



Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle inputs, nutrients and waste

Accredited Training



40

Individuals Supported

36

Businesses Supported

517

Hours of Training

Courses taken included:



- Level 2 Award in the Safe Use of Pesticides / Granular Applicators (PA4)
- Level 2 Award in the Safe Application of Pesticides Using Vehicle Mounted Boom Sprayer Equipment (PA2)

Feedback:

PA1 & PA2: "All spraying on the farm will be carried out using the methods I learnt on the course."

E-learning



115

Individuals Supported

65

Businesses Supported

Courses included:



- Mandatory Unit: Cattle Lameness
- Mandatory Unit: Pesticide Safety
- Antibiotic Resistance
- Building Soil Fertility (slurry/muck, crop rotation, green manures)
- Lowering External Inputs to Maximise Profits and Benefit the Environment

New courses available:



- Buying a Performance Recorded Hill Ram
- Creating a Sheep Breeding Programme for the flock
- Lowering External Inputs to Maximise Profits and Benefit the Environment

Advisory Service



36

Business Plans (inc Carbon Advice & Woodland Advice)

2

Agri-environment, ecosystems services & biodiversity

338

Grassland and Crop Management

12

Livestock Management

194

Animal Health advice

Farmer feedback:

"Very useful (advice). Identified problems with specific ewes we had concerns with and (advice) helped us adjust feed."

"Very happy with the advice, we have taken the advice on-board and are keeping less breeding ewes."

Horticulture Training – Land



1 Event
7 Individuals
6 Businesses

Events title: Late stage weed control

Horticulture Business Support – Land

23

Training session

31

Individuals

22

Business

Sessions focused on nutrient management, soil health including type and condition, pest and disease control including IPDM approaches and climate change adaptation.

Feedback:

"Good communication and response time with a programme that should reduce labour costs and ensure good health and disease control of crops."

Strategic Awareness Events



12 Events

312

Attendees

Events included: Nutrient Management Investment Scheme Webinar, Farm Infrastructure Planning, Farming for Water Quality

Clinics



16

Clinics completed

Topics included:
Soils | Grassland

Surgeries



14

Surgeries completed

Topics:
Infrastructure

Our Farms



220 farms involved in the network

39 on-farm trials focusing on nutrient management, building fertility, antibiotics resistance, sustainable use of anthelmintics, IPM, grassland management and lowering ammonia emissions including:



> [A Welsh dairy farm is companion cropping maize with sunflowers to reduce its purchased protein costs.](#)



> [Farming Connect 'Try Out Fund' aims to find an effective biological control](#)

Mentoring



309 hours of mentoring have taken place, 82 business, 91 meetings



- Nutrient management planning & soil testing **74**
- Grassland management (including multi-species swards and mixed grazing) **15**
- Building fertility (slurry/muck, crop rotation, green manures) **5**
- Integrated pest management **4**

Extract from mentoring diaries include:

1. Mentee wanted guidance on completing his Agri Pollutions workbook as he had not used Excel before so we went through the basics and I explained the booklet to him.
2. Discussed options around fencing for rotational grazing. Calculate animal requirements and daily area allocations.
3. We discussed no dig gardening, cropping plan, and over wintering with mulch under plastic.

Agrigôp



5 Agrigôp meetings have taken place

- › Nutrient management planning & soil testing **4**
- › Building fertility (slurry/muck, crop rotation, green manures) **3**
- › Grassland management (including multi-species swards and mixed grazing) **1**

Groups that met during this period focussed on:

1. Nikki Spil from the Seaweed farmers gave a presentation on how the seaweed biostimulant is produced and the proven benefits of using it. A discussion was had on its mineral breakdown, sugar content and other key information and also the environmental benefits of using seaweed products.
2. The, 'Biological Systems Dairy, Beef and Sheep' group met for the first time where ideas and opportunities were discussed on how to grow more confidence in producing healthier crops and grass to develop the environmental benefits of a biological system.
3. The, 'Biological Systems in Horticulture' group met for the first time. As a group of growers they aim to share knowledge and discuss ideas on regenerative practices within horticultural systems.

Discussion Groups



Reduce, reuse and recycle inputs, nutrients and waste

58 Discussion Groups with 328 attendees, 131 hours of CPD

Nutrient management planning and soil testing

25 Discussion Groups with 129 attendees, 52.5 hours of CPD

Building fertility

11 Discussion Groups with 52 attendees, 25 hours of CPD

Antibiotic resistance

23 Discussion Groups with 144 attendees, 51.5 hours of CPD

Sustainable use of anthelmintics

13 Discussion Groups with 85 attendees, 31 hours of CPD

Grassland management

28 Discussion Groups with 139 attendees, 65 hours of CPD

Lowering ammonia emissions

1 Discussion Groups with 5 attendees, 2 hours of CPD

Topics: Crop Management, Managing grassland quality, Business Planning, Red Mites, Animal Health Planning, Feed budgeting

Masterclasses



Get the most out of your grass: Grassland management workshop

What have you learnt?

"Ideas about practicality of fencing and moving cattle and sheep on a rotational grazing system."

"The benefits and concept of utilising a rotational grazing system."

"How to design a grazing system."

Animal Health and Welfare Workshops



196 individuals from 142 businesses were supported

588 hours of training and 17 workshops were delivered

Workshops included: Improving Post Weaning Lamb Performance, Sheep Lameness, Sheep Parasite Control Part 1: Roundworms & Blowfly, Antibiotic Resistance, Reducing Lameness in Dairy Cattle

Feedback: Improving Post Weaning Lamb Performance: "Excellent and informative event that provided increased knowledge and understanding."

Podcasts



Episode 103: Lameness in dairy cattle

Episode 104: What is healthy soil?

