

June Newsletter

Launch of the Herefordshire Agri Group

We're delighted to announce that our application to DEFRA's Facilitation Fund was successful and over the next 3 years we will be supporting a group of proactive farmers to work collaboratively to reduce our impact on the River Wye.

The group members will be working together to:

- Undertake on farm monitoring to improve our understanding of phosphate; its availability in the soil, uptake by crops and losses to water.
- Test and trial nutrient and soil management practices that could help reduce our impact on the River Wye.

The group is open to all farmers so if you would like to get involved our launch meeting is:

Thursday 1st June, 7pm at Risbury Court, HR6 0NG

[Click here to book your place](#)

Upcoming Events

Our Green Futures events are hitting the road!

Join us around the county to hear about:

- **Cross Compliance;** What still applies on farm
- **Farming Rules for Water;** How to comply & what to expect during an inspection
- **Environmental Land Management** scheme; What we know so far about
 - Sustainable Farming Incentive
 - Countryside Stewardship +
 - Animal Health & Welfare Review
- **Farm Business Support;** How to prepare your business for the agricultural transition

We will be joined by speakers from Farming Advice Service, RPA, Andersons and the NFU. These events are sponsored by Ricardo as part of our work with them delivering the Future Farming Resilience Fund.

Each meeting runs **7-9PM**

21 June - Luctonians Rugby Club, HR6 9SB

22 June - Ledbury Rugby Club, HR8 2LP

26 June - Bromyard Rugby Club, HR7 4LW

27 June - The Hay Barn, dulas, HR2 0HJ

[Click here to book your place online](#)



**Rural Hub
Herefordshire**



100 Years at Caplor - Agriculture Event Weds 7th June

Join us for presentations at:

12.30 with Farm Herefordshire - Updates on the Phosphate and Water Quality challenges in the Wye and activity taking place to mitigate it

13.00 with Ceres Rural - Preparing your business for the changes to payment support during Agricultural transition period

[Click here to book your place](#)



Energy Efficiency Advice & Farm Renewables

Wednesday 31st May

6.30pm

Online

[Book here](#)



Agronomist & Adviser Soil Monitoring Breakfast Meeting

Tuesday 20th June

9-11am

Bad Harvest Barn, Lower
Blakemere Farm, HR2 9PX

[Book here](#)



Producing while Reducing; Potato Growers Event

Wednesday 5th July

10am-1pm

Park Farm, HR 0DL

[More info coming soon!](#)



Water Security in the Wye

Tuesday 11th July

1-4.30pm

The Homme, HR9 7TF

[More info coming soon!](#)

[Click here to see our Events Calendar](#)

Advice & Support

Herefordshire farmers... We still need you!

The Farm Herefordshire survey is still open for responses so if you haven't completed it yet please do! It seeks to capture attitudes, changes in farming practice and engagement with farming schemes in Herefordshire.

The survey is a joint effort by all of the partners in [Farm Herefordshire](#) who as a collective feel that farming practices have changed considerably over the last few years and want to be able to demonstrate what agriculture has done, is doing and will do to play our part in addressing the challenges the county faces with water quality. We need your help to demonstrate this.

The survey takes about five minutes to complete and there is the chance to win a £200 Herefordshire Hamper! So get yourself a cup of tea and then get clicking...

[Click here to complete the survey](#)

Business support available through DEFRA's Future Farm Resilience Fund

Prince's Countryside Fund

Herefordshire Rural Hub is working with Prince's Countryside Fund in their Farm for the Future programme.

Ricardo

Herefordshire Rural Hub is working with Ricardo (providers of the Farming Advice

A locally delivered programme of training events & 1:1 advice takes a whole farm and family approach to help you:

- Understand more about current policy changes and how they will affect your business.
- Provide tools and advice to help you make changes to your business.
- Understand how you can practically improve the management of your farmed environment.

Service) in their Defra funded FFRF programme.

Their support can help you to identify the steps to take to get your farming business ready for the future.

Take advantage of fully funded business support provided in-person by Andersons (Farm Business Consultants) or explore Agri-environment scheme and SFI opportunities with an expert adviser.

Free regional workshops, online learning resources and webinars are also available.

[Click here to contact us & find out which scheme is best for you](#)

Herefordshire Council - Natural Flood Management (NFM) Project

Advice and grants are available to support farmers in priority catchments to deliver actions on their farm to store more water on their land and in their soils to protect properties downstream at risk of flooding.

The project covers the Bodenham, Brimfield, Cheaton, Ridgemoor, Dulas, Pentoloe, Tedstone, Red, Norton and Twyford Brooks.

