

THE MAGAZINE FOR FARMING & FORESTRY IN WALES

FARMING connect



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08456 000 813

**Sustainable Management
Scheme** - A new service to
support farmers and foresters

Soil, Muck and Money
Working together to reduce
agricultural pollution in Wales.



ISSUE 15 - May/June 2018 | www.gov.wales/farmingconnect



GWYN PARRY

Orsedd Fawr, Pencaenewydd, Pwllheli
Farming Connect Demonstration Site

INTRODUCTION

With the silage finished and the price of feed going through the roof, last year's calves were turned out during the third week of March, despite grass growth not being close to where I would have liked it to be.

Luckily, we removed all stock from the cell grazing block at the end of November, more than a month earlier than the previous year; but despite this, average grass cover was only 1810kgDM/ha by mid-March, in comparison to 1992kgDM/ha at the same time in 2017. The steers should be fine for the first round of grazing, but unless the weather warms up soon, Daily Live Weight Gain will inevitably be compromised.

As a result of the slow spring, lambing itself went better than usual. We lamb all ewes outdoor and in a normal spring, the lambs tend to get a bit big by the end of the season as more grass becomes available causing birthing

problems, but this was less of an issue this year. The down side of this was that we had to supplement feed the ewes post lambing, something we don't usually do. Like most farms I'm sure, we have spent more than usual on feed this winter and the impact on the farm profit will be inevitable.

Hopefully we will have a dry, hot summer this year, the wet weather towards the end of last summer caused us a lot of problems, with increased parasitic burdens on the livestock at a time when we are trying to finish cattle and lambs on grass. The old seasonal trends of parasites as I was taught in college seem to be changing in response to a changing climate and FEC testing for worms, liver fluke and rumen fluke is becoming more and more important in my view.

Working together to reduce agricultural pollution in Wales

Farming Connect are coordinating an industry-led campaign to tackle pollution from agriculture head-on in Wales. Ensuring water quality by reducing agricultural pollution must be a priority for all farmers in Wales.

The following support is available from Farming Connect in order to help you reduce agricultural pollution and improve water quality:

ADVISORY SERVICE

Providing expert, independent, confidential and bespoke advice.

- Up to 80% funding for one to one advice
- 100% funding for group advice*

Examples of advice include:

- Soil and nutrient management planning
- Slurry and farmyard manure management and storage
- Farm infrastructure

MENTORING

Up to 22.5 hours of fully funded mentoring service from farmers who have made positive changes on their own farms.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT SCHEME

The SMS provides financial support for a range of activities that will improve the management of our natural resources. A support service has been launched which provides support for groups of farmers who wish to apply for the scheme.

Further advice and support is available in the form of technical articles and e-learning modules on the Farming Connect website - www.gov.wales/farmingconnect

For more information on any of the services, contact the Farming Connect Service Centre - **08456 000 813** - farmingconnect@menterabusnes.co.uk

**Up to 80% funding to a maximum of €1500 (euros) per instance of one to one advice, or 100% funding for group advice (minimum of three in a group) up to a maximum of €1,500 (euros) per group member.*

EIP WALES

Groups with innovative ideas to tackle agricultural pollution can develop projects with support through EIP Wales.

AGRISGÔP

Working together as part of an Agrisgôp group, you can access specialist information to explore and develop viable options to address specific issues.

PLANNING SURGERIES

1 hour advice from an independent planning adviser.

DEMONSTRATION NETWORK PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Projects and events demonstrating new innovations in farming and forestry. For dates and locations of forthcoming 'soil, muck and money' events, visit www.gov.wales/farmingconnect.

Soil, Muck and Money – NEW EVENTS

Abby James, Farming Connect Dairy Technical Officer

Through the Farming Connect Advisory Service, many farms have completed a Nutrient Management Plan based on soil samples collected, with many needing to change management.

The 2016 Farming Connect soil results of 4848 samples showed an average pH of 5.8. 70% of soils tested were below pH 6.0. This suggests that the investment in lime is not being made.

Applying lime is a simple, effective way to increase yields and retain ryegrass and clover. The availability of nutrients is affected by the pH of soil with essential plant nutrients becoming more available.

