



Plumpton College

Plumpton College at Netherfield Centre for Sustainable Food & Farming Course Information

Course Name: Forage For Low Rainfall Areas	Tutor: Mike Tame Abacus Agricultural Consultancy
Venue: Plumpton College at Ivyland Farm, Netherfield, Near Battle, East Sussex TN33 9QB	Part day course
Start Time Finish time: 10 am to 4 pm	
Designed for: Livestock and forage farmers who wish to build some drought tolerance into there forage and grazing land.	
Aims of the course: To help farmers make better management decisions when sowing new leys. This course will look at the alternatives that are available to the traditional seed mixes on offer as well as taking into consideration soil types, reducing the need for additional nutritional input as well as establishing a ley that will be more tolerant of drought conditions.	
Typical number of delegates: 6 - 8	Course runs approximately two times a year
<u>Course Timetable</u>	
10.00 am – 10.15 am	Course administration/ tea or coffee/introductions
10.15 am	Presentation on soils and the part they play in drought tolerance.
10.45 am	Discussion on other factors affecting growth
11.00 am	Look at typical grass ley mixes available and a look at the role that other Gramminaceae, clovers, legumes and herbs have to play.
11.15 am	Practical: Visit pasture on site and inspection pit for practical example.
12.00 pm – 1 pm	Lunch
1 pm	Discussion around findings from the practical session.
2.30 pm	Closer look at drought tolerance, yield, nutritional value
3.15 pm – 4.00 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. The course is located on a poultry farm and you are advised to wear old, warm clothes (the processing room is unheated) and waterproof footwear. White coats and hats will be provided.	
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: Livestock Management – pigs, sheep and cattle. Nutrition and Animal Performance – how it works.	
For dates and further course information please contact Plumpton College at Netherfield	
To book this course, for further information, Plumpton College at Netherfield Woodland Enterprise Centre, Hastings Road, Flimwell, TN5 7PR Tel 01580 879 547 e-mail info@foodfarmingforestry.co.uk	