



ORGANIC DAIRY FARM, Priors Farm sub-catchment

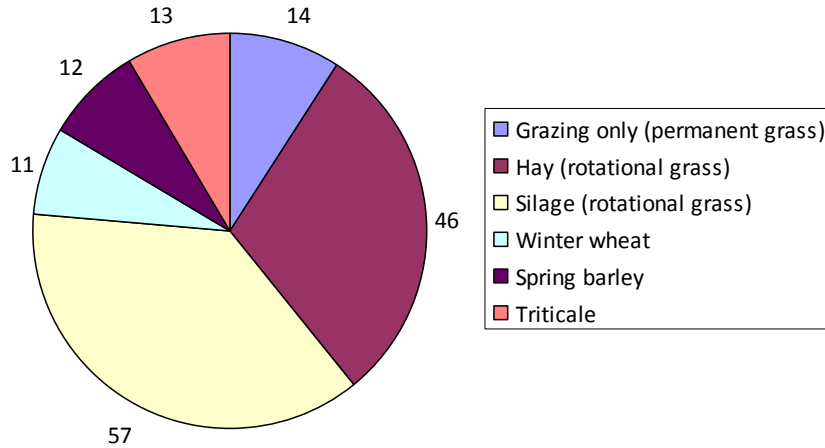


Hampshire Avon
Denonstration Test Catchment

Farm size: 153 Ha
 Business structure: Partnership
 Diversified activities: Yes
 Soil types: Sandy loam over greensand
 Schemes: OELS, CSF

Land use (Ha):

Dairy herd: 272



Mitigation measures:



Land use change options

Present use –

Convert arable land to unfertilised grass
 Arable reversion to low fertiliser input extensive grazing

Future use –

Never: Establish permanent woodlands
 Grow biomass crops



Soil management options:

Present use –

Establish cover crops in autumn
 Early harvesting/establishment in autumn
 Cultivate land for crops in spring rather than autumn
 Adopt reduced cultivation systems
 Cultivate compacted tillage soils
 Cultivate and drill across slope
 Leave autumn seedbed rough
 Maintain and enhance soil organic matter levels
 Loosen compacted soil layers in grassland fields
 Establish riparian buffer strips
 Maintain field drainage systems
 Ditch management



Fertiliser management options:

Present use –

- Use plants with improved nitrogen use efficiency
- Use clover in place of grass



Livestock management options:

Present use –

- Make use of improved genetic resources
- Extend grazing season for cattle
- Reduce field stocking rates when soils are wet
- Move feeders at regular intervals
- Construct troughs with a firm but permeable base
- Reduce overall stocking rates on livestock farms
- Increase scraping frequency in dairy cow cubicle housing
- Additional targeted straw-bedding for cattle housing
- Washing down of dairy cow collecting yards
- Out-wintering of cattle on woodchip stand-off pads



Manure management options:

Present use –

- Increase the capacity of slurry stores to improve timing of slurry applications
- Allow cattle slurry stores to develop a natural crust
- Minimise the volume of dirty water and slurry produced
- Compost solid manure
- Site solid manure away from watercourses/field drains
- Cover solid manure stores with sheeting
- Manure spreader calibration
- Do not apply manure to high-risk areas
- Do not spread slurry or poultry manure at high-risk times
- Do not spread FYM to fields at high-risk times
- Incorporate manure into the soil



Farm infrastructure options:

Present use –

- Fence off rivers and streams from livestock
- Construct bridges for livestock crossing
- Re-site gateways away from high-risk areas
- Farm track management
- Establish tree shelter belts around livestock housing and slurry storage