The results also showed that 64% of the samples taken were not at the phosphate target index of 2 and similar with potash at 68%. With indexes taking between 5 to 10 years to change, these Nutrient Management Plans need to be implemented.

KEY FACTS

- Insufficient lime causes yield losses.
- Phosphate will only move within the soil by 1mm, therefore roots have to run into it. An excess of phosphate is an environmental risk. The target needs to be achieved!
- Grass has the ability to take up more potash than it needs, hence silage removes more potash than you most likely apply! Applications of potash on silage ground need to be planned for the autumn for fields not at target.
- Understanding the value of farmyard manure and slurry and learning how and where to make best use of these resources as well as other nutrients, will help you keep costs to a minimum.

Enhancing the soil longer term through more effective management, will improve your land's long-term sustainability as well as reducing agri-pollution levels and minimising your carbon footprint.

Our Soil, Muck and Money events will cover the theory behind the benefits of Nutrient Management Planning; slurry storage and infrastructure and also include demonstrations on a range of soil conditioning and drainage equipment.

Farming Connect has a range of services which can assist farmers improve the quality of their land ranging from technical advice available through the Advisory Service (which can be fully funded for groups, or subsidised by 80% for individuals) to soil, nutrient and manure management services and environmental risk assessments.

For dates and locations of the 'Soil, muck and money' events, visit

www.gov.wales/farmingconnect



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Soil, Muck and Money Events

DATE	VENUE	CONTACT
17/05/2018 11:00 - 15:00	Llwyn Goronwy, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0PD	Geraint Jones 07398 178 698 geraint.jones@menterabusnes.co.uk
22/05/2018 19:00 - 21:30	Penrallt, Llantood, Cardigan, Pembrokeshire, SA43 3NU	Menna Williams 07399 600 146 menna.williams@menterabusnes.co.uk
07/06/2018 11:00 - 13:00	Clovers Farm, Letterston, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 5TT	Dr Delana Davies 07811 261 628 delana.davies@menterabusnes.co.uk
18/06/2018 11:00 - 14:00	Goldslands Farm, Wenvoe, Cardiff, CF5 6BE	Imogen Ward 07985 379 819 imogen.ward@menterabusnes.co.uk
19/06/2018 16:00 - 18:00	Trefnant Isaf, Maesmawr, Welshpool, SY21 9JG	Lisa Roberts 07399 849 148 lisa.roberts@menterabusnes.co.uk
21/06/2018 13:00 - 15:00	Cefn Amlwch, Tudweiliog, Pwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 8AX	Gwawr Hughes 07932 610 697 gwawr.hughes@menterabusnes.co.uk
22/06/2018 10:45 - 14:00	Marian Mawr, Dyserth, Rhyl, LL18 6HT	Rhys Davies 07985 379 880 rhys.davies@menterabusnes.co.uk



www.gov.wales/farmingconnect

Getting to grips with Rotational Grazing

Menna Williams - Farming Connect Red Meat Technical Officer

Rhun and Nerys Williams run a mixed livestock system at Ochor Farm, near Tregaron. The Williams' farm in the region of 85 hectares, and the land ranges from 120 to 200 metres above sea level. It is a mixed beef and sheep grassland farm, with around 550 breeding ewes (250 improved Welsh and 300 mules) and 120 ewe lambs.

During May 2017, with the support of a grassland specialist, and a plate meter, Rhun set up a rotational grazing system at Ochor Farm. He originally started by grazing two mobs of ewes (90 in each mob) and lambs around different areas of the farm. He worked within the existing fencing infrastructure for this, rather than using electric fencing. Each mob had 8 paddocks to graze, spending between 2 and 4 days in each paddock depending on the size of the paddock.

After weaning 12Ha of ground was allocated, for lamb finishing. A total of 24 (0.6 to 0.8 hectares in size) were created utilising electric fencing materials already on the farm. On 26th of July thirteen week old lambs were introduced to the grazing platform which were kept at a stocking rate of 21 lambs/Ha. Rhun aimed to turn lambs into covers of 2000kg/DM and graze to 1400kg/DM. He continued to graze the platform until the end of November.

