

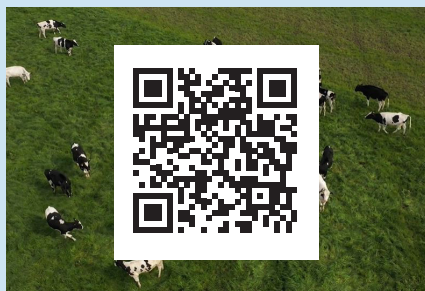
# News from the Farm Advisory Service:



## FAS TV is back for season 4!

FAS TV is back! To kick start season 4, we visit Crichton Royal Farm at Dumfries, home to the famous Langhill dairy herd. Tune in to hear all about the significant changes made at Crichton over the last year in how heifer calves are managed, such as improving health and growth performance and utilising pasture to reduce heifer rearing costs.

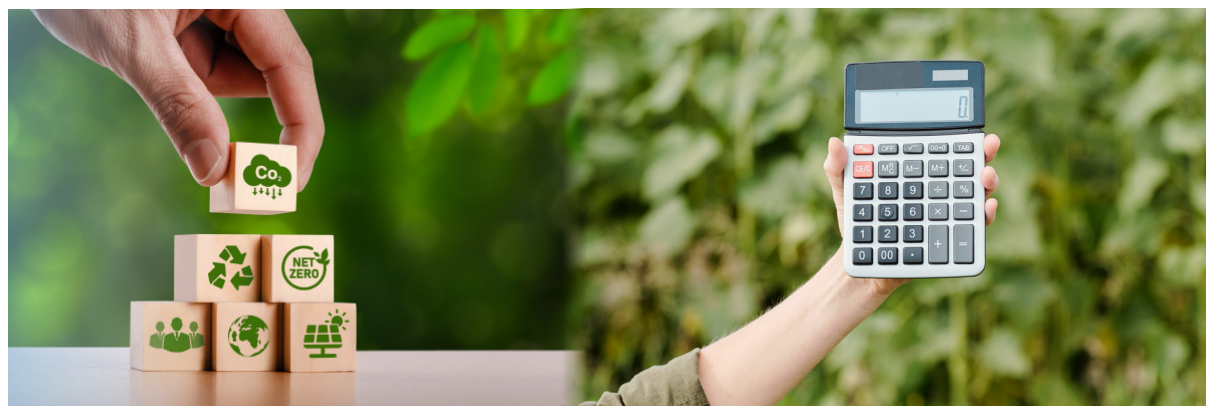
Find this episode by scanning the QR code below, or by searching for Scotland's Farm Advisory Service on YouTube.



## Subscribe to the FAS Newsletter!

Subscribe for a selection of advice from the Farm Advisory Service to land in your mailbox each month! Visit [www.fas.scot/newsletters/](http://www.fas.scot/newsletters/) for more info

## Carbon calculators



**Carbon calculators help farms to estimate their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and highlight ways to reduce them, a hugely important tool towards tackling agricultural emissions and achieving net zero for the whole economy.**

In January 2024, the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published a report titled 'Harmonisation of Carbon Accounting Tools for Agriculture.' The report shortlisted six calculators which are most used by British farmers and investigated what drives the differences in their results, with the goal of 'harmonising' or bringing them in line with each other.

The report confirmed that the tools can indeed output different emissions estimations for the same farm. These differences are a result of factors including the boundaries on which parts of the farm business are included in calculations, the precision to which calculators use emissions factors (reference figures used to model farm emissions), how soil carbon sequestration is handled, and the 3rd-party review standards to which they align. Because these differences in methodology are more relevant to some farming types than others, there is greater divergence among some types of farms (e.g. those with organic and peaty soils; where more soya feed is used; lowland beef and sheep enterprises) and more consistent results among others (e.g. dairy systems).

While farmers will get better results through learning about the inputs, methodologies, and outputs of these calculators, it is the companies behind the calculators who have the responsibility of improving the accuracy of their methods and making sure all tools on the market are robust and trustworthy. The Defra report makes several asks, including for industry and government to define which parts of farm businesses should be included in farm-level assessments and for calculators to increase transparency to drive increased understanding of emissions sources.

As calculators take action to implement the report's recommendations, it is reasonable to expect more consistency between results in the future. As before, the most important thing is for farms to choose a calculator which suits their enterprise type and stick with the same one, as this is the only way to establish a robust baseline and monitor change over time.

*Brady Stevens, SAC Consulting*



Agribusiness News  
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This article is part of the June edition of Agribusiness News. To find this article and more, please visit:

[www.fas.scot/publication/agribusiness-news-june-2024/](http://www.fas.scot/publication/agribusiness-news-june-2024/)



## Free Events

At the Farm Advisory Service we run a range of events both online and in-person.

Visit [www.fas.scot/events](http://www.fas.scot/events) to sign up or contact the advice line and we'll help you get booked on.

**Deer Farming at Glenrinness**  
Keith, 26th June, 10:30am - 3:00pm

**The Devil's in the Detail - Benchmarking for Profitability**  
Castle Kennedy, 26th June, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

**Attending the Royal Highland Show on the 20th - 23rd June?**

Why not pop along and see us? Just look for the Farm Advisory Service banner.



## Crop trials open evenings June 2024



**A warm welcome is extended to all for the Crop Trials Open Evenings in Lothian and Aberdeenshire this June. This will be a great opportunity for you to hear all about the latest in crop developments, and acquaint yourself with industry representatives and local farmers.**

**Crop Trials Night Lothian**  
Dalkeith, 25th June, 5:00pm - 8:30pm

- See the current and up and coming winter wheat and spring barley varieties undergoing assessment
- Hear all about the study currently underway to develop hemp as a commercially viable crop
- Take a closer look at the grain market drivers for this coming cereal crop

**Crop Trials Night Aberdeen**  
Kinellar, 27th June, 5:00pm - 8:00pm

- Get up to date with all the latest varieties under assessment
- Tour plots of spring barley, spring oats, winter barley and winter wheat

Visit [www.fas.scot/events](http://www.fas.scot/events) for more information and to make your booking

Scotland's Farm Advisory Service is funded by the Scottish Government. It is delivered by SAC Consulting, part of Scotland's Rural College, and Ricardo Energy and Environment.



**National Advice Hub**  
T: 0300 323 0161  
E: [advice@fas.scot](mailto:advice@fas.scot)  
W: [www.fas.scot](http://www.fas.scot)

If you need more advice on any topic, the Farm Advisory Service has a range of support and help available:

## Advice line

For free telephone advice on a wide variety of topics including cross compliance, water framework directive requirements, climate change and other technical issues call us on **0300 323 0161** or email [advice@fas.scot](mailto:advice@fas.scot). The advice line operates between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

## Bespoke Advice and Grants

FAS can also help you to increase the profitability and sustainability of your farming business through Scottish Government grants including Integrated Land Management Plans (ILMPs) – worth up to £1,200.

The ILMP will identify opportunities and cost savings for your business, based on an independent and confidential assessment of your business by an experienced farm business adviser of your choosing. As part of your plan you can choose to benefit from up to two further specialist advice plans.

## Online

Our website contains articles, videos and much more at [www.fas.scot](http://www.fas.scot)



Scottish Government  
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