

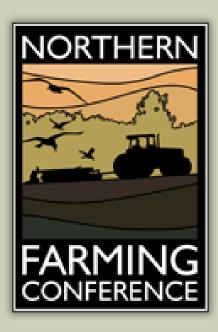








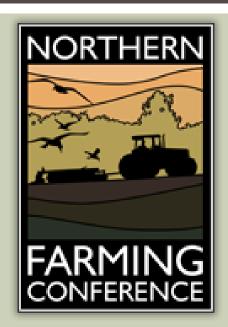
ALAN BUCKWELL
EMERITIUS PROFESSOR
POLICY DIRECTOR CLA





















NU FARMS, NU FUTURE

James Standen Farms Director

NU Farms, NU Future



- NU Farms
- The need for change
- Phase 1 Progress
- Next Steps
- Future Aspirations



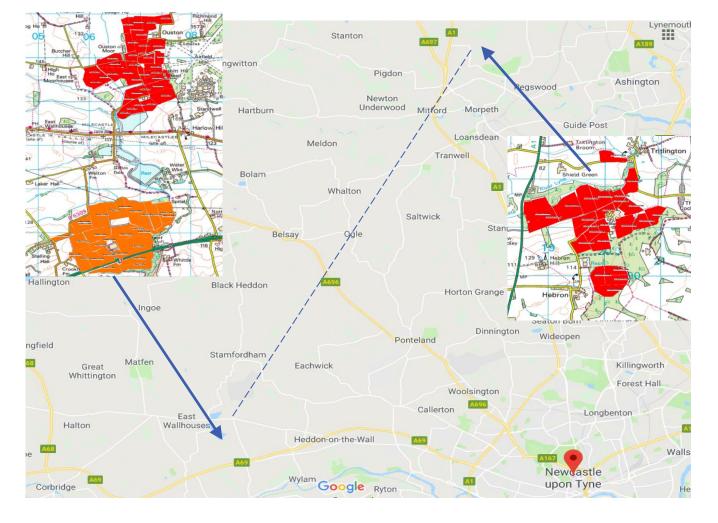
Historic Farm Situation



- Two separate farming businesses
 - Cockle Park 300ha
 - 200 Cow Dairy Herd
 - Bull Beef
 - Arable Unit
 - 140 Sow Breeder Finisher Unit
 - Properties
 - Trial Plots

- Nafferton Farm 500ha
 - 200 Cow Dairy Herd converting to Organic
 - Conventional Arable Unit
 - NEFG Field Trials
 - Properties









The Issues



- Financial
 - Heavy Losses over past few years
 - Pig Enterprise Approx. Breakeven
 - Nafferton/Cockle Park Losses Even
 - No money for re-investment

- Facilities Require Investment (Poor Historic Investment)
- Farm Appearance
- Management Information
- Links with Teaching & Research



Farm Objectives



- Centre of excellence for research teaching and commercial farming
- Create an exemplar business
- Provide a facility for leading research into agrisystems, precision farming, engineering, livestock and arable production
- Farms will be locally, nationally and internationally recognised as a centre of excellence for research and the transfer of knowledge into practical and profitable farming



Plan – Phase 1 (in progress)



PROPOSED FARMING STRUCTURE

Farms Board

Dairy Unit

Business Unit - Dairy

One Dairy Unit 300 - 350 Cows Based at One Site (Nafferton) Split Autumn/Spring Block calving Spring Herd - Gass based Autumn Herd - Intensive

Diary Team Responsible

for: -Dairy Herd Youngstock Calf Rearing Beef Cattle

Operations Unit

Business Unit – Operations Arable/grassland operations across 2

| sites.
| Approx. 1,300 ac arable + grass
| One set of machinery providing
| services and feed/straw to other units
| Responsible for all machinery (incl.

research) Sells services to other units

Operations Team Responsible for: -Arable & Grassland Work AD Plant Machinery Management Estate Maintenance Workshop/Repairs Relief – Pigs/Dairy Pig Unit

Business Unit – Pigs

High welfare pig unit
150-400 sow breeder/finisher unitto
meet commercial and research needs
PigSafe pens & straw system
comparisions in the unit