The biggest benefit has been the increase in lambs achieving the desired specification, as a direct result of measuring the grass and knowing the amount of grass available. In years gone by there would always be occasions when Rhun thought he was tight on grass and sent off marginal lambs just to reduce numbers and take the pressure off the ground. Being aware of grass availability gave him the security to retain lambs and sending them away when weights and confirmation were correct, resulting in 74 more lambs hitting the U grade in 2017 compared to 2016.

Additional benefits of rotational grazing

- ✓ Improvements in soil fertility and structure
- ✓ Reduces worm burden due to regular shifts
- ✓ Reduce reliance on bought in feed
- ✓ Increase stocking rate
- ✓ Rotational grazing can benefit both established pasture and new reseeds



Getting to grips with rotational grazing

Fferm Ochor, Tregaron, Ceredigion, SY25 6QT

Date: 24/05/2018 Time: 14:00 - 16:00

Menna Williams - 07399 600 146

menna.williams@menterabusnes.co.uk

Key Points for Pig Producers to consider

Jodie Roberts, Pigs and Poultry Technical Officer

Richard Hooper, who manages the 230-sow indoor unit at Harper Adams University, recently spoke to pig producers at events hosted by Menter Moch Cymru and Farming Connect offering valuable advice.

Richard advised farmers to simplify their system. Businesses would see improvement in business efficiencies when taking a precision farming approach. Richard has trialled a series of enhanced management strategies to improve and simplify the pig-rearing system with good results.

The herd has a three-week batch farrowing system, meaning all buildings operate on an 'all in, all out' basis which allows complete cleansing and disinfection between batches to improve health; growth rates have been helped by bringing in new genetics.

Richard continues to adapt nutrition, such as the provision of different feeds for finishing boars and gilts. A reason for this is because males and females have different requirements for the amino acid, lysine, a high cost protein in pig feed.

Farmers are encouraged to conduct their own on-farm feeding trials, by trying different diets at all stages, to establish what best suits their pigs. Richards also focusses on the nutrition of new born piglets and provides supplementary milk to litters.

"We are getting less runt piglets by feeding supplementary milk. Up to two pigs a litter are being reared on this milk alone and these pigs tend to eat more creep so they don't take a knock at weaning because their gut is more mature."

Bedding should not be disregarded either, those with straw based systems are encouraged to use barley straw over wheat straw because it will present a lower mycotoxin risk to pigs.

"Straw might look clean but good straw can be packed with mycotoxins which means that if a pig is eating even a small amount daily they will be poisoning themselves."

Join Farming Connect at the RWAS Spring Festival 2018 for an opportunity to increase your pig knowledge.		
WHEN?	WHERE?	WHAT?
Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th May	Pig Section, Royal Welsh Showground, Llanellwedd	Demonstrations and one-to-one sessions with experts in the pig industry including renowned pig vet Bob Stevenson.

Planning for the Future

Being prepared for the future and having the right skills to take your business forward has never been so important. Setting goals for your personal and business aims is the first step in completing a free online Personal Development Plan (PDP) which can also help you assess your current skill level and identify training needs.

Once you have completed a PDP, you are then able to submit funding applications for completing short accredited training courses that can help up skill individuals within the business. Always speak to your local Training Provider to discuss your training needs and to ensure that you are applying for the correct course.

If you require any support completing the PDP look out for future PDP events that will be coming up in June 2018.

As of Summer 2018, when you have completed training through Farming Connect, online e-learning or face to face training, all of your learning activities within the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) record will be found within your BOSS account. All accredited certificates you obtain will be uploaded for you. In fact, any activity you undertake or attend through the current Farming Connect programme will be recorded, providing you with CPD evidence that can be downloaded and used for a variety of purposes, including supporting your CV for job applications. Non-Farming Connect activity can also be recorded within the CPD record.

In order to access the PDP, e-learning courses, funding application form and CPD account you must be registered with Farming Connect, receive your BOSS Username and Password from the Service Centre and sign into the Business Wales BOSS website so that you can ensure you have the right skills and start planning ahead for the future.

For more information and for the full list of courses that are funded through the programme and Training Provider contact details, visit:

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/face-face-training>



New service to support farmers and foresters to apply for the RC – RDP Sustainable Management Scheme

A new service has been launched to support groups of farmers to apply for the Sustainable Management Scheme (SMS). The SMS offers grants of up to £700,000 for collaborative groups looking to improve the management of natural resources and in doing so contribute to the well-being of rural communities.

