

Monitor Farm Scotland: Farmer Led, Farmer Driven

Beth Alexander and Peter Beattie
North East Scotland Agriculture
Advisory Group
08/05/24







Background



- First Monitor Farm in 2003
- Launched 9 new farms in November 2022
- Managed by QMS with support from AHDB
- Fully funded by Scottish
 Government KTIF Grant



Our aims





"Farmer Led, Farmer Driven"



Create an open and honest space for peer-to-peer based knowledge exchange



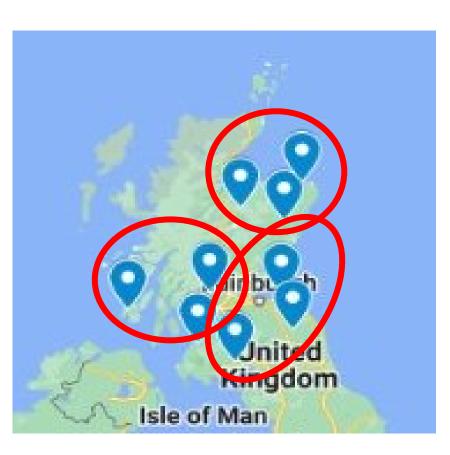
Drive data-based decision making



Establish a network of discussion groups to share best practice and drive innovation and new thinking

9 Monitor Farms





•• Whatth Chiteter

- Gheitstig Rocaltile parsing all Regions Adviser
- StaintgamideBlytchaitoly/Conitror Fast Lothian Monitor Farm Farme Duncan Family, Lands

 Stuart McNicol, Castleton
 Britee Invane, Sauchentree
- South Ayrshire Monitor
- -Farkaturspe MorditatoFaram
 - •••J BYAIA PERCE DIANCED SAIPONNER & RESOURCE HEADER HEADE
- Augustuchermackitam Harm
 - Decside Monitor Farmud,
 - Gairman Farm Glaire Farm Morrison, Meikle Maldron



The farmer's voice on their farm



Bruce Irvine
Banff & Buchan Monitor Farmer
Summer 23 Open Meet

Real facts and figures



Duncan Morrison,
Deeside Monitor Farmer
Management Group Meet



Management Group







Ventilation at Strathspey

The right beast at Deeside



Learning



Superb soils day at Meikle Maldron

Local Innovation



HerdAdvance – livestock drafting



Attracting experts





Prof Simon Turner
Body Condition Scoring @ B&B

Abbie McGillivray
ScotEID on MyHerdStats @ Strathspey



Collaboration Huntly Lamb Demo





Vets & Butchers

130 attendees



Michael Blanche
Mixed Species Swards
at Deeside Summer Meet



Visiting others

Low Input

High input





Stuart Mitchell - Organic

John Elliott -Rawburn Bulls









Measuring Impact



- Management Group Survey
- 8.7/10 recommendation score
- Have you made any changes as a result of MFP?
 - 45% answered YES
- Are you planning to make a change as a result of MFP?
 - 67% answered YES

Changes to practices





Complete an ILMP



Outwintering livestock



Use of forage crops



Red clover



Improved data collection

Key messages





"Collaboration and knowledge exchange is vital to keep farming relevant and profitable"



"If you don't record it you can't manage it"

Summer Open Meeting Dates



Argyllshire: 20th May

Strathspey: 3rd June

Banff and Buchan: 7th June

• East Lothian: 11th June

• Stirlingshire: 12th June

South Ayrshire: 26th June

Deeside: 16th July

Roxburgh: 18th July

Argyllshire: 25th July

Dumfries: 30th July



Open to all





@monitorfarmscotland



@monitorfarmscotland



@monitorfarms



www.monitorfarms.co.uk