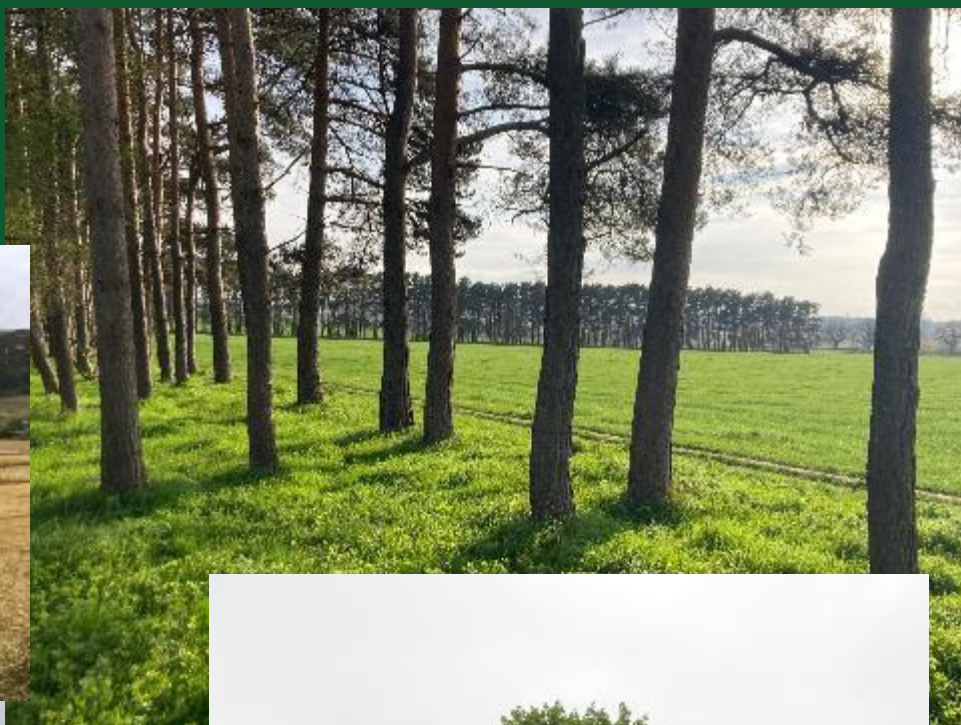


Integrating trees, woodland, and forestry
into farming practice.

The case for agroforestry?

Forestry Commission

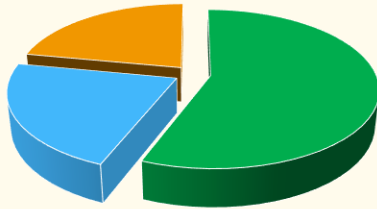


The context for change?

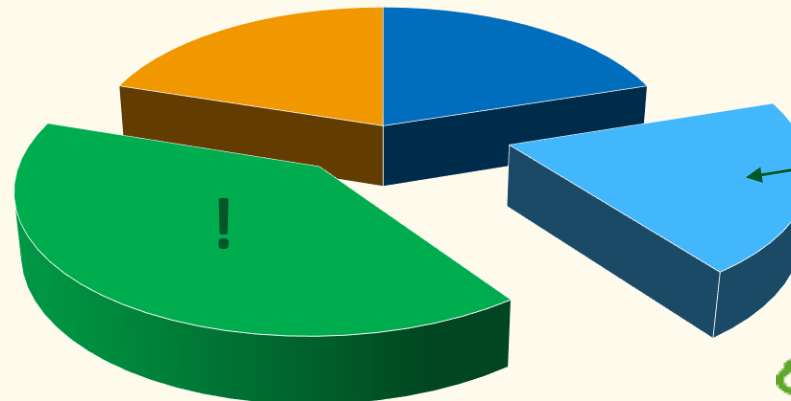
Whole Holding Advisory Audits
(Forestry Investment Zone Defra Pilot 2018-2021)

Farmer feedback:

Changes planned influenced by audit?