Fifteen facilitators have been selected to provide support for groups of farmers to develop their ideas and to submit their expression of interest to Welsh Government. If groups are successful at the EOI stage and invited to submit a full proposal, the facilitator will be available to provide further support.

Eirwen Williams, Menter a Busnes Director said *“This service will provide farmers with guidance and information as they develop their project ideas. Sometimes the process of applying for funding can seem rather daunting but with this service a facilitator will be at hand to provide continued support.”*

Examples of successful projects in the past are the Eden Catchment programme which is a farmer led project centred on the improvement of the river Eden catchment by planting and managing native deciduous trees; and the Fferm Ifan project, a cooperation of 11 farmers who are implementing new targeted land management actions which will also deliver socio-economic benefits.

Profiles of facilitators can be seen on the Farming Connect website, and farmers can choose the facilitator that best suit their needs.

Interested farmers should contact the Farming Connect Service Centre on **0845 6000 813** or apply on-line at businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/SMS

Thistles - a prickly problem!

Creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), is an all too common sight. Also often seen are the Marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*) and Spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*). Others, less common, are the Woolly thistle, the Dwarf thistle and the Melancholy thistle.

The most pernicious is the creeping thistle with its ability to quickly grow underground and produce many shoots that mean a thistle patch can grow to 5 metres or more in one year. The roots are very brittle and easily break into fragments which grow into new plants, so cultivations may exacerbate the problem. Trampling by livestock also cause soil disturbance and create bare patches easily colonised by encroaching thistles.

How do thistles affect livestock productivity?

Each thistle may restrict grazing around it by up to 20cm, so even one thistle per m² may deny livestock of upwards of 12% of the grazing area available. The financial impact of this can be significant if you have to consider replacing the lost energy and protein with purchased concentrates in order to sustain livestock growth rate and production.

What about control?

According to research, the most effective means of controlling creeping thistle is a combination of weed wiping in June followed by lenient autumn grazing (8-10cm for cattle; 6-8cm for sheep) in two consecutive growing seasons. This reduces creeping thistle density by 99%. The combination of clopyralid and triclopyr (e.g. *Thistlex*) maximises activity on thistles giving excellent lasting control.

In the research carried out at Bronydd Mawr, an Upland Research farm, creeping thistle density was reduced using this strategy.

Tight spring grazing did not have any effects on thistle numbers but was desirable in achieving a large differential between the elongating thistle stems and the associated forb species prior to weed wiping.

The key grazing management practice is to avoid tight sheep grazing in autumn and winter and as cattle grazing results in fewer thistles, introduce cattle to sheep grazed areas where practical.



These strategies may be combined with tight stocking during May to July and topping in September when thistles are in flower and plant reserves are at their lowest.

The most effective grassland herbicides will affect any clover in the sward, so where weed presence becomes a limiting factor, plan to re-introduce clover later in the season.

For organic farmers there is a recently published (2016) report Creeping thistle - successful control in organic farming by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) and Organic Research Centre (*Elm Farm*).

Research shows that thistle infestation may be prevented by:

- Keeping grass swards dense which out-compete thistles as they emerge in the spring.
- Increasing fertiliser input in the spring which increases the ability of grass to compete with the thistle.
- Checking the P and K soil indexes and the pH and creating conditions for vigorous grass and clover growth.
- Not creating large patches of bare ground which may trigger colonisation by wind dispersed thistle seedlings.

OTHER THISTLES

Spear and Marsh thistles are biennials spread by seed.

Spear thistle has a deep tap root and a rosette and should be dug below ground when at young stage or cut just before flowering to just above ground level before rain so the stem and plant will rot. Control dwarf, musk, and welved thistle in the same way.

Marsh thistle thrives in wet acid soils. Improve drainage, lime and prevent seeding by pulling or cutting.

Spot spraying using a translocated herbicide (containing clopyralid and triclopyr for example) helps tackle small areas of weeds or where a targeted approach is required. When using herbicides always read the label.

