

East Lothian & Berwickshire Soil & Nutrient Network Farm



Bielgrange Farm
Wednesday 24 October 2018



Agenda



Time	Item	Speaker
11.00	Welcome & Introduction: - About the project - About the farm - Current practice & knowledge gaps	D Dunbar N Jeffrey D Dunbar & J Black
11.30	Soil Health	Prof Bryan Griffiths
	Field Practical	Prof Bryan Griffiths
12.40	Lunch	
1.00	Soil pH & GPS controlled liming	J Black
1.15	Groups – Soil results & interpretation Major plant nutrients	D Dunbar
1.45	Priorities for next meeting/YEN Evaluation form	All
2.00	Meeting close	



Toilet?



Farm Management Handbook 2018/19

- [Farm Management Handbook 2018/19](#)
- [Planning for the Future workshops](#)
- [A Practical Approach to NVZs & Cross Compliance](#)

News

[Oilseed rape disease management for this autumn](#)

Light leaf spot is an ever present concern in Scottish oilseed rape crops and new...

[Read More >](#)

[Culling Within The Dairy Herd](#)

Over this past year, farmers' have experienced extreme weather conditions which have led to grass...

Events

23 Oct Women in Agriculture Aberdeenshire – 'Figuring it out' – Book Keeping in the 21st Century

23 Oct Maximising Efficiencies in Dairy Farming (Inverurie)

23 Oct Field Lab: Plant Teams – A Soil Association event

24 Oct Women in Agriculture Angus – 'Figuring it out' – Book Keeping in the 21st Century ****Fully Booked****

Publications

[Farm Management Handbook 2018/2019](#)

[Corncrake: How landscape management can protect their habitat](#)

[Animal Welfare Updates October 2018](#)

[Finishing Lambs podcast – dealing with the challenges](#)

[Home](#) > [Crops and soils](#) > [Soils](#)

Soils

Soil and Nutrient Network farms are taking a 'before and after' look at how to protect and improve farm soils and make best use of both organic and inorganic fertilisers, saving money, benefitting yields and improving farm efficiency and resilience.

Improved soil and nutrient use could make your business more profitable, lower the farm carbon footprint and reduce diffuse pollution risks.

Even technically efficient farms can find small changes to current soil and nutrient management practices that could make a big difference.

Current host farms for 2018/19

- Aberdeenshire – [Auchlossan](#)
- Angus – [Bogindollo Farm](#)
- Argyll – [Dunadd](#)
- Ayrshire – [Dormieston Farm](#)
- Banffshire – [Newmills of Boyne Farm](#)
- Uist – [Clachan Farm, North Uist](#)
- Dumfriesshire – [Limekilns Farm](#)
- Orkney – [Midgarth](#)
- Moray – [Balnellan Farm](#)
- **East Lothians – [Bielgrange](#)**
- Stirling – [Aucheneck Estate](#)
- Stranraer – [Balwherrie Farm](#)

Read about our previous host farms [here](#).

East Lothians – Bielgrange

Introduction to Bielgrange

Father and son Angus and Niall Jeffrey farm 288 ha (711 acres) arable and 246 ha (608 acres) of grassland over two farming units in East Lothian. Bielgrange lies between the village of East Linton and Stenton with Weatherly on the edge of the Lammermuir Hills.

The crop rotation includes winter barley, winter oilseed rape, and winter wheat. Crop establishment for oilseed rape and 1st wheats is by minimum tillage with conventional ploughing for winter barley and successive wheat crops.

Cattle muck is applied in the autumn to winter barley stubbles ahead of oilseed rape establishment. In the spring pig slurry from a neighbouring farm is spread by umbilical on adjacent cereal crops and by tanker on grazed permanent pasture.

The arable soils are mostly imperfectly drained, non-calcareous brown forest soils of a clay loam texture from the Biel series (land capability index 3.1). The upland Weatherly unit features free-draining sandy loam from the Innerwick on the in by and peaty and humus soils from the Lauder series on the hill (land capability index 4.2 to 5.2). Weatherly is grazed by 240 spring calving Aberdeen Angus cross cows which are wintered at Bielgrange on straw based diets.



Meetings



- 3 meetings in 12 months
- Next meeting Tuesday 12th February 2019
- Final meeting October 2019

Keeping in Touch



- Meeting report on website
- Between meetings?
 - Email, Text, What's App??

Future Topic



- Today's topics and speakers are my choice
- Future topics and speakers are yours
- We would like your ideas/suggestions later

Niall's suggestion



- YEN – Yield Enhancement Network
 - Enter a field of wheat into a national competition
 - Benchmark actual yield against potential yield
 - Your input on fertiliser and sprays
 - Looking for sponsorship!
More sponsors = More fields or crops

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Thank You

