DISCOVER INNOVATION

June - August 2018

RAG Status

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















Knowledge Exchange (KE) Hub ■

Key outputs during the quarter:

2 Technical articles published:

2 Factsheets produced:



OMEGA 3 IN MILK



SOIL COMPACTION



IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH

European Innovation Partnership EIP Wales Project 45 Target 2022 Projects at 18 Application Stage EIPWALES Projects 16 Cydweithio er ffyniant gwledig Collaborating for rural success Approved

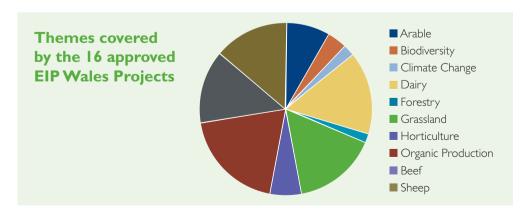
New projects approved during this period:

Foliar Feed for Grassland

Foliar feeding is a quicker method of getting nitrogen directly into the grass, which is through the leaves of the plant. This project, involving four farms in Pembrokeshire, aims to assess the extent to which using a foliar feed can reduce the application of conventional N fertiliser to grass. They aim to investigate its impact on the quality and quantity of dry matter of the grass, as well as the clover content of the pasture.

Implementing Advanced Nutritional Management in the Welsh sheep Industry

In this project live animal liver biopsies and blood tests will be carried out in tandem on a sample of ewes across twelve farms across North Wales. Liver biopsies can provide a longerterm assessment of the nutrient concentrations in the sheep compared to standard blood tests. The project seeks to understand if taking liver biopsies are beneficial to sheep farmers in developing smarter agricultural practice.



Updates on current EIP projects:

Pasture for Pollinators

Bee surveys have been carried out across 6 of the farms involved over the last few weeks. Findings showed that there was a wide variety in the stage and quality of the flowers/herbs in the mixed species lay strips across the farms which is a result of the dry conditions affecting each farm differently. Some strips were dense and in flower whereas some were past bloom. The time of the surveying will be altered in year two of the trial to follow the conditions of each field strip.

FARMING connect cyswllt **FFERMIO**

Potato Blight



On the 16th of August an open day was held at Ty'n yr Helyg, one of the two farms involved in the project, to discuss the results from the first year of the trial. This year proved to be the complete opposite of the previous year as the cold winter and dry spring has delayed the arrival of blight. Blight has now been confirmed on both sites and its progression will be monitored throughout the growing season up until the time of harvest.

Study Visits



In June Eryri YFC travelled to Scotland to visit several farming businesses and to attend the Highland Show.

The businesses visited ranged from a farm shop and nursery to a large-scale arable business. During their time at the Highland Show the group also had a chance

to meet with officials from Caithness YFC with whom they had interesting discussions on funding, age limit and how the organisation worked in Scotland.

Some of the key lessons learnt during the visit:

- To not be afraid to venture and make changes within your business.
- You don't have to have experience of everything to succeed.
- To ensure that all farm equipment have use throughout the year.
- The importance of supporting local businesses.
- That you can diversify in the most remote places without spending too much money.
- That the Young Farmers Organisation in Scotland operate very differently to the organisation in Wales.

Click here to read more about their visit.