To find out more [click here](#).

Advice available across Herefordshire from the Wye & Usk Foundation

The WUF Catchment Advisers can assist with:

- Woodland Creation Applications,
- Severn Trent pesticide schemes and
- Natural capital surveys in the Wye Valley AONB.

Animal Health & Welfare Scheme

Register your interest now to access the Annual Health and Welfare Review.

This is a fully funded annual visit from your chosen vet to provide advice on your animals health and welfare priorities. The visit can include diagnostic testing for endemic diseases like BVD.

Click [here](#) to register or more information can be found in this [blog](#).

Free Specialist Advice Visits available with Catchment Sensitive Farming

CSF offer a number of free specialist visits to farmers within the Wye catchment including:

- Nutrient management planning,
- Infrastructure audits and
- Countryside Stewardship Schemes.

Useful Links

DEFRA Future Farming Blog

Livestock Information Service

John Nix Pocketbook

Rural Payments Agency Key Dates





Funding & Schemes

Grants to support Undersowing Maize

Since 2016 Field Options and the Wye & Usk Foundation have been collaborating to offer a drill service for under sowing cover crops in maize and now have four drills available in Herefordshire, Powys and Monmouthshire.

Grant Support: WUF are still offering to contribute £6/ac for new users of the service.

Costs: The average cost of undersowing is approx. £40/ac depending on seed variety chosen, distance to travel and acreage drilled.

Want to book your slot, find out more about timing, what to sow, utilising the cover crop & who is operating the drill? Contact either:

Nick Duggan

[07557 988858](tel:07557988858) nd@field-options.co.uk

Jonny Pugh

[07825 743447](tel:07825743447) jonny@weuskfoundation.org

New Rural Prosperity Fund for the County

Herefordshire Council have been awarded £7.3million to support local investment through the Shared Prosperity Fund over the next three years.

There will be a range of funding opportunities through this scheme which seeks to help rural businesses diversify, invest in skills, enhance our tourism offer and support the local community. The first round available is Festivals & Events grant.

We are working closely with Herefordshire Council as they develop these schemes and will share information as it becomes available. To find out more in the meantime follow the link below to Herefordshire Councils website... then watch this space!

[Visit the Herefordshire Council Shared Prosperity Fund Webpage](#)

Want to create or restore flower rich grassland in the Wye Catchment?

Air Wick and WWF-UK have partnered with The Wye & Usk Foundation and Herefordshire

Severn Trent Environmental Protection Scheme

To protect their drinking water abstraction from the Wye, Severn Trent fund works on

Meadows to offer capital payments for meadow creation and restoration in the Wye Catchment.

Severn Woodlands Grant Scheme

A grant scheme in the River Severn catchment with no minimum scheme size to qualify and payments up to £5000/ha. Severn Rivers Trust will provide support on designing the woodland, completing the application and undertaking the work.

Farming Equipment and Technology Fund 2023

The Animal Health and Welfare grants are open until midday on 15 June 2023.

You can apply for a grant for specific items of equipment and technology for farming, horticultural and forestry businesses.

FETF 2023 grant is competitive, and you will not automatically get a grant. Find all the information about the scheme [here](#).

Jack Hughes Fund

Support available to farmers and farm staff aged over 40 years working on a Herefordshire farm that wish to undertake training or development.

CLA Charitable Trust

Grants for charitable organisations supporting disadvantaged children, young people & adults through delivering rural access, recreation & education opportunities.

farm to reduce risk of pesticides entering watercourses. The priority area follows the main rivers but if you have any land in it your whole farm may be eligible. Spring Steps 2023 will be available from the 1st April 2023.

Woodland Creation Grants Available

Use the Forestry Commission EWCO to create new woodland, including through natural colonisation, on areas as small as 1ha. Land managers will receive payments of over £10,000/ha to support their woodland creation scheme.

DEFRA's Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

Are you a farmer, land manager or a collaborative group in the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB)?

Funding is available for capital works and project activity that benefit the river and our local landscape.

To discuss your proposal contact Anna Stankiewicz by emailing:

farming@wyevalleyaonb.org.uk

Marches Energy Grant

Help for businesses to improve their energy efficiency and drive down carbon emissions has been launched by the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership.

Energy Bill Relief Scheme

Currently provides a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic consumers



TB Referrals on the Rise

Animal Health & Trading Standards have had a number of referrals for resolved inconclusive reactors being sold on to other farms. The resolved IR policy does not allow this and so the purchasing farmer is having the bovine restricted for life on their holding instead.

