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FARMER NETWORK NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019



'Happy New Year' to our Farmers on the Ridge and welcome to our first e-Newsletter for 2019.

Our group is co-facilitated with the Sandstone Ridge Trust, and with the appointment of Terri Hull as our part time Communications Officer, we now have our own web-pages where we intend to publicise events, post reports, showcase the farm businesses on the Sandstone Ridge and promote how they shape and care for the landscape and environment. Terri will be out and about, aiming to meet as many of our farmers as possible, but please get in touch with her direct if you'd like to share any particular event or activity - terri9hull@gmail.com

For more information please contact: Nicola Hall, Reaseheath Farm Environmental Services nicolah@reaseheath.ac.uk

We have two soil fertility and management events coming up for our Sandstone Farmers.

To read more about activities which took place last year then 'Read More' below.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Managing Soil Fertility Wednesday 30 January - 10am-12noon

Hosted By: Alistair and Gill Cliff at Bankhead Farm

Led By: James Holmes, Senior Soil Scientist and Siwan Howatson, Dairy Scientist from AHDB

Farm Walk: Managing soil fertility to address any imbalances, liming etc.

Contact: Please email nicolah@reaseheath.ac.uk with name and number of attendees or ring Katie in the office on 01270 613195

(Please arrive promptly; a short drive to the field sites will depart at 10.15am.

We also ask you to bring clean wellingtons for biosecurity reasons).

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Calibrating Your Fertiliser Spreader Thursday 7 February - 10.00am-12noon



Regrettably, it is fairly common to hear that farmers rarely calibrate their own fertiliser spreaders. The benefits are enormous in terms of improved crop yield, together with the positive and financial impacts on the environment and fertiliser waste.

Hosted & Demonstration Equipment Provided By: Peter Done and Richard Goodwin at Larkton House Farm

Instructor: Jim Hammond from SCS Spreader and Sprayer Testing Ltd

Contact: Please email nicolah@reaseheath.ac.uk with names and numbers of attendees or ring Katie in the office on 01270 613195

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Hedgerow Restoration - Grant Funding



At least 4 Sandstone Ridge Farmers were successful in the Hedgerow and Boundary Grants scheme during 2018. Our image shows the completed hedge laying project on Andrew Dawson's Bickley Wood Farm.

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Big Farmland Bird Count 8-17 February

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The Big Farmland Bird Count takes place next month.
We would love our farmers on the Sandstone Ridge to get involved

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Tree Planting Advice & Grants



They offer tailored advice, trees and protection, and grants and funding.

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Swap Your Apprentice For A Day



Several of you have suggested the possibility of swapping an apprentice for a day.

If you are interested, then contact Nicola or ring Katie and we will see if there is the possibility of organising a day event - nicolah@reaseheath.ac.uk or 01270 613195.



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