



advice
that
counts



Environmental Land Management Tests and Trials

Agroforestry Test

2020-2023

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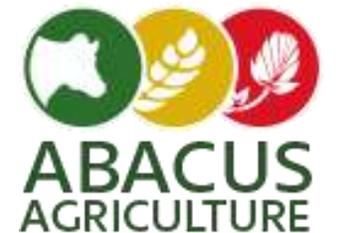
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Environmental Land Management Tests and Trials



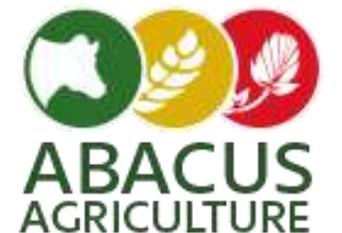
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ELM Tests and Trials – policy areas

- **New and Innovative Mechanisms** - mechanisms that will support the delivery of the new scheme
- **Payment mechanisms** – focusing on how the new system will pay participants and the different mechanisms available
- **Land Management Plans** – looking at what mechanism will participants use to plan and record which public goods they will deliver
- **Advice and Guidance** – considering what expert support participants will require to help them plan and record the public goods they will deliver
- **Spatial Prioritisation** – looking at what mechanisms are available to set and agree local priorities within a national framework for the delivery of public goods

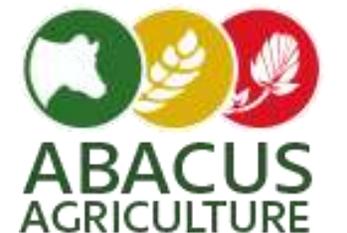
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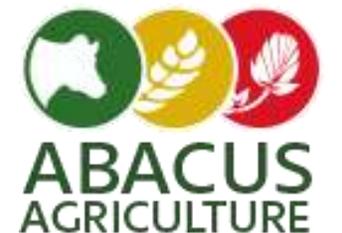


ELM Agroforestry Test – Research questions

Advice:

- What type of practical advice and guidance will farmers need in relation to agroforestry design, species selection, establishment, economics, etc.?
- What advice and guidance will they need to help plan and record which public goods to deliver?
- When should this be delivered?
- How many accredited experts will we required?

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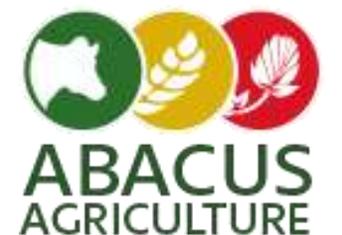


ELM Agroforestry Test – Research questions

Payments:

- What will the new system offer participants? In an outcomes approach how do you trigger a payment?
- How are payment rates updated over time to reflect changing local priorities?
- How do you set payment rates for outcomes?
- What will public funding pay for and on what basis?
- How frequently should payments be made?

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ELM Agroforestry Test – 2020-2023

This project will test how the adoption of agroforestry can be encouraged within the ELM scheme through Advice and Guidance and different Payment Incentives by working with regional groups of farmers, land managers, advisors and NGOs.



ELM Agroforestry Test – the approach

1. Establish Farmer-led Working Group (first meeting Feb 2021)
2. Baseline desk-based evidence review (completed Jan 2021)
3. Sharing experience and exploring options within six farmer focus groups (Autumn 2021 – Spring 2022)
 - Each group focussing on a different type of agroforestry
4. Wider consultation among farmers and other stakeholders (Summer – Autumn 2022)
5. Final analysis, consultation and reporting back to Defra (Autumn 2022 – Spring 2023)

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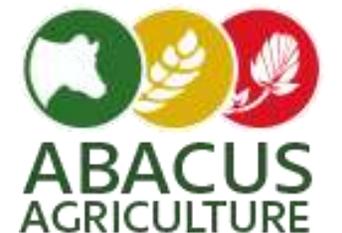


Farmer-led Working Group

Aim is to ensure:

- the project is properly engaged with and guided by a fully representative group of stakeholders not only on agroforestry but also in agriculture, forestry and wider policy makers.
- that we take a bottom up approach, including farmers and land managers in all stages from setting the goals, monitoring progress against these goals, and keeping the overall project plan under review.

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ELM Agroforestry Test – members

1. Agri-environment schemes/advisory – Jenny Phelps (FWAG)
2. Forestry schemes – Simon Lloyd (Royal Forestry Society)
3. Large farms – William Price (CLA)
4. Small/family farms – Richard Bower (NFU)
5. Research – Isobel Wright (Lincoln University)
6. Products & marketing – Jeremy Ralph (Timber Strategies)

Plus six monitor farm members (see later)

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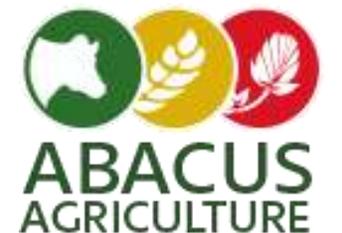


10 evidence sources used

- 1) Horne, S. Survey: Weather and soil concerns drive interest in tree planting. Farmers Weekly (2020).
- 2) The Soil Association. Agroforestry Handbook Readers Survey. (2020).
- 3) Knight, I., Smith, J. & Westaway, S. Report on the 2nd RAIN workshop in the United Kingdom (UK). (2018). (AFINET)
- 4) Mosquera-Losada, M. R. We have a dream: fostering agricultural transition towards agroforestry. in European Agroforestry Conference-Agroforestry as Sustainable Land Use, 4th (EURAF, 2018). (AFINET)
- 5) Mayer, C. Agroforestry: A study of farmer attitudes and perceptions in England (MSc Thesis). (University of Reading., 2012).

