

Case Study

Beaudesert Park Farm

Regenerative farming and rotational grazing

Creation of 3.64Ha of herbal ley to increase biodiversity and assist in stock health management. Introduction of rotational grazing with associated infrastructure including bowser, shelters for stock and temporary electric fencing.

Total awarded: £11,718.44



Project overview

This established mixed farm has a herd of White Park pedigree cattle, Boer goats and an educational programme aimed at mostly young people.



The farm was keen to shift into a more regenerative approach to reduce the levels of anthelmintics and artificial fertiliser used.

By introducing a herbal ley and rotational grazing through small temporary paddocks where stock are moved more frequently, it is anticipated that fewer anthelmintics will be required and stock will be healthier.

Additional items included permanent stock fencing on two boundaries, as well as a water bowser and shelters to support the frequent stock movement.

The shelters should also allow the goats to be kept out in the fields longer in the season, so reducing time indoors over the winter.

Outcomes

Initial monitoring has shown that there is a reduced faecal egg count where the grazing change has been introduced.

Moving the grazed area more frequently has also allowed a more diverse age structure to the herbal ley to develop than was found when grazing traditional pasture and allowed the grazing season to be extended for one month before winter housing.



The shelters and bowser allow flexible grazing to be undertaken more easily than a traditional piped trough system.

The farm also has some species rich grassland within a larger field and this new system has allowed this also to be managed more effectively to allow flowering without impacting grazing quality.