



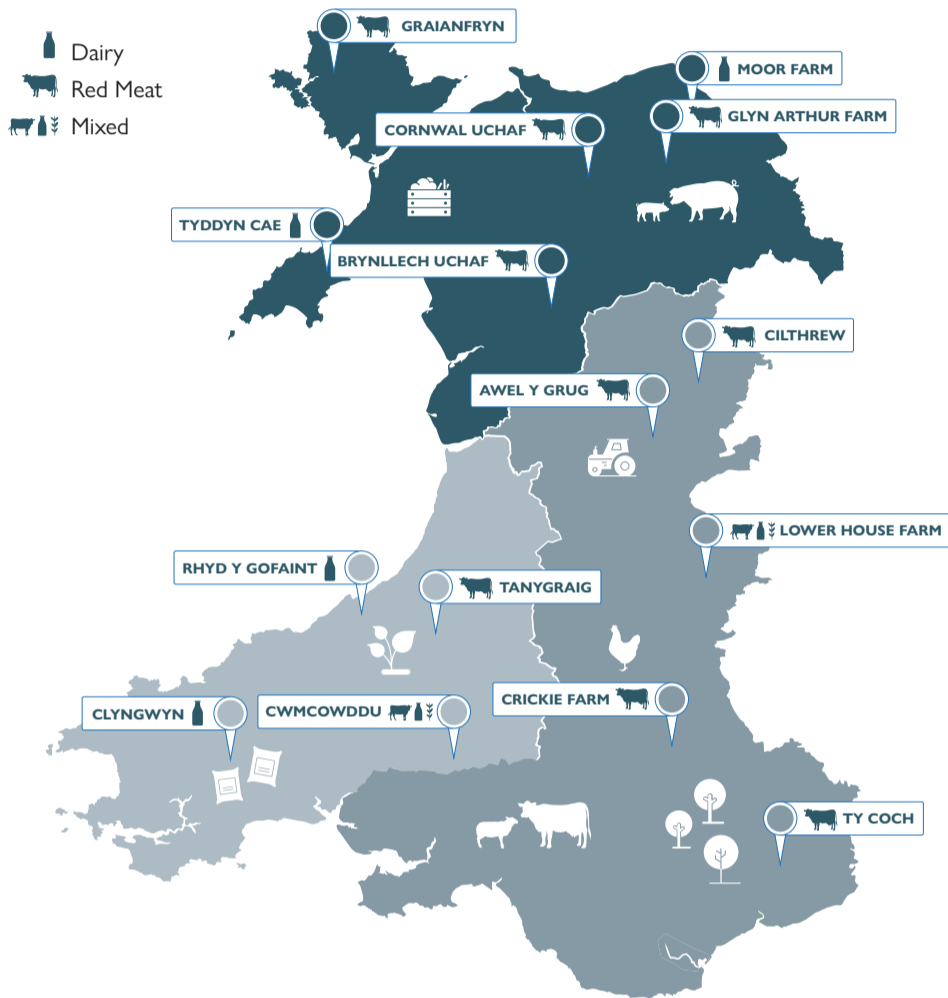
Reduce on Farm Emissions and Maximise Carbon Sequestration

Our Farms

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

- Energy efficiency
- Making use of genetic improvement
- Incorporating trees & woodland management
- Annual Health Improvement Cycle

- Dairy
- Red Meat
- Mixed



Total number of soil samples tested and analysed to provide soil carbon stock estimates across the Our Farms Network under the [Welsh Soil Project](#) = 1080

Masterclasses

- 141 attendees across 13 Masterclasses including:**
- Optimising parasite control in sheep
 - Matt Harding - Focusing on results
 - Responsible use of medicines in the dairy herd

Feedback:
 "Exceptional day. I had never heard of dung beetles. Clear presentations and discussions. Enjoyed the Faecal Egg Count demo."

KE Hub

4 Literature Reviews focusing on making use of genetic improvement:

- ✓ Breeding for a sustainable future
- ✓ Breeding for better health
- ✓ Breeding for improved eating quality
- ✓ Breeding for improved wool production

Mentoring

31.2 hours of mentoring have taken place



- Animal Health Improvement Cycle
- Incorporating trees (including agroforestry)
- Woodland management
- Hedgerow management cycle

Extracts from mentoring diaries include:

"Mentee showed me around the farm and outlined some agroforestry ideas he has been considering. We discussed how to establish trees in a landscape with little to no protection from maritime exposure."