Red mites, *Dermanyssus gallinae*, are seen throughout the poultry industry and thrive on the living conditions within poultry systems. Red mites are known to increase rates of anaemia, mortality and disease susceptibility and also negatively influence business profitability affecting feed efficiency, egg production, egg quality and bird weight gain.

What is a Red Mite?

Red mites are resilient ectoparasites which hide in crevices and feed on the blood of poultry. The design of poultry systems, although designed for increased bird welfare, provide ideal environments and hiding places for red mite.

Red Mite lifecycle

The lifecycle of red mites should be understood in order to treat most effectively. Some mites will feed on birds every 2 - 4 days others will remain dormant for several months.

There are four life-cycle stages to consider: Larvae hatch with six legs and do not feed, protonymphs, deutonymphs and adult females routinely feed on host blood, but males only occasionally feed.

Adult red mites lay eggs which turn into larvae but require a “blood meal” before they are capable of breeding and laying the eggs.

Temperature has a great impact on the amount of eggs produced, at 5°C a female is capable of laying 150 eggs per clutch; whilst around 300 eggs can be laid at 25°C.

How can Red Mites be controlled?

Understand the products you are using, enforce strict biosecurity measures through this period and ensure a thorough clean out procedure. There are products that will disinfect and kill red mites but the vet should be involved with the decision as to the most appropriate products to use.

Farming Connect will be investigating innovative red mites treatments with a poultry Focus Site over the next 12 months.

Regular updates on the progress of this project will be available on the Farming Connect website.



EIPWALES

Cydweithio er ffyniant gwledig
Collaborating for rural success

An examination of the practical and financial potential for growing small scale asparagus organically

Asparagus has good potential in Wales as it's a high value crop which draws good farm gate sales. The crop falls into the hungry gap period from the end of April to the end of June when few other crops are available in the UK. While there is a great demand for asparagus, the high establishment costs and long period before first harvest can make growing the crop unattractive to small scale growers.

The aim of this project is to monitor outputs and benchmark organic asparagus growing on two farms in Monmouthshire at a field scale. This will allow a thorough understanding of the practical and financial requirements.

As part of the 3-year project, different varieties of asparagus crowns will be planted on both farms.

- **This year**, the asparagus will be planted in April and monitored for % emergence, fern numbers and height.
- In **year 2**, depending on the fern volume in year 1, a light pruning cut may be made, and then the fern will be left to develop. If the fern is not sufficiently strong the crop will be left to develop and fern number, height and quality will be assessed.

- In **year 3** a light crop is likely to be taken at the end of May, so yields of 3 grades can be taken, jumbo, medium and sprue. Data will be gathered on weed/pest incidence, performance and costs of crop management to allow the financial benchmarking to be carried out.

In the final year, the crop is likely to be cut in late June. A projection of the first major harvest of the crop will be made through assessing the plants from the previous autumn to early spring. Current organic retail prices will be utilised along with standard harvesting costs.



Feasibility study on Squill Production in North Wales

White squill (*Drima maritima*) is a perennial herb that is native to the Mediterranean region. The bulbous portion of the base contains several steroid glycosides (*Bufadienolides*) which are key compounds in many anti-cough syrups. In recent years, the plant has been subject to severe uprooting and collection in its native country of origin, for pharmaceutical companies, and the demand for bufadienolide is increasing.

Recent small scale research has shown that this specific variety of squill can be grown in Gwynedd and has been proven to contain twice the active constituents than the varieties produced overseas. Five farmers are involved in the 18 month project that will investigate the ability to grow squill at various locations across North Wales. The aim is to understand the optimum growing conditions as well as harvesting and extraction techniques. During spring 2018, 200kg of squill bulbs will be planted on the trial plots, all with altering terrain, altitude, pH, and agronomy.

If results are positive, it is possible that growing squill could be a diversification option for Welsh farmers.



Growing - Plant trial plots of squill at a range of locations across North Wales

Production - Investigate ways of harvesting and processing squill for isolating the bioactive target compounds

Agronomy - Establish data and analysis from the growing trials

Market Evaluation - Identify suitable markets for the bio actives

Business Model - Develop and evaluate a financial model of the business opportunity.

Learn more about EIP Wales

With funding of up to £40,000 available for projects that can run for a maximum of 3 years, EIP Wales is a great opportunity for farmers and foresters to test new technologies, products or techniques and put their ideas into practice.

