

ABOUT THIS MONITOR FARM

Farm Name **Corskie Farm, Garmouth, Fochabers, Moray, IV32 7NN**

Report Date **Friday 7th December 2017 (SS)**

Corskie Farm is run by Iain Green in partnership with his mother and father. The family have been farming in the area for over 60 years. Over 1,440 hectares (3,560 acres) in total is currently farmed by the business.

Arable: The main arable enterprise consists of growing Spring Barley (535ha) for malting. Winter Wheat (86ha), Winter Barley (70ha) and Spring Oats (11ha) are also grown, with the majority being used on-farm as livestock feed.

Cattle: The family run 380 cross cow suckler herd, alongside a 200 cow pedigree Simmental herd. Simmental and shorthorn bulls as well AI is used to spread out calving across the year.

Sheep: There are 600 Mules and Mule cross Texel sheep which are lambled in April with all lambs finished.

Pigs: At Corskie there is an indoor breeding herd of 380 sows, producing breeding gilts for Rattlerow.

MEETING TOPICS

The management group of the Morayshire Monitor Farm is made up of 10 local farmers, one of which is also a vet, the farm agronomist and a student from SRUC Craibstone who is from the Morayshire area. The management group were selected from the wider community group ensuring that the members were representative of the Morayshire area. The management group are responsible for acting as a link between the community group, host farmer and facilitators to ensure that everyone is engaged and the agricultural issues in Morayshire are challenged as part of the project. The management group are also key to helping steer the monitor farm and determines which topics to cover and look at in more detail. To date we have had four meetings, of which are summarised below, with our next meeting organised for Tuesday 12th December 2017.

ATTENDANCE

To date over 350 people have attended the Morayshire Monitor Farm at Corskie over four meetings, equating to an average attendance of 88 per meeting. Feedback from the community group has been positive with many taking home information and practical tips and ideas to put into practice within their own businesses. Throughout the coming year it is anticipated that there will be continued support from the community group at the meetings to help improve the business at Corskie and other businesses within the Morayshire area and beyond.

YEAR 1 MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date	Attendance	Topics	Outcomes
8 th Feb 2017	150	Introduction of the Morayshire Monitor Farm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of farm business - Identify issues within agriculture in Morayshire
<i>Management Group Established</i>			
30 th May 2017	85	Improve malting barley yield Grassland mixtures for dry land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Examine growing SB & WB trials - Grassland varieties used at Corskie and how to choose grass seed suitable for dry conditions - Introduction to bio-stimulants trial and its theory
11 th July 2017	60	Grain Marketing Creep Feeding & Weaning Calves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grain market update - Maltsters conifed Laureate as accepted variety - Creep weaning options to maximise early calf growth - Use of 'QuietWear' nose tags
31 st Oct 2017	55	Understanding the farm's biggest asset - Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessing soil structure & health - Liming products - Cost benefit analysis of GPS sampling - Using the correct tyre pressures to reduce field compaction & reduce fuel use/costs
<i>Business Group Established</i>			
12 th Dec 2017	TBC	Sheep handling facilities to monitor & improve flock performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cost benefits of sheep handling systems - lessons learned from 2017 - looking forward to 2018 and beyond

FACILITATOR CONTACT DETAILS

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