



Resilient and Productive

Our Farms



220 farms involved in the network

44 on-farm trials focusing on benchmarking, lowering external inputs, converting to regenerative practices, diversifying into horticulture and biosecurity including:



› [Welsh udder health and milking performance benchmarking project](#) | Farming Connect



› [Farming Connect 'Try Out Fund' aims to find an effective biological control against the nemesis of strawberry growers](#)



› [Rhyd Y Gofaint Farm Trials White Clover to Reduce Fertiliser Costs and Boost Production](#) | Farming Connect

Animal Health and Welfare Workshops



180

Individuals Supported

130

Businesses Supported

540

Hours of Training

16

Workshops Delivered

Workshops included:

Sheep Lameness | Lambing Losses Part 2: Post Lambing Losses from Birth to Weaning | Improving Post Weaning Lamb Performance | Understanding Johne's Disease

Feedback: On Lambing Losses course: "Excellent and informative event that provided increased knowledge and understanding".

Masterclasses



The Principles of Biological & regenerative farming Practices with Dan Kittredge – masterclass advance delivered to 24 attendees over two days.

What have you learnt?

"Massive amount, particularly plant nutrient uptake & biology. Also, the results of synthetic fertilisers."

Discussion Groups



Resilient & Productive

37 Discussion Groups with 240 attendees, 94 hours of CPD

Benchmarking and Business Planning

21 Discussion Groups with 129 attendees, 56 hours of CPD

Lowering external inputs

27 Discussion Groups with 173 attendees, 96 hours of CPD

Converting to organic/regenerative farming

2 Discussion Groups with 8 attendees, 6 hours of CPD

Biosecurity

2 Discussion Groups with 29 attendees, 7.5 hours of CPD

Key words: Benchmarking, Goal Setting, Sustainability, Top 25%, Action Plans, Budget Setting

Advisory Service



The Advisory Service supported the following instances of advice:

41

Business Planning Categories

89

Animal Health

3

Agri-Environment, ecosystem services & biodiversity

11

Livestock

248

Grassland and Crop Management

Feedback: "Excellent business review which has been very useful and given us a clear vision".

Strategic Awareness Events



17 Events

380

Attendees

Events included:

› Farm Infrastructure Planning › Women in Agriculture › Do's & Don'ts of Diversification

"The Women in Agriculture events provided an opportunity to networking and communicate with like-minded individuals. It provided individuals with ideas that they may be able to implement within their own business."

Knowledge Exchange Hub



Technical Article

› [Alternative Bedding Options for Dairy Cows: Recycled Manure Solids](#) | Farming Connect

Agrisgôp



17 Agrisgôp meetings have taken place

- › Diversification (including into horticulture) & adding value **10**
- › Joint ventures, succession planning & new entrants **5**
- › Converting to organic/regenerative farming **4**
- › Horticulture start-up and development **4**
- › Benchmarking & business planning **4**
- › Lowering external inputs to maximise profits and benefit the environment **2**

Some Agrisgôp meetings covered more than one theme.

Feedback: "As a result of being part of the group we now make sure costs are continually reviewed and records kept to compare from year to year".

Mentoring



178 hours of mentoring have taken place



- Benchmarking & business planning **77**
- Diversification (including into horticulture) & adding value **16**
- Horticulture start-up and development **7**
- Converting to organic/regenerative farming **6**
- Lowering external inputs to maximise profits and benefit the environment **2**
- Joint ventures, succession planning & new entrants **2**

Horticulture Training



5 Horticulture events supported
42 individuals from
37 different businesses

Events included:

- › How to sell flowers
- › How to minimise waste
- › Increase efficiency and maximise value and profits with less work

Feedback: "Lots of useful and honest information on marketing cut flowers. Diolch". – How to sell flowers (April)

Horticulture Business Support



32 Horticultural business support sessions supported
29 individuals from
26 different businesses

Accredited Training



13

Individuals Supported

11

Businesses Supported

267

Hours of Training

Of the **37 courses** that are available on BOSS, the following were undertaken by individuals:

- › Level 3 Award in Food Safety in Catering, Manufacturing or Retail
- › BASIS Foundation in Agronomy (Agriculture)
- › Marketing your business

New courses now available include:

- › Digital Marketing Planning & Using Digital Tools
- › Embracing Change
- › BASIS FACTS Fertiliser Advisers Certification and Training Scheme

Podcast



The following themes were highlighted in the Ear to the Ground podcast:

Silage at Lambing (episode 101)

Dairy Cattle Lameness (episode 103)

Clinics



25

Clinics completed

Topics included:
Soils | Grassland

Surgeries



77

Surgeries completed

Topics included:
Diversification | Succession | Finance

E-learning



96

Individuals Supported

41

Businesses Supported

Of the **93 modules** available on BOSS, **34 topics** were completed by individuals.

Modules completed included:



Mandatory Unit: Fundamentals to a Successful Business
Antibiotic Resistance
An Introduction to Sustainable Farming

New modules now available include:



Benchmarking & business planning
Converting to organic/regenerative farming
Joint ventures, Succession Planning & New Entrants