Pig Enterprise Responsible for: -Sows to Finishers

Research

Business Unit – Field Trial Team provides services to reseachers

using farm equipment

Research Team Responsible for: -Field work for research



Dairy Enterprise

Newcastle University

UK | Malaysia | Singapore

- Close the dairy at Cockle Park
- One dairy herd at Nafferton 300 Cows
 - Two herd Autumn Calving (Intensive): Spring Calving (Extensive Grazing)
 - Split herd capability Conventionally Managed
 - Young stock reared at Cockle Park (Calves at Nafferton to 8-10 weeks)
- Investment
 - Automatic Calf Feeder
 - Cubicle installation at Nafferton
 - Additional feed spaces
 - Slurry handling improvements
 - Funded by sale of 100 dairy cows
- Long Term New Dairy Required







Arable Enterprise



- All land managed as one unit across both farms
- Sale of surplus/older equipment
- New equipment
 - Mix new/hired tractors/machinery
 - Precision enabled
 - Direct drill + subsoiler
- Move to IFM approach
- All machinery (farm & research) managed as one pool





Management



- Management systems
 - Networkable, fully accessible, fit for purpose
- Technical Improvements
 - Budgeting & performance targets
 - Farm KPI's
 - Farm appearance
 - Systems approach
- Advice
 - Professional Inputs

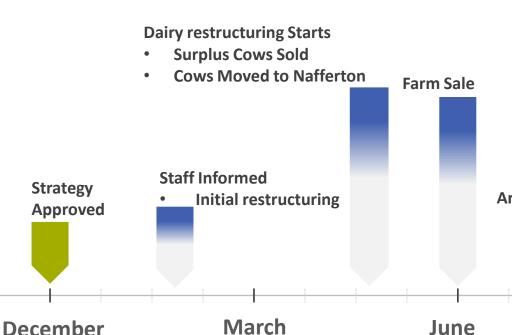


magic herd management



Phase 1 – Progress





2018

2017



Arable – New Equipment Place

Final Staff/ Enterprise Restructuring



September

December 2018

Pig Unit – Phase 1+



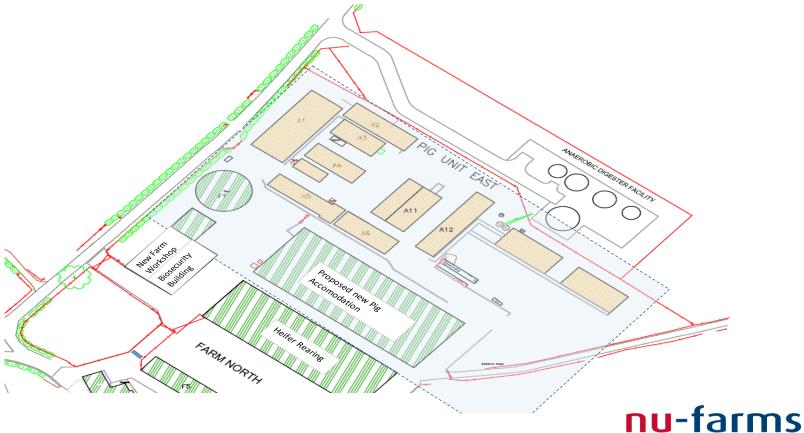
- Management Improvement
- Close old fattening house (pre winter)
- Adapt new dry sow house to house fattening pigs
- Data recording
- Biosecurity Improvements
- Appearance/Cleanliness
- Future Unit Working Group



Phase 1+ - Site Planning



Agrisystems Innovation Platform



Phase 1 – Adding Value



- Farm Profile
- Demonstration Farm
 - Research Demonstration
 - Experimental Farm
- Estate
 - Infrastructure Upgrades
 - Aesthetics/Estate Image
- Supply Chain
 - Pork & Milk



Phase 1 – Academic



- Teaching Links
 - Days on Farm
- Increase Student Involvement
 - Growing Crop Competition
 - Interaction with professional advisers
 - Farm Performance Reviews
 - Work Experience
- Student Resource
 - Steer projects towards farm issues
 - Input into new facilities





