

RAG Status

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



Knowledge Exchange (KE) Hub ■

Key outputs during the quarter:

7 Technical articles published:

PRODUCING FODDER CROPS USING HYDROPONICS

YOUR FIGHT AGAINST BLIGHT: FROM BLUE 13 AND PINK 6 TO DARK GREEN 37

NUTRITIONAL QUALITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR NON-BOVINE MILK IN THE UK

WAR OF THE WEEDS: THE RISE OF THE ROBOTS

CAN BIOMARKERS IN THE DAM OR CALF BE USED FOR PRECISION DAIRY CALF REARING?

HOW LOW CAN YOU GO? THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTEIN IN THE DAIRY COW DIET

CUT YOUR LOSSES: MAXIMISING THE BENEFITS OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

3 Factsheet produced:

MULTI CUT SILAGE EARTHWORMS AND SOIL HEALTH

IMPROVING RED CLOVER PRODUCTIVITY

European Innovation Partnership ■



EIP Wales Project Target 2022 **45**

Projects at Application Stage **24**

Projects Approved **23**



New projects approved during this period:

Sustainable intensification in upland grazing production systems

Two farms in Powys will investigate the use of Timothy grass as a means of improving productivity of upland leys by using regular measuring and rotational grazing.

Introducing fat-tailed sheep to Wales to satisfy UK market demand

This project will be the first of its kind to introduce the Damara, which is a breed of fat-tail sheep, to the UK market place and aims for Wales to be pioneering in the development of this breed of sheep.

Improving the diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal roundworms in cattle

Can using a combination of Faecal Egg Counting (FEC) using FECPAKG2 technology, resistance testing, speciation testing and predictive models improve the management of roundworms in dairy youngstock?

Updates on current projects:

Foliar Feed for Grassland

Baseline measurements were collected in January 2019 when the plots were established prior to the growing season. The first application of foliar feed was applied in mid February 2019 at the same time as the other plots receiving conventional 'prilled' fertiliser. Application rates are 250-400 kg of fertiliser/Ha for the prilled fertiliser plots compared to 60-80kg/Ha of fertiliser on the foliar fed plots.

Initial measurements showed that for the period from January to the end of April, 2019, plots receiving foliar feed on three of the four farms were growing approximately 0.5 TDM/Ha more forage than the conventional fertiliser plots. However, the conventional plots soon caught up and measurements from May-July indicate that the plots receiving conventional prilled fertiliser achieved approximately 0.5-1.5TDM/Ha more than the plots receiving foliar feed. Measurements are ongoing to determine overall all yields of the two systems.

Tackling Scab – a farmer led approach

The first year of testing saw 18 of the 23 flocks within the project being sampled for sheep scab. The results were very encouraging with only 2 flocks testing positive. A treatment plan was then developed in conjunction with the vet. In addition, all surrounding farms were notified of the outbreak and testing was undertaken to prevent further spread. The group are continuing to increase the number of participating farms within the target catchment before the second round of testing which will start in Autumn 2019.

Click [here](#) or the TV screen to watch a video outlining the project so far.



Study Visits ■



3 study visits took place during this period with all three undertaken in June.

At the beginning of June the **Cowbois Clwyd Discussion Group** visited two dairy farms in Somerset to learn about the latest cutting edge investments in robotic milking and data capturing technology on a commercial scale to see if they could utilise this technology on their own farms in order to improve labour efficiency and achieve more milk from forage.

The **Painscastle Discussion Group** travelled to Scotland to explore possible diversification opportunities and learn if Scottish businesses face the same challenges as their own businesses back in Wales.

On the 26th of June the **Cambrian Mountains Beef Producer Group** also travelled to Scotland to attend the North Highland Beef Event. The objective of their visit was to develop an understanding of the North Highland Initiative and learn how their supply chain systems could be adopted in the Cambrian Mountains Beef supply chain.