"Call regarding the Wales habitat scheme and the restrictions and we discussed how to apply, length of agreement and how it would fit into the SFS."

Accredited Training

SFS Categories	Courses on Offer	Individuals Supported	Hours of Training
Animal health improvement cycle	6	12	96
Making use of genetic improvement	1	18	390
Woodland management	10	12	285
Total	17	42	771

40 businesses were supported.

Courses included: DIY AI - First aid for Feet (cattle) - Chainsaw maintenance, cross-cutting, felling and processing trees up to 380mm

Feedback from attendee:

"Change the breeding strategy and be able to use improved genetics of the pedigree cattle by using a variety of semen to suit different cows."

Discussion Groups

SFS Categories	No of Meetings	Hours of knowledge transfer	Individuals Supported
Reduce on farm emissions	19	37	152
Energy efficiency and producing renewable energy	4	6.25	18
Animal health improvement cycle	18	35	148
Making use of genetic improvement	1	1.25	5
Woodland management	1	1.5	7
Hedgerow management cycle	1	1.25	5

EXAMPLES:

- Best use of Genetics & EBV's in the beef herd
- Animal Health - Cow signals
- Biosecurity

Agrisgôp



4 meetings have taken place.



- Energy efficiency and producing renewable energy 3
- Animal Health Improvement Cycle 3
- Making use of genetic improvement 1

Groups that met during this period include -

- Setting up a pork producer group with a focus on high animal health and welfare standards
- The creation of a local tiered Wagyu beef supply group, bringing together dairy farmers, calf rearers and growers/finishers to harness a strong demand for specialist high quality beef.

Advisory



Instances of advice delivered:

Business Planning
27

Livestock
1

Agri-environment advice
3

Animal Health Advice
53

Grassland Management
181

Farmers Quote

"Fantastic report and advice given" - tech animal health and welfare advice.

E-Learning



52 unique individuals from
51 businesses were supported

Courses
on offer

Individuals
Supported

Making use of genetic
improvement

4

45

Animal health
improvement cycle

35

34

Energy efficiency and
producing renewable energy

14

12

Woodland management

3

3

Incorporating trees
(including agroforestry)

2

2

TOTAL:

58

96

Courses completed included:

E-Learning: Mandatory Unit: Artificial Insemination

E-Learning: Mandatory Unit: Cattle Lameness

E-Learning: Body Condition Scoring - Sheep

New Courses Available on BOSS:

E-Learning: Energy Efficiency on Cereal Farms

E-Learning: An Introduction to Sustainable Farming

E-Learning: Reducing Emissions and Improving Sequestration on Farm

Animal Health and Welfare Workshops



SFS Categories	Individuals Supported	Training Hours Delivered	Workshops Delivered
Animal health improvement cycle	519	1557	37

382 unique individuals from 288 businesses were supported

Workshops Topics Delivered Included:

- Parasite Control in Cattle Part 1 - Roundworms & Ectoparasites
- Antibiotic Resistance
- Preparing for the Sustainable Farming Scheme: Animal Health Improvement in your Beef Herd
- Youngstock Health Part 1 - Birth to Weaning

Feedback from attendees included:

"Very good evening, good to learn something new. The two speakers were fab!! Thank you."

"Good slides/presentations. Good interaction by presenters/vets."

Welsh Sheep Genetics Programme



Knowledge Transfer Activity

'Breeding for reduced methane emissions' webinar - 13 individuals were in attendance from Tier 1 of the programme. The webinar focused on measuring methane emissions from sheep, and the potential of producing an Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) for methane yield, which could be widely used in the sheep breeding industry with the objective of contributing towards reducing methane emissions.

Project Work

Breeding for reduced methane emissions in sheep - 10 flocks were recruited to participate in the methane project in December 2023, with over 1,400 lambs allocated to take part in the sampling process commencing in January 2024.



[Welsh sheep farmers to help Farming Connect create EBV for methane yield.](#)

Horticulture

1 Event

20 Individuals supported

15 Different Businesses

Event: Introduction to Orchard Management

Feedback: "Very good informative content"



HORTICULTURAL BUSINESS SUPPORT



3 Horticulture business support sessions have taken place with a focus on Controlled Environment agriculture.

CEA is becoming a popular topic within the Welsh Horticulture Industry, adopting energy efficiency practices and producing renewable energy on farm is appealing. Consultants are highlighting the use of energy efficient equipment and machinery to have the most effective production setups.