Phase 1 – Research



- Alignment of farm activities/investment with research
- Demonstration activities
 - Implementation of research on farm
 - Elements of a traditional 'Experimental Farm'
- Precision/Decision Tools







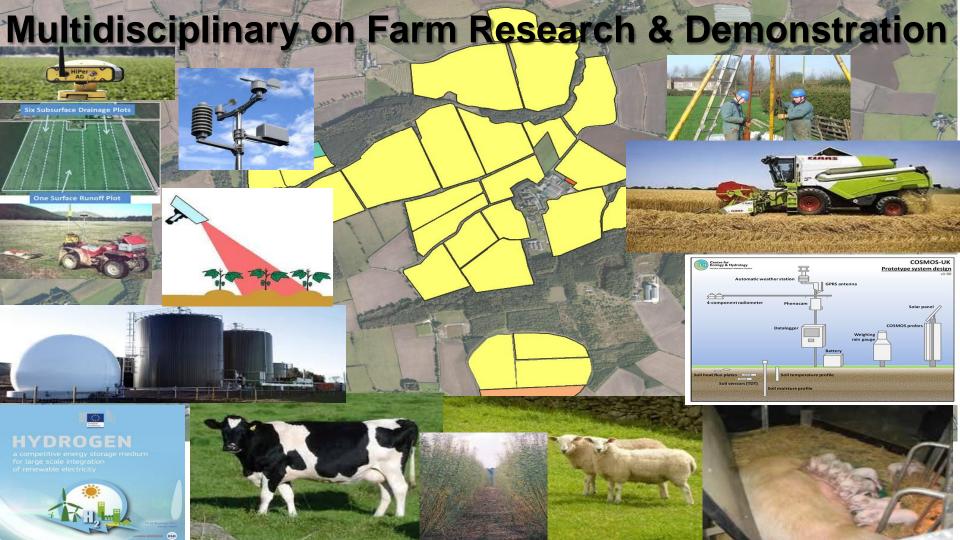


Plan – Phase 2



- Pig Unit
 - Investment required option to utilise dairy buildings?
 - Feasibility/Business Plan
 - Working Group To guide design
- Dairy Unit
 - New Unit Location Cockle Park or Nafferton?
- Infrastructure
 - Sprayer filling
 - Workshop
 - Maintenance/Improvements







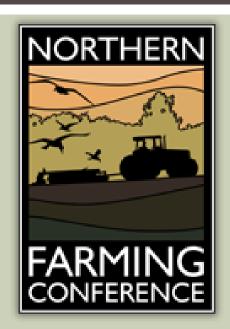
Thank You





















Hill Top Farm



@hilltopfarmgirl

HILL TOP FARM

- Live & work at Hill Top Farm, Malham;
- 300 acre family farm, Grandparents moved here in 1950 as tenants;
- Parents bought it in 1980;
- Parents converted cow shed to bunk barn accommodation in 1987;
- Leigh runs family holiday cottage and bunk barn;
- Cattle reintroduced 2003.



HILL TOP FARM

- Built up to 1100 acres, split between Malhamdale and Littondale;
- Bought 200 acres;
- 500 acres rented from private landlords;
- 100 acres rented from National Trust;
- All Less Favoured Area (LFA);
- All Severely Disadvantaged;
- All limestone permanent pasture;
- All under HLS/ELS schemes;
- Heights ranging between 800-1800ft above sea level.



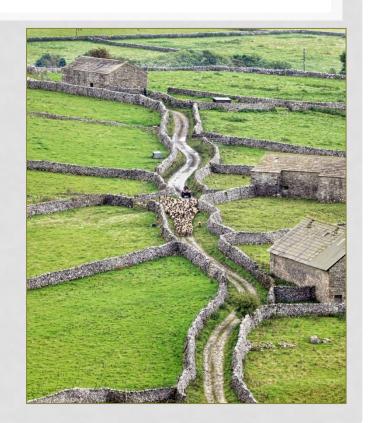
SOCIAL MEDIA





HILL TOP FARM

- 400 Swaledale ewes:
- 300 crossed with BFL ram;
- 100 bred pure to Swaledale ram;
- Dipping, clipping, dosing, scanning;
- Lambing in mid March;
- Ewes fed concentrates over winter and spring;
- Wethers sold as stores/fat by end of August;
- Mule gimmers sold for breeding in September;
- Lambs creep fed through summer.