Email eipwales@menterabusnes.co.uk or go to www.gov.wales/farmingconnect for more information.



Management Exchange application opens soon – it's time to find your passport!

Ever wanted to learn about chocolate making in Belgium, explore chorizo curing in Spain, find out more about goat's cheese production high up in the Alps or work with the most innovative breeders of continental cattle? The Management Exchange could be your ticket!

The application window will open for the Management Exchange Programme on Friday 1st June. Farming Connect are looking for focused and ambitious farmers and foresters who are keen to broaden their horizons by taking part in an exchange and/or hosting a foreign exchange farmer or forester on your holding.

Successful applicants will undertake or host a visit that will enrich their knowledge in a topic of their choice. Two-way exchange visits will be encouraged but are not essential. After completing the exchange, they will share their findings via blogs, video diaries, presentations and reports.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to learn new or improved ways of working in the farm or forestry sectors in Europe, to find out about different approaches to business management and to broaden your knowledge, technical ability and management expertise," says Einir Davies, Development & Mentoring Manager with Farming Connect.

"The aims of the programme are to enable both parties to identify opportunities for both personal and business development and to learn new and innovative or advanced best practice which they can implement at home and share with the wider industry in Wales," said Ms Davies.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 29th June**.
The funding rate for the programme is **100%**, up to a maximum of **£4,000**
with costs reclaimed after completing the exchange.

For further information and to read reports from exchanges that have taken place since the programme was launched in 2016 please visit the Farming Connect website.

Does rye have a role in Wales?

Dr Delana Davies, Farming Connect Knowledge Exchange Executive

At Upper Pendre, Llangorse, Brecon, wheat, barley and triticale are successfully grown in an arable rotation to feed the dairy herd and beef cattle on the farm. Triticale fits well in the rotation but is very susceptible to yellow rust which is extremely yield depleting, time consuming and expensive to control. Breeders are also struggling to multiply up new varieties of triticale, and varieties are not tested for disease resistance.

Rye is less susceptible to take-all than wheat, barley and triticale and presented the opportunity for growing as a third cereal in the rotation. Rye benefits from early drilling and gives greater scope for grass weed control than barley. However, there is very little information available on growing and feeding rye grain to cattle with crops mainly grown for anaerobic digestion (*biogas*) plants with limited quantities harvested as wholecrop for livestock.

AGRONOMY OF RYE

At Upper Pendre the variety SU Cossani Hybrid from Saaten Union (*Danish plant breeder*) was drilled at the end of September 2016 on a 6ha field at 200 seeds/m² and sprayed



with pre-emergence herbicide. Seed depth is important as rye is small seeded and does not have the reserves to emerge from depth, so a 2cm drilling depth is advised. Slug control is essential in the early stages and Deter seed treatment is advisable. Rye can get BYDV (*Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus*) so best practice advice should be followed for pyrethroid application.

Image: Rye 19 May 2017

In summary:

- Unfortunately late frosts in May took a portion of the rye ears as they emerged
- Harvest was delayed due to wet weather
- This resulted in a yield of 6.9T/ha (2.8T/ac)

- The net margin/ha for the rye crop was a loss of £132.83 as compared to a net margin of £270.79/ha for triticale in 2017
- The triticale yielded more (7.75T/ha) and costs were lower
- The rye was disadvantaged by several factors:
 - Rye is susceptible to mildew and brown rust
 - It needs a very robust plant growth regulator programme to keep it standing
 - It matures early in the season, thereby being susceptible to late frosts

FEEDING VALUE OF RYE

All the cereals grown at Upper Pendre were sent to a laboratory for full nutritional analysis.

	ME MJ/Kg DM	Crude Protein %	Moisture %	Starch %
Triticale	13.8	11.5	15.1	60.6
Barley	13.2	9.7	13.8	51.5
Wheat	13.7	12.1	14.1	57.3
Rye	13.6	10.9	13.2	49.2

The rye compares favourably with the other cereals in terms of Metabolisable Energy (ME) content with a starch value comparable to barley. Rye also has the benefit of containing around 5% sugar which can provide a readily available source of energy for rumen microbes which complements the slower digestion of starch. Crude Protein levels of rye presented between that of barley and triticale.