All quantitative surveys of farmer opinion

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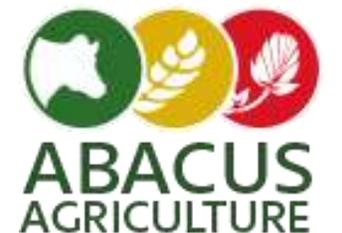


10 evidence sources used

- 6) Rois-Díaz, M. et al. Farmers' reasoning behind the uptake of agroforestry practices: evidence from multiple case-studies across Europe. *Agrofor. Syst.* 92, 811–828 (2018). (AGFORWARD)
- 7) DEFRA. *Agroforestry Review (Draft)*. (2017).
- 8) Smith, J., Westaway, S., Pearce, B. D., Lampkin, N. & Briggs, S. *ORC Report: Can agroforestry deliver production and environmental benefits in the next Rural Development Programme?* (2013).
- 9) Soil Association & Woodland Trust. *Agroforestry in England: Benefits, Barriers & Opportunities*. (2018).
- 10) Doyle, C. J., Thomas, T. & Hislop, M. J. The social implications of agroforestry. in *Agroforestry in the UK*, Forestry Commission, Bulletin 122 99–106 (Forestry Commission, 2000).

All non-quantitative surveys or expert reviews of farmer opinion

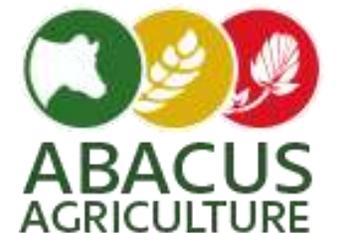
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Findings

- Nine of top 10 factors are related to A) Farmer knowledge deficits and B) Economic/financial incentives/disincentives
- Most important Economic/Financial incentives/disincentives are: A) Grants, subsidy, funding opportunities for agroforestry or lack thereof, B) Establishments costs, C) Capital investment requirements, D) Management and maintenance costs, E) Reduced profitability and loss of yield
- Most important farmer knowledge deficits of agroforestry are: A) Conceptual knowledge, B) Practical knowledge, C) Economic knowledge
- Some but limited evidence for uncertainty about agroforestry policy

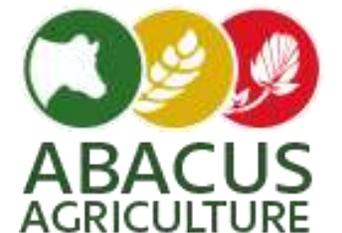
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Findings

- Role of advice and advisory services poorly surveyed but acts as an incentive where surveyed
- Perceived environmental benefits of agroforestry can act as an incentive but this issue is poorly surveyed
- Some farmers feel they don't have enough land for agroforestry but the factor is poorly surveyed
- Some (but not strong) evidence to suggest farmers think agroforestry acts against rather than with existing agricultural processes