Don't get caught out, check what is required in the

[Resolved inconclusive reactor policy - Bovine TB](#) | [TB Hub](#)



Quick guide for farmers and advisers about the requirements of Farming Rules for Water and how to comply.

We've partnered with the Environment Agency to create a quick guide about the requirements of the Farming Rules for Water.

Environment Agency inspections during 2022 found significant non-compliance against the requirements to:

- Undertake nutrient management planning,
- Soil test, and
- Tailor applications to suit soil and crop nutrient needs

The guide aims to increase understanding of the requirements and how to comply with them. They are available from local advisers and at events so keep your eyes peeled to get your hands on one!

Waste: Environmental Permits

Check if you need a permit to use, treat, store or dispose of waste and find out how to apply.

Animal Transport Authorisations

If you move animals more than 65km as part of your business activity or for trade you must have a transport authorisation issued by APHA.

Animal Gathering Licenses

If you want to hold an animal gathering, the premises must have an [Animal Gatherings Order \(AGO\) licence](#) from APHA

Farming Rules for Water

The rules require good farming practice, so that farmers manage their land both to avoid water pollution.

CXCS - Agricultural Compliance, Farm Safety, HR Management & Rural IT services for farmers & landowners

Useful Contacts

Rural Services Helpline

Single number for all Farming Advice Service,

Natural England

Tel: [0300 060 1115](tel:03000601115) Email:

Rural Payments Agency or Animal and Plant
Health Agency queries - Tel: [03000 200 301](tel:03000200301)

enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk

Animal Health & Trading Standards

Tim Barber (Herefordshire) Tel: [01432 383145](tel:01432383145)
Fax: [01432 383169](tel:01432383169)

Country Land & Business Association

Helen Dale (Rural Adviser - Midlands) Tel:
[01785 337010](tel:01785337010) Email: helen.dale@cla.org.uk

Environment Agency

Local Contact: Suzanne King-Davies Tel:
[02030 251573](tel:02030251573) Email: suzanne.king-davies@environment-agency.gov.uk

National Farmers Union

Ali Parker (Herefordshire County Adviser) Tel:
[01952 400500](tel:01952400500) Email: Ali.Parker@nfu.org.uk



Classified Adverts



The **Wye & Usk Foundation**

Farm Team Interim Lead

The Wye & Usk Foundation are recruiting for Farm Team Interim Lead, the role supports and oversees the WUF Farm Team and securing funding for new projects.

6months maternity leave cover with possibility to transfer to a permanent position.

Salary range £31-41k plus pension

Closing date 5pm Tuesday 13th June

[Full details can be found here.](#)



Training

Low Stress Livestock Handling Course



A member of the Savory Network



network

Learn about natural cattle behaviour, finding the flight zone and stress-free handling systems. Indoor and outdoor sessions.

Pollardine Farm, Pontesbury, SY5 0SJ

£330pp [Book your place here](#)

7Y Training Services

- Chainsaw maintenance
- Emergency first aid at work
- Mental health first aid
- Rough terrain telescopic & ATVs
- Safe use of pesticides & slug pellets

See full list of courses at our website [here](#). To email 7Y [click here](#).

Hereford & Ludlow College

- Felling & processing trees
- Safe use of pesticides
- Tractor Driving for 13-16yr olds
- Chainsaw maintenance
- Safe use of vertebrate pest control

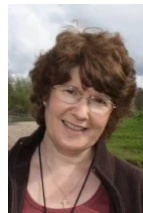
For course details [click here](#) or visit our [website](#) for a list of courses.

Our Team



Kate Speke-Adams Managing Director

To discuss any issues facing your business, our projects or opportunities to work with us [click here](#).



Fran Keogh - Administrator

For advertising packages, admin or finance queries [click here](#).



Sarah Starkey - Farm Resilience Project Manager

For info about any of our resilience projects [click here](#).



Cherelyn Griffiths-Gould Farm Herefordshire Coordinator

For info about events and 1:1 advice available from our partners [click here](#).



Martha Rudge - Farm Resilience Project Officer

For info about any of our resilience projects [click here](#).



Newsletter Editor

To place an advert or promote an event [click here](#).



Working with
**THE PRINCE'S
COUNTRYSIDE FUND**

We're proud to be have been selected

by PCF to be part of their Farm
Support Group Initiative

Rural Hub
Herefordshire



Disclaimer *The Herefordshire Rural Hub accepts no liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any action taken in reliance on the information contained.*

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