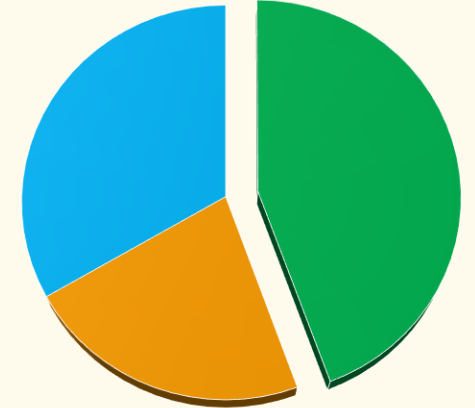
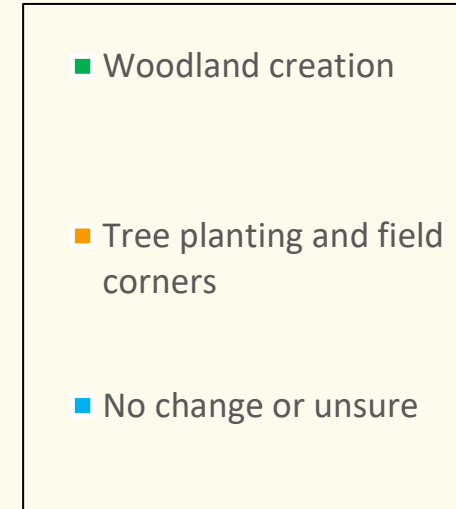
Where do you see your business in 10 years?



Can we influence/assist this cohort of farmers to consider an alternative approach?



Considering tree planting and woodland creation following audit?



What *is* agroforestry?

Perhaps *the* most important definition comes from the organisation governing land use in England...

"a set of land management systems where trees are deliberately combined with agriculture on the same piece of land"

RPA 2020



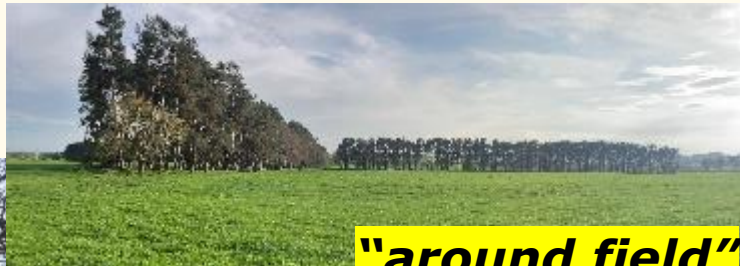
What *is* agroforestry?



The term "Agroforestry" can be cloaked in some mystery; "***farming with trees***" may be a better place to start a conversation...

Agroforestry can range from **hedgerows with trees**, right through to more traditional **farm woodlands** - *including everything in between*.

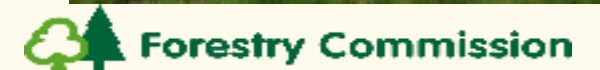
Agroforestry can be:



"in field"



farming



Why agroforestry?

- For many decades **forestry** or **farming** has been a binary choice.
- Agroforestry can be the first step towards integrated land management
- We cannot reach our tree planting aspirations and environmental goals without farmers and landowners taking up the challenge to plant trees.
- *How* do we capture the attention of farmers who have not engaged in tree planting before?
- We need to make trees, woodlands, and forestry **relevant** to farmers, their **business**, and their own **environmental objectives**.



Shade, shelter, soil, water, live weight gain, live birth rate increase, increased egg production, avoiding crop/grass desiccation, wildlife, timber, woodfuel, planning screening, biosecurity, feed supplement, animal medicinal benefits

– the list goes on.....

Why agroforestry?

Agricultural support change means:

- The farming community are considering how they move forwards
- Considering alternatives to replace reducing BPS income, whilst exploring options to achieve their own agricultural and financial goals
- Trees, woodland, and forestry could support the farm - **look for connections** trees might make to the business
- Agroforestry can *enhance* the overall productivity of a farm if designed and managed carefully
- Government agencies, charities, and environmental groups are confident that establishing and managing trees, woodland, and forestry **will** deliver against environmental targets
- Farmers can decide on their own drivers and designs for tree planting
- *they will deliver against Govt/societal environmental targets regardless*



- Assess how trees, woodland, and forestry can deliver against ***direct*** farm management outcomes like **animal husbandry, soil, water, and land management benefits**. Grants may be attractive too.
- **Trees, woodland, and forestry MUST be RELEVANT to *YOU* and how you manage *YOUR* farm.**



An opportunity?

Finally, agroforestry is on the map! We now have the might, backing, and commitment of Government/Defra to support agroforestry

Sustainable Farming Incentive (**SFI**) and Local Nature Recovery (**LNR**) are the elements of the new Environmental Land Management Grant (**E.L.M.**) that will include agroforestry.

Due for launch in **2024**

We must use the time to generate interest, demonstrate benefits, opportunities, build demand, to:

The farming community

Farming sector representatives (CLA,NFU etc)

Farming consultants and contractors

The forestry industry

Others? – who?

The Forest industry Applicant's Focus Group (AFG) have received agroforestry developments well, recognising the opportunity for the industry.





Questions?

