

ABOUT THIS MONITOR FARM

Farm name: **Prestonhall & Saughland, Pathhead, Midlothian**

Next Meeting: **Tuesday 19th December 2017, 10am for 10.30am, Juniperlea, Pathhead**

Prestonhall Farms and Saughland Farm run independent arable and livestock enterprises at Pathhead Midlothian. Pete Eccles is farm manager at Saughland and Bill Gray at Prestonhall. The businesses work collaboratively on arable and livestock operations.

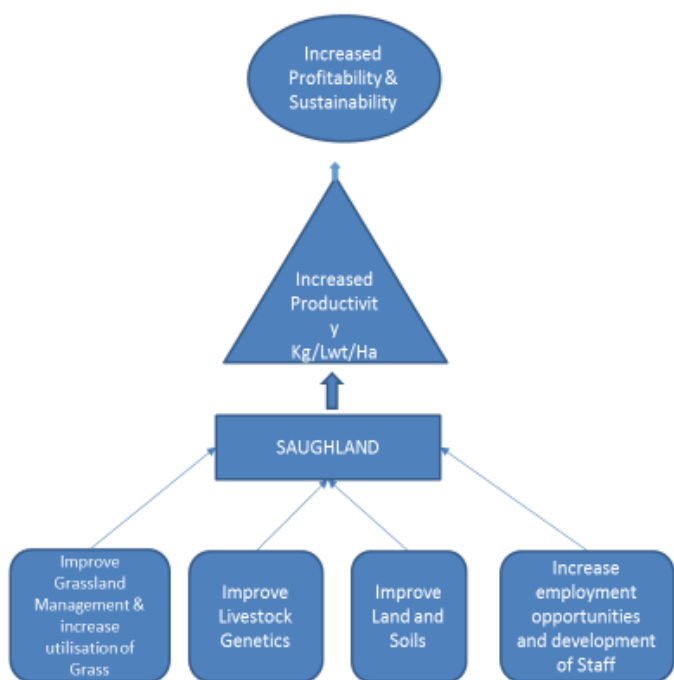
Livestock at Saughland; 50 AAX suckler cows running with Lim & Hereford bull plus 2,000 Chev, Llyne, Aberfield, Mule ewes with Tex, NZsuff, Abermax lambs at foot on rotational grazing system.

Arable at Prestonhall; Combinable Crops, WW 175ha, WB 80ha, SB 160ha, WOSR 65ha, WO 20ha, Grass 75ha

The Vision of the community group for the 3 year life of the project is:

Livestock

Arable



“Establishing systems which make the business adaptable and robust to future challenges, ensuring the facilities are fit for purpose in the medium to long term and that we manage our soils and the environment in a sustainable way.”



Meeting Dates 2018

25th January
 1st March
 23rd May
 25th July

Provisional
 10th October
 5th December

Meeting Topics

The management group have clear vision statements for the livestock and the arable enterprises and are working on collaborative models which will deliver mutual benefit. The meetings are all business focussed with technical and financial data available to support discussion.

Year 1 Meeting Summary

Date	Attendance	Aims	Outcomes
Feb 17	90	Introducing the Farmers and the Businesses	Re-evaluating the arable enterprises, Grain handling and storage, Succession, Mentoring, Growing collaborative opportunities, Benchmarking
<i>Management Group Established</i>			
May 17	65	Vision, Performance Data, Soil Mapping	Clear Vision for both Arable and Livestock, Business focus group, cost of production and Benchmarking and technology are key
July 17	50	Soils Grain Store Options, Collaborative Grazing Options	Soils benefit from livestock Set up collaborative grazing project
Oct 17	45	Season Performance data, Collaborative project	Arable and Livestock Farmers in same field discussing mutual benefit of collaboration
<i>Benchmarking Group Established</i>			
Nov 17	20	Off Farm trip to see Cover crops, and diversification	Cover crops offer mutual benefit to arable and livestock farmers. On farm diversification can offer significant opportunity

Attendance

Attendances have been strong for all of the meetings so far, however monitor farm meetings cannot simply be judged on these figures, sharing knowledge and encouraging uptake of best practice and change at farm level are far more important. This project has been driven by the management group with meetings structured to allow breakout sessions to maximise participation.

- Total attendance 270, average of 54 at each meeting
- Average of 35% at each meeting are under 40 years old
- Average of 20% of attendees at each meeting are female.



FACILITATOR CONTACT DETAILS

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