



FARMING
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08456 000 813

LET'S GET GREENER

Sustainable farming...is more efficient,
effective and profitable

.....reduce the carbon footprint of your farm business

.....improve biodiversity

Farming Connect can help **YOU** make a difference



www.gov.wales/farmingconnect

Reduce negative impacts on the environment through sustainable farming

There is growing pressure on the agricultural sector in Wales, the UK and throughout the world to improve its environmental performance. Put simply, farmers and foresters should operate in ways that don't impact adversely on the environment.

By 2050, Welsh Government wants all Welsh farm businesses to be carbon neutral, to reduce emissions and to find optimum ways to store carbon.

Farming sustainably means taking action to help solve key environmental concerns. The industry needs to contribute to **tackling climate change** by for example, reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and storing carbon in trees, soils and peatland; **cleaner water** by careful use of manures and fertilisers; **cleaner air** through improving slurry management; **improving soil health** and creating greener landscapes through **increasing biodiversity** and enhancing natural habitats.

The good news is that running a sustainable business which minimises harm to the environment will also help you run a more efficient, effective and profitable farm enterprise.

With our support, you will be able to identify where you are today in terms of your farm's carbon footprint and biodiversity. We will help you make a difference. Read on to find out how...

Is it time to take a fresh look at your business?

To reduce the carbon footprint of your farm or forestry business and improve biodiversity, your first steps should be to...

- ✓ **assess the natural assets you have** - there could be more than you think and we will provide the guidance to help you
- ✓ **consider what changes or improvements you can make** - we can help you prioritise the best and most cost-effective ways to help your business reach its 'sustainable farming' goals

With support, guidance and training available through Farming Connect, you will know...

- where your business is now, in terms of your carbon footprint and environmentally-friendly working practices which both protect natural resources and increase biodiversity
- where you need to be by 2050, to help you contribute to the Welsh Government's goal of carbon neutral farm businesses

Let's start this 'getting greener' journey together!



Reduce your GHGs, increase your profits

With expert advice, support services, guidance, events and training available through Farming Connect, you will be able to implement cost-effective, efficient systems which will not only help you play your part in reducing carbon emissions, climate change and flooding but help your business be more profitable too.

- **Tackling climate change and cleaner air** - through cutting carbon and methane emissions by, for example, soil, forage and woodland management, methods of storing and spreading slurry and manure, careful spreading of fertiliser, changing livestock diets, addressing animal housing and installing renewable energy on farm.
- **Cleaner water** through, for example, separating clean and dirty water effectively and improving the infrastructure of the business.
- **Greener landscapes** through improving biodiversity and enhancing natural habitats by, for example, implementing a woodland strategy, improving hedgerows and encouraging wildlife.



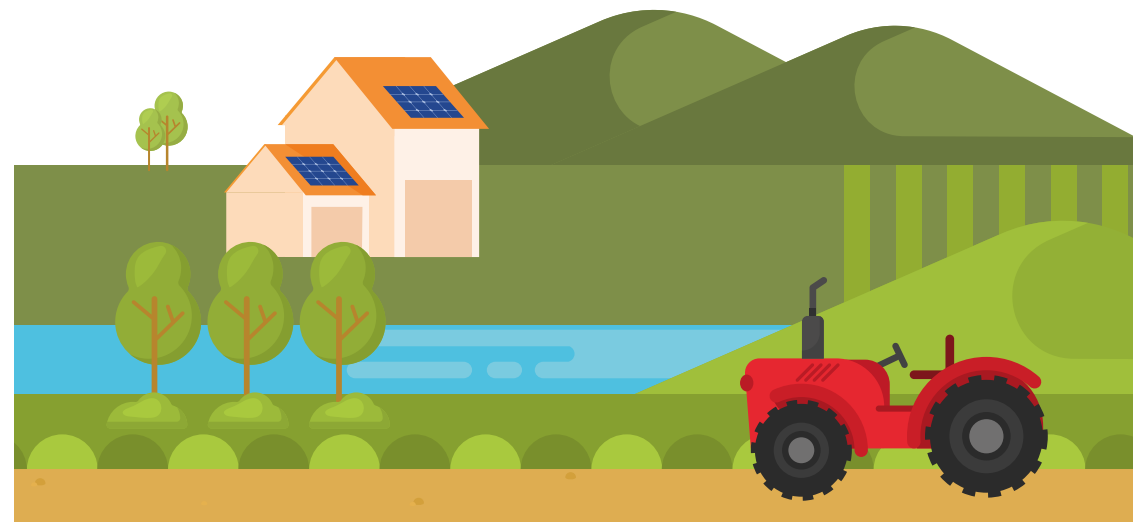
Sustainable farming...sustainable success...a holistic approach