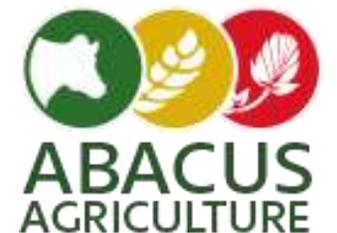
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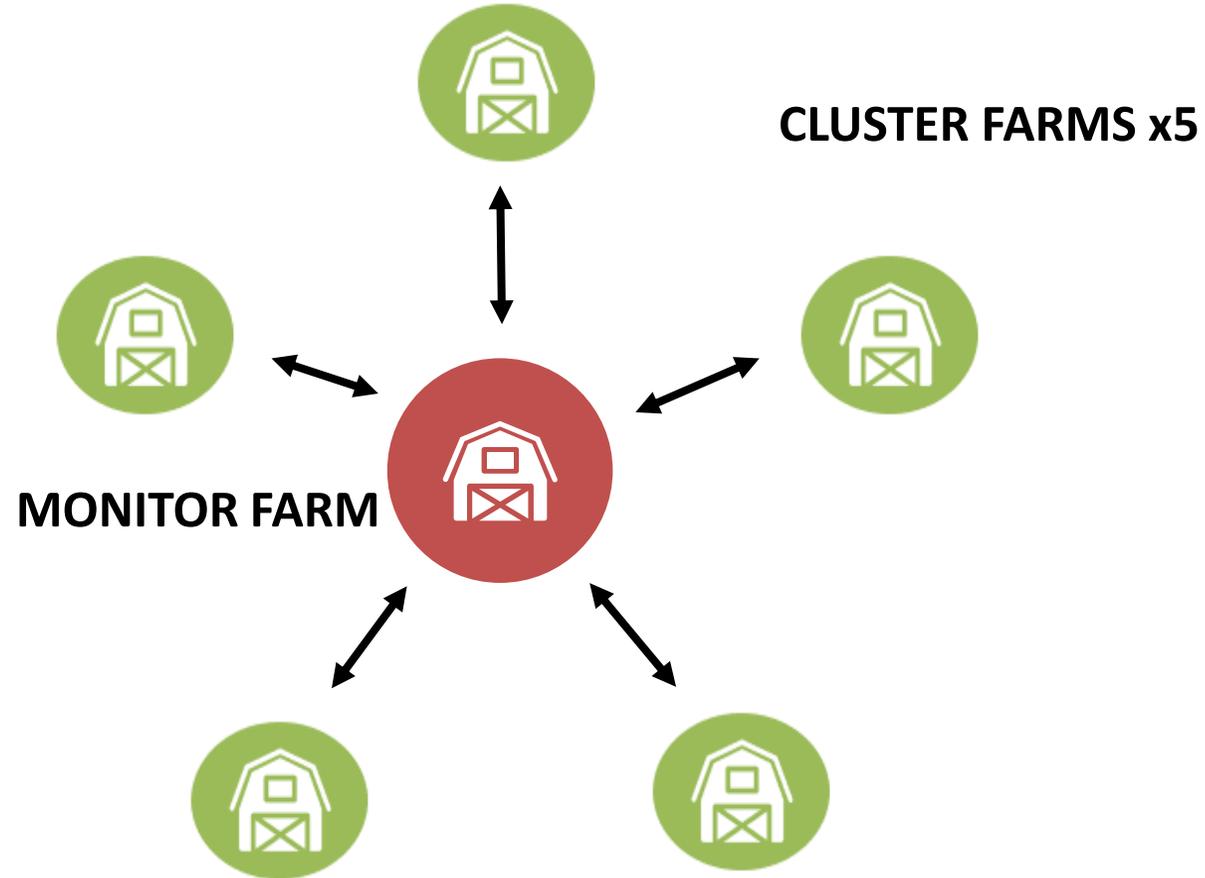
Conclusions

1. Focus of Agroforestry ELM Test on “Payments” is justified as financial implications are a key determinant of agroforestry uptake by farmers
2. Farmers are concerned about the following financial implications of agroforestry: establishments costs, capital investment requirements, management and maintenance costs, and potentially reduced profitability and loss of yield
3. Focus on “advice and guidance” is also justified. Farmers will need help with land management plans and the importance of advice and guidance in agroforestry is poorly surveyed to date
4. The Agroforestry ELM Test may need to extend its scope to cover farmer knowledge deficits (conceptual, practical, economic knowledge)

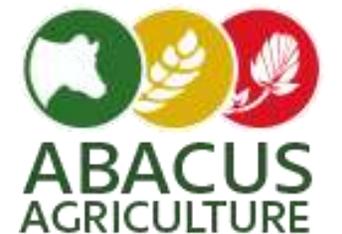
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Regional farm clusters



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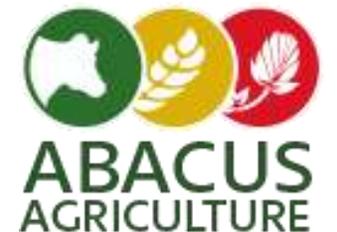
Regional farm clusters

Focus on six systems & regions

1. Silvo-arable
2. Silvo-horticulture
3. Silvo-poultry
4. Lowland Silvo-pasture
5. Upland Silvo-pasture
6. Woodland grazing/wood pasture



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Cluster farm baseline data collection

- Farmer background
- Farm size, enterprises, soils/climate
- Experience of agroforestry
 - including objectives, system type, main challenges faced
 - for those not practising agroforestry, what considerations have been important for them
- Costs incurred and payment support received
- Advice and guidance received

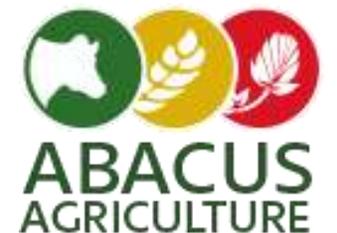
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Developing a building block framework

- Inventory of tree assets
- Mapping and prioritisation of opportunities
- Management of existing areas, e.g. shelter belts, riparian buffer strips, wood pasture
- Planting new areas, e.g. shelter belts, alley cropping systems
- Capital items needed for the above
- Deer control measures
- Peer-to-peer learning opportunities

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Thank you

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