

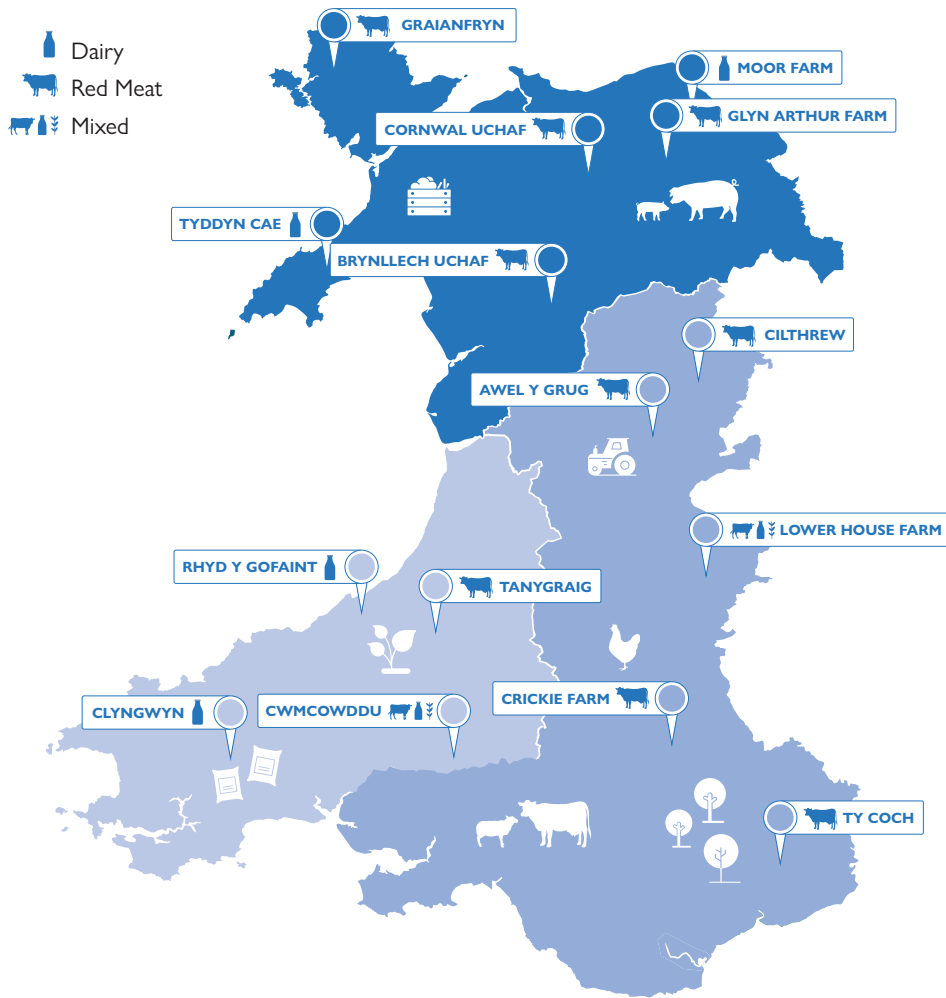


Protect & Enhance The Farm Ecosystem

Our Farms

17 projects across the [Our Farms Network](#) focusing on:

- Soil Health
- Mixed Farming
- Efficient water use
- Natural flood management
- Lowering the risk of diffuse pollution



Discussion Groups



SFS Categories	No of Discussion Group Meetings	Hours of Knowledge Transfer	Individuals Supported
Protect and enhance the farm ecosystem	19	37	152
Soil Health	4	6.25	18
Mixed Farming	18	35	148
Managing and creating in-field and semi-natural habitats	1	1.25	5
Lowering the risk of diffuse pollution (water quality)	1	1.5	7
Natural Flood Management	1	1.25	5

EXAMPLES:

- Soil Health and the use of foliar fertiliser
- Forage Crops
- Multispecies Leys
- Cover Cropping
- Agri Pollution

Mentoring



147 hours of mentoring have taken place



Topic	No. meetings
Soil Health	4
Mixed farming	4
Benefits of using rare and native breeds	1
Managing and creating in-field and semi-natural habitats	6
Lowering the risk of diffuse pollution (water quality)	35
Efficient water use (including harvesting and storage)	1

Extracts from mentoring diaries include:

- “We discussed management of the herd and flock, grass and clover, slurry and manure storage and business targets.”
- “Farm visit to discuss yard run off risks, manure store rules and silage clamp rules (SSAFO) regs as well as new Control of Agriculture Pollution regs. Looked at various opportunities to reduce dirty water by roofing over yard areas which would be the most practical to do.”
- “We went through the information the Mentee had inputted into the agri pollution workbook and any queries they had.”

Masterclasses



- 302** attendees across **19** Masterclasses including:
 - Control of Agriculture Pollution masterclasses
 - Opportunities and benefits of trees on farms

Feedback:

“Today’s meeting was most interesting & informative. Very pleased to have attended especially so with a first class speaker”

Strategic Awareness Events



16 Events **262** Attendees

- Example of events during this period were:
 - Nutrition and silage quality
 - Forage Analysis event at market

“Didn’t know what to expect from the talk as it was our first but definitely will continue to go to these events.”

Agrisgôp



10 Agrisgôp meetings have taken place



- Soil health 3
- Mixed farming 1
- Benefits of using rare and native breeds 4
- Managing and creating in-field and semi-natural habitats 1
- Lowering the risk of diffuse pollution (water quality) 1

Groups that met during this period focussed on:

The group are exploring the possibility of planting Elderberry trees and possibly other berry crops as agroforestry systems on their farms.

The group is exploring options that could reduce the cost of feeding beef and sheep. They are looking into growing and managing alternative crops and pastures that would be beneficial to the environment. Reductions in inputs in addition to breeding and selecting livestock are also being explored.

The group are working towards producing and supplying an all year round market for good quality local raised free range pork.

Advisory Service



Instances of advice delivered:
Technical Grassland Advice

- 3 Agri-environment Advice
- 11 Livestock
- 259 Grassland Management

Farmer quote:

"The adviser did a great job, would recommend the service to anyone" - tech grassland advice

Horticulture



In all of the Farming Connect Horticulture delivery, we aim to promote how protecting and enhancing the farm ecosystem is an important part of making Horticulture a sustainable industry here in Wales.

Two of the recent events we have held, The way to organic conversion and Growing pumpkins..., have had a focus on organic farming, different production systems and soil health and fertility.

A key focus area of Horticulture business support is soil health. 45% of all Horticulture business support applications have asked for support with soil health. 65% of these have received a session with an agronomist.

E-Learning



Courses on Offer	Individuals Supported	Businesses Supported
11	9	3

Courses completed included:

- E-Learning: *Climate Change and Land Management*
- E-Learning: *Invasive Species*
- E-Learning: *Slurry Management*

New Courses Available on BOSS:

- E-Learning: *An Introduction to Sustainable Farming*

Accredited Training



Courses on Offer	Individuals Supported	Hours of Training	Businesses Supported
6	1	5	1

The course undertaken was Safe Use of Sheep Dip.

Surgeries



49 Surgeries were completed

Topics included -



Clinics



492 Clinics were completed

Topics included -