It was concluded that the rye could be used as a straight substitute for any of the other cereal crops in the dairy and beef rations on the farm.

Full cereal enterprise costings are presented on the Farming Connect website:
<https://businesswales.gov.wales/farmingconnect/posts/does-rye-have-role-wales>

Events Timetable

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT
17/05/18 13:00-16:00	Saving lives and livelihoods - In conjunction with the Wales Farm Safety Partnership	Coleg Glynllifon, Ffordd Clynnog, Llandwrog, LL54 5DU	Farming Connect 08456 000 813
18/05/18 13:00-16:00	Saving lives and livelihoods - In conjunction with the Wales Farm Safety Partnership	Gelli Aur, Coleg Sir Gâr, Golden Grove, Carmarthen, SA32 8NJ	Farming Connect 08456 000 813
22/05/18 16:00-18:00	Improving suckler cow efficiency by Oestrus Synchronization	Fferam Gyd, Rhosgoch, Amlwch, Anglesey, LL66 0BW	Gwawr Hughes 07932 610 697 gwawr.hughes@menterabusnes.co.uk
24/05/18 14:00-16:00	Getting to grips with rotational grazing	Fferm Ochor, Tregaron, Ceredigion, SY25 6QT	Menna Williams 07399 600 146 menna.williams@menterabusnes.co.uk
25/05/18 11:00-14:00	Making the most of your grassland - grazing and silage	The Rose Inn, Caldicot, Newport, NP26 3DU	Imogen Ward 07985 379 819 imogen.ward@menterabusnes.co.uk
07/06/18 19:00-21:00	Beef Finishing - Making the best use of forage	Welshpool Livestock Sales, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8SR	Lisa Roberts 07399 849148 lisa.roberts@menterabusnes.co.uk
14/06/18 14:00-16:00	Beef Finishing - Making the best use of forage	Monmouthshire Livestock Centre, Raglan, Monmouthshire, NP15 2BH	Catherine Nakielny 01970 631 406 catherine.nakielny@menterabusnes.co.uk
18/06/18 19:30-21:30	Vaccinating to increase profitability of your poultry unit	Rhug Estate, Corwen, Denbighshire, LL21 0EH	Jodie Roberts 07896 996 841 jodie.roberts@menterabusnes.co.uk
19/06/18 14:00-16:30	Best methods to fight diseases in pigs	Greenmeadow Community Farm, Cwmbran, NP44 5AJ	Jodie Roberts 07896 996 841 jodie.roberts@menterabusnes.co.uk
21/06/18 11:00-14:00	Dry Cow nutrition and management	Raglan Parc Golf Club, Raglan, Monmouthshire, NP15 2ER	Imogen Ward 07985 379 819 imogen.ward@menterabusnes.co.uk
21/06/18 15:00-21:00	Women in Agriculture	Bangor on Dee Racecourse, Bangor on Dee, Wrexham, LL13 0DA	Meinir Parry 01248 660 376 meinir.parry@menterabusnes.co.uk
21/06/18 11:30-13:30	What is appropriate antibiotic use?	Fenton Vets, 21 Portfield, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 1BN	Menna Williams 07399 600 146 menna.williams@menterabusnes.co.uk
26/06/18 11:00-14:00	Calf to Calving	New Dairy Farm, Newport, NP10 8SF	Imogen Ward 07985 379 819 imogen.ward@menterabusnes.co.uk
28/06/18 15:00-21:00	Women in Agriculture	The Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5DY	Meinir Parry 01248 660 376 meinir.parry@menterabusnes.co.uk
05/07/18 11:00-14:00	Improving Fertility	Raglan Parc Golf Club, Raglan, Monmouthshire, NP15 2ER	Imogen Ward 07985 379 819 imogen.ward@menterabusnes.co.uk
05/06/18 09:00-17:00	IT Surgery	Newcastle Emlyn (Location to be confirmed)	Gwenan Jones 01970 636 296 gwenan.jones@menterabusnes.co.uk
08/06/18 09:00-17:00	IT Surgery	Myddfai (Location to be confirmed)	Gwenan Jones 01970 636 296 gwenan.jones@menterabusnes.co.uk