Resilient and Productive



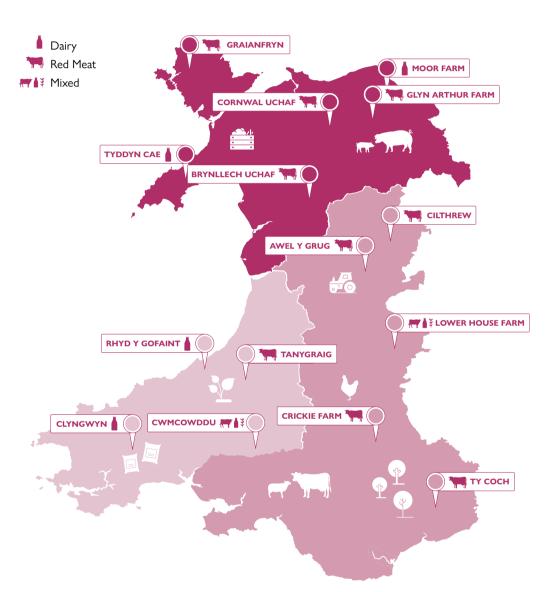
Benchmarking and business planning | Diversification | Lowering external inputs to maximise profits | Converting to Organic/Regenerative Farming | Joint Ventures | Biosecurity | Horticulture Startup and Development

Our Farms

Fifteen demonstration farms were recruited for the Our Farms network which was launched at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show. On-farm projects will be run on these farms aligning with the SLM outcomes.



Find out more about the farms forming the network in the **network introduction video.**



Agrisgôp 8 Groups Established Groups being established include: Pig producer group Wagyu beef supply Red meat efficiency Farm diversification projects Diversifying the farm business On farm experiences Teifi Environment Group Enterprise Stacking

Mentoring

†(,)

61 mentoring sessions have taken place



- Benchmarking and business planning 35.4%
- Lowering external inputs to maximise profits and benefit the environment 6.3%
- Converting to organic/regenerative farming 12.7%
- Diversification (including into horticulture) and adding value **10.1%**
- Joint ventures, succession planning and new entrants 3.8%
- Horticulture start-up and development 11.4%
- Biosecurity (livestock and arable) 20.3%

Extracts from mentoring diaries include:

"Discussion about the viability of a cut flower enterprise"

"We discussed reconciling the business bank account"

"Developed ideas for the layout of the glamping cabin"

"We discussed all aspects of the new direct selling venture and particularly the idea of adding beef to the lamb boxes business"

Discussion Groups



64 Discussion Groups Recruited made up of 750 Businesses











Arable 2

Dairy 18

Red Meat

Poultry 2

Diversification 2

The groups will focus on:

- > Business Review and goal setting
- > Reviewing cost of Production
- > Succession Planning
- > Time and People Management

All groups will be benchmarking financial and physical KPIs such as;

- > Scanning %
- ➤ Costs of inputs £/ha
- > Amount / cost of Artificial N used tN/ha
- > Amount of concentrate feed used t & £/LSU
- > Feed Efficiency (kgDM/kgCW)
- ▶ Profitability (Gross Profit (£) per kgDM)

Start to Farm & Succession 296 Seekers 58 Providers Developing profile



Support packages accessed



Business Assessments Completed 4



Family Succession Meetings Completed



Business Planning Completed **0**



Legal Advice Completed **0**

Animal Health and Welfare



79 individuals from 57 businesses attended workshops such as:



Sheep Parasite Control Part 1



Lambing Losses Part 2



Improving Post Weaning Lamb Performance



Antibiotic Resistance

Try Out Fund



3 Try Out Fund Projects are underway.



Increasing resilience to summer drought through the use of Lucerne



Establishing effective crops under Brassicas to improve land productivity and to avoid soil erosion to improve resilience



Growing tea: a horticulture start-up and development

Advisory Service

Businesses Planning

Businesses

supported





Businesses supported

Technical Livestock



Businesses supported

Welsh Sheep Genetics Programme



Over the last few months we have run a successful campaign and have recruited 107 flocks to be a part of the WSGP. These flocks will be working to improve the performance and productivity of their flocks by genetic improvement, and targeting any issues which may impact genetic progress through completing a Breeding Action Plan and knowledge gained through the Gearing up to Genetics model.

In addition to introducing the routine use of genomic breeding values, the programme will also focus on key areas of development within the field of genetics, including groundbreaking project work focusing on the following areas:

> Breeding for worm resistance

The objective of this project is to work towards developing a breeding value for animals which have a genetic ability to withstand worm challenges, thus reducing the dependency on anthelmintic use.

> Breeding for reduced methane emissions

This project will focus on identifying specific genotypes which naturally (due to their genetic makeup) produce lower levels of methane emissions.

The objective of performance recording participating flocks is to improve performance and productivity, which will be achieved through data collection and using this data to select the most efficient animals for future breeding.

Diversification Surgery



"Very helpful and thought provoking."

"The advice given helped me build a clearer picture of the next steps, I now just need to learn how to carry out those next steps, which hopefully I will be able to do using the farming connect advisory service."

Horticulture



3 Horticulture Customised Training with 14 attendees overall

- Asparagus a niche crop for Wales
- > Pre Season Soft Fruit
- Study Visit to specialist Herb Grower Jekka

<u>eLearning</u>



19 courses have been completed

- > Farm Human Resources
- Anthelmintic Resistance on Sheep Farms

















