

RAG Status

■ Red: Behind with target ■ Amber: Nearly achieved target ■ Green: Target on track



Knowledge Exchange (KE) Hub ■

Key outputs during the quarter:

3 Technical Articles

Technical articles published:

SELECTIVE FORAGE PLANT BREEDING AND PASTURE MANAGEMENT: THE POTENTIAL TO IMPROVE METHANE MITIGATION AND ANIMAL PERFORMANCE

ROTATIONAL GRAZING: IMPLICATIONS FOR WORM LARVAE BURDENS ON PASTURE

BETTER SOIL MANAGEMENT: SOIL BIOLOGY

Factsheets produced:

REDUCING STRESS IN CATTLE AT HANDLING

COMPOSTING

European Innovation Partnership ■



New projects approved during this period:

- Organic Ancient Cereal Supply-chain
- The effect of contrasting dairy production systems in West Wales on the profile of milk fatty acids (especially omega-3 and 6)



EIP Wales Project Target 2022 **45**

Projects at Application Stage **8**

Projects Approved **14**



Updates on current projects:

Potato blight control

The first year's results from the potato blight project showed that the ivy extract was effective in slowing down the progression of the blight epidemic in the field, especially when combined with a bio stimulant. The second year will focus on trialling different variants of the extract and determining the most appropriate dosages to use in the second field trial based on the outcomes from the lab tests.

Growing small scale asparagus organically

Asparagus could provide an opportunity for farmers in Wales to produce a high value crop whilst also drawing in farm gate sales. The aim of this project is to monitor outputs and benchmark organic asparagus growing from establishment through to first harvest on two farms in Monmouthshire at a field scale. The asparagus crowns were planted on Square Farm and Trealy Farm near Monmouth at the beginning of May.



[Click here to see a video.](#)

Study Visits ■

In March the Wynnstay Next Generation Group travelled to Scotland to visit two farms. The Wynnstay Next Generation Group aims to provide the next generation of young farmers the opportunity to learn from a variety of farm walks, industry talks from leading experts, and study tours. Although the majority of the group were dairy based farmers, they strongly believe that there are many transferable skills that can be learnt by visiting other agricultural enterprises.

The first visit took the group to a dairy farm run by the Lairs family. The family farm first-class pedigree animals and are renowned for winning shows. They currently milk approximately 700 cows in a 36-point rotary parlour but are in the process of putting a large shed up for 8 robots. This visit gave members an insight into what they think might be the future of dairying. They also discussed actions taken in terms of staffing issues.

The second farm visited was to family owned Glenrath Farms who produce over one million eggs a day. They also farm 10,000 breeding sheep, 500 breeding beef cattle as well as running a new state of the art egg processing plant. This visit gave members a chance to see successful diversification within an agricultural business. The poultry industry is considered an exceptionally efficient industry and members took home the idea of maximising efficiency on their own units.

As a result of visiting these farms, the group is more open to automation and the notion of using technology to make advancements on their own farms. This visit gave members the valuable experience of seeing other successful units, enhancing their knowledge and hopefully learn something new and useful that they can implement on their own farms at home.