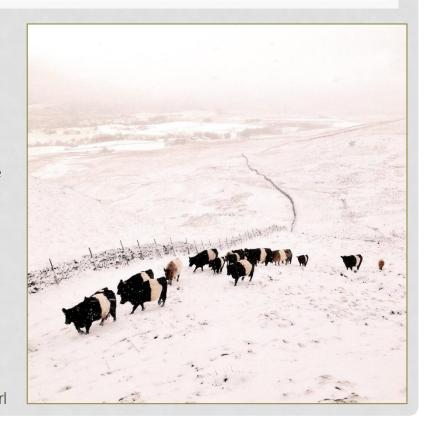
LOCAL CHAMPION MALHAM SHOW 2013

THE TUP - NOT ME



HILL TOP FARM

- 20 Belted Galloway breeding cattle introduced in 2003;
- 120 in total;
- Hardy native breed;
- Out wintered on the hill, fed hay in adverse weather conditions;
- Extensively managed;
- Low labour input;
- Entirely grass fed;
- Conservation grazers



WILDLIFE HABITAT

Photo by @neil_bilsborough



Photo by Brian Rabbitts



WILDLIFE HABITAT

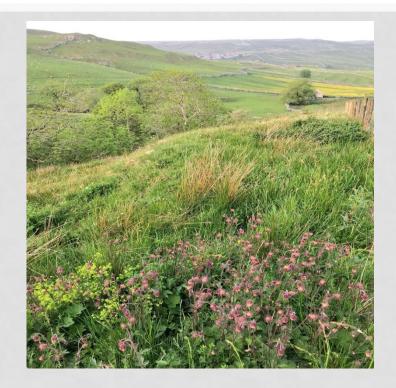




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BIODIVERSITY - PLANTS





HILL TOP FARM

SHEEP

- Higher output
- High feed costs
- Labour intensive
- Environmental Impact
- Marketed as a commodity
- Regular worming/vaccination programme

CATTLE

- Lower output
- No purchased feeds
- Minimal intervention
- Increased biodiversity
- Marketed as a premium product
- Zero routine treatments

HILL TOP FARM 2012 COSTINGS

•	Sal	es

- Labour
- Feed
- Haulage
- Other costs
- Livestock purchases
- Vets costs
- Total
- Contribution to drawings

SHEEP

- £59,318
- £12,000
- £15,178
- £ 320
- £11,202
- £18,900
- £ 1,240
- £58,840
- £ 478

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CATTLE

- £17,828
- £ 1,755
- £ 270
- £ 668
- £ 3,675
- £ 220
- £ 6,588
- £11,240

HILL TOP FARM SHEEP

Replicate the lessons we have learnt from the cattle enterprise:

- The right breed for the right situation
- Allow sheep to exhibit natural behaviour

To achieve this?

- Breed is crucial
- An extensive system reduce breeding ewe numbers to 200
- Lambing in late April, early May

HILL TOP FARM CURRENT COSTINGS

	SHEEP		CATTLE	
 Sales Labour Feed Haulage Other costs Livestock purchases Vets costs Total Contribution 	2012 £ 59,318 12,000 15,178 320 11,202 18,900 1,240 58,840	2016 £ 32,081 750 3,724 0 2,600 7,042 186 14,302 17,779	2012 £ 17,828 1,755 270 668 3,675 220 117 6,588	2016 £ 21,310 1,260 500 0 1,318 3,040 117 6,265

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CONCLUSION

Reducing sheep numbers has resulted in:

- Lower impact on the environment
- Improved sheep health
- Increased quality of family life
- Good business decision

YOUR FARM, YOUR FUTURE

- Emphasising nature
- Improving resilience
- Retaining farming families
- Continuation of farming communities
- LESS IS MORE!







