 600 sow outdoor breeding unit in North Norfolk, will show you how you could do the same. Paul has worked his way up from a young Stockman, to a Farm Manager and now to owning and running his own business in partnership with BQP.



Paul started his career within the pig industry by helping his uncle in the school holidays on a 200 sow indoor unit. After leaving school he worked for a short time for a high street retailer before deciding he really wanted to go back into agriculture, and pigs were the natural option. Paul started working as a trainee stockman for a pig producer in East Anglia, and quickly worked his way up to become a Unit Manager. He wanted to be in complete control of the way the herd was managed and decided that the only way that was going to happen was to own his own unit.

After hearing how other young farmer had been helped to set up their own breeding herds with BQP, Paul approached them to see if he could do the same, “I visited like minded farmers that had set their own herds up with BQP and was impressed with the support and advice they had received”.

“BQP helped me in a number of ways, by trying to find a suitable site for the herd, helping source equipment of the correct type and price, helping me with my cash flows and finance. Most of the risks that pig farmers face are removed by working with BQP. I now know that I have a regular income and can therefore concentrate fully on the management of the herd, whilst BQP take care of the feed, medicines, veterinary and technical support... their advice and help in all the situations that arose during the set up was invaluable”.

“My wife, children and I live only 15 minutes away from the farm. My wife comes to help out on the unit when the children are at school and she is also looking to take on all the paperwork and herd recording...I am proud of what I am doing; producing pigs to the very highest welfare standards for a company that really cares about the product we are producing together”.

Paul said that the help he received from BQP was instrumental in setting up a business that had long term prospects for him and his family and would recommend BQP to anybody looking to set up their own business from scratch “I feel the future is now in my own hands and I am building something that I can pass on to my children”.

Paul is very positive about what the future holds and looks forward to expanding his business in the next few years, “there is a real future for young people who want to work within the pig industry”.