



Plumpton College

**Plumpton College at Flimwell
Centre for Sustainable Food Farming &
Forestry**

Course Information

Course Name: Improving Pastures for Better Returns		Tutor: Mike Tame ABACUS
Venue: Plumpton College Orchard Barn Classroom, Ivyland Farm Centre, Netherfield, Battle, East Sussex TN33 9QB		Full day course
		Start Time: 10 am Finish time: 4 pm
Designed for: A practical course for farmers who are interested in improving the quality of their grasslands and forage crops to improve the nutritional value for their livestock.		
Aims of the course: To improve farmers understanding of the relationship between good quality forage, legumes and herb species in their pasture and their contribution to animal health and nutrition.		
Typical number of delegates: 10	Course runs approximately twice a year	
<u>Course Timetable</u>		
10.00 am	Course administration/ tea or coffee/introductions	
10.15 am	Pasture quality and how it affects livestock. Basic ruminant nutritional requirements.	
10.45 am	The importance of pasture plant species and diversity.	
11.00 am	Field walk – grass identification	
11.15 am	Grazing systems and managing weeds.	
12.00 pm – 12.30 pm	Lunch	
12.30 pm	Feeding value of conserved forages – forage analysis	
1.30 pm	Soil fertility and use of farm yard manures	
1.45 pm – 2.00 pm	Summary /Questions and Answers Tea / Coffee and Course Evaluations	
What you need to bring: Hot & cold drinks are provided, but you will need to bring a packed lunch. As an ongoing precautionary measure, please ensure that items of clothing and footwear used previously on another farm, have been thoroughly cleaned.		
Course Outcome: College Certificate		
Follow on course suggestions:		
For dates and further course information please contact Plumpton College at Flimwell		
To book this course, for further information, or in case of an emergency on the day of the course please contact: Plumpton College at Flimwell Centre for Sustainable Food Farming & Forestry Woodland Enterprise Centre, Hastings Road, Flimwell, TN5 7PR Tel 01580 879 547 e-mail gammonc@plumpton.ac.uk		