To protect the earth's atmosphere and avoid contributing to a global climate catastrophe, farm businesses must find ways in which to...

- ✓ reduce carbon and methane emissions
- ✓ capture carbon through tree planting and peat restoration
- ✓ retain carbon in existing trees, soils and peatland

Farming Connect has focused our support services on some of the key areas where we know Welsh businesses can make a significant contribution.

- Animal health, livestock performance and productivity with fewer livestock maintaining the same output
- Cow and ewe efficiency and fertility performance
- Nutrition and genetics
- Use of fertiliser and other inputs
- Use of livestock manures and nutrient management
- Grass and forage to maintain or improve production and reduce concentrate inputs
- Soil and grassland management to increase soil organic matter
- Create and manage biodiversity by managing woodland, peatland, individual trees and hedgerows
- Renewable energies and fuel efficiency



Farming Connect can help you, every step of the way

INTERACTIVE ONLINE RESOURCE

- we have developed an interactive online resource which gives advice on achievable steps farmers can take to reduce emissions from their businesses. Visit our website to access the **'Increase profitability, reduce GHG emissions' tool**.

The resource also highlights the positive messages that farmers make to the environment, such as the ability of agricultural soils to store large amounts of carbon, and the role agriculture has in providing clean drinking water and habitats.

ADVISORY SERVICE

- one-to-one confidential specialist advice on a range of issues focusing on reducing GHGs and increasing biodiversity, all subsidised by 80% for individuals and fully funded for group applications.

SURGERIES AND CLINICS

- book a fully funded one-to-one 'carbon clinic' or sector-specific surgery where you'll receive guidance on the key emission points of greenhouse gases (GHGs); digital carbon calculator options; examine energy usage and discuss other areas where you may be able to make carbon reductions on your farm.

MENTORING

- get yourself a mentor who can share with you how they approached the 'sustainability' challenge on their own farms and help you develop your own plan of action. Use the 'Sustainable Farming' filter on the mentor directory to find a suitable mentor.

TRAINING

- we provide a number of one-to-one and group training options. Topics are wide-ranging, including 'Reducing greenhouse gases in a livestock system' and 'Safe use and application of slurry' with many more.

E-LEARNING

- we provide fully-funded modules on numerous topics specific to climate change, land management, woodlands and livestock management. 'Agricultural air pollution', 'Reducing agricultural pollution', 'Slurry management' and 'Farming for pollinators' are just a few of the modules available.

AGRISGÔP

- consider forming an Agrisgôp group to understand the challenges of sustainability, identify opportunities and develop solutions in an informal, facilitated setting with other farmers who share the same goals.



HELPING YOUR BUSINESS ‘GET GREENER’

In Wales, help to ‘get greener’ is available through Farming Connect and our comprehensive range of support services, guidance, events, training and online tools.

Farming Connect

Contact details for all development officers and approved mentors as well as full guidance on the Advisory Service is available on our website.

👉 Web: www.gov.wales/farmingconnect

👉 Phone: Service Centre - 08456 000 813

👉 E-mail: farmingconnect@menterabusnes.co.uk

