

FAR update

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FEED ADVISER REGISTER SCHEME



Welcome

COP26 and Countryside COP have shown just how important our work towards a more sustainable agrisupply sector is. This is echoed by our CPD for 2021-22, which will focus on sustainability within agriculture and animal nutrition and become available to all registered advisers by the end of the year.

This update will also share some news about the FAR Qualification in Animal Nutrition and the Environment and introduce the new members of the FAR Working Group, as well as our new cross sector Sustainability Liaison Group. All in all, some exciting and progressive changes are taking place.

We hope you find this issue useful. Please feel free to send any questions or suggestions to far@agindustries.org.uk or using the details on the back page.



Sue Whittington
Technical Manager
Sue.Whittington@agindustries.org.uk

FAR Qualification in Animal Nutrition and the Environment

It's never been more important for livestock farmers to receive professional advice on all aspects of animal nutrition and management. To that end, we are delighted to announce the FAR Qualification in Animal Nutrition and the Environment, created in partnership with BASIS and the Harper Adams University (HAU).

The qualification will launch in spring 2022 and give advisers the same level of professional qualification as those working within crop nutrition who are FACTS qualified. The core module training will be supported by additional in-person training (either physically or virtually) to work

through the knowledge gained and its practical application within each species.

Whether development advisers are new or currently working through their training, they will be offered a selection of dates to attend three training days, consisting of an introduction, practical application of the information within the four modules, and a final exam with time allocated for revision. The exam itself is a combination of multiple choice questions and those requiring a short written answer. A case study of a particular issue or action taken on farm which has helped to make a positive difference will also be completed.

Sustainability Liaison Group

Listening to Members to understand their concerns and requirements as sustainability issues press on business practice.

Acting on guidance from the AIC Policy Forum and AIC Services Board, a new AIC & AIC Services Sustainability Liaison Group has been formed. Its purpose is to engage with AIC Member staff with responsibilities/interests in aspects of sustainability relevant to their business. The Group's mission is to support a consistent approach to agri-supply action that aligns with the AIC Roadmap and Members' own longer - term plans.

This Group will join AIC, AIC Policy, and all sectors together with other stakeholders to work on common frameworks, metrics and evidence bases that will allow us to measure progress.

The Group received input from all sectors and met for the first time on 12th October. Work has begun on two papers:

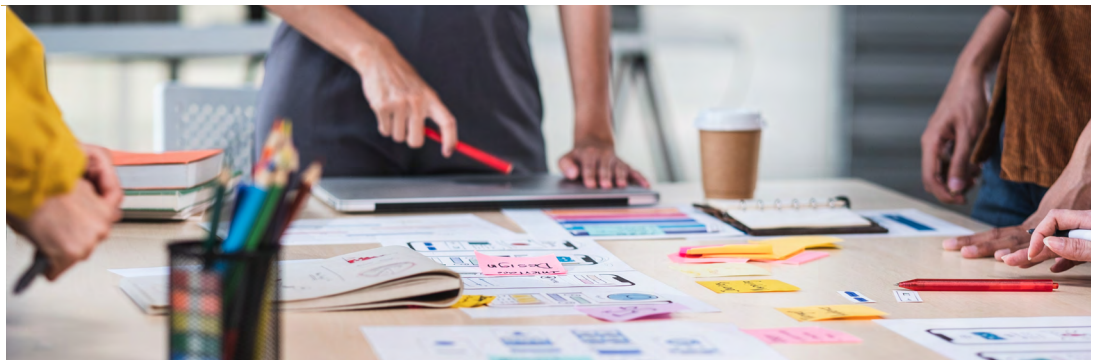
- 1) a framework for assessing company sustainability - starting with resource inputs, from company management and its indirect influences on-farm practices, through to R&D advice and product/technical solutions;
- 2) a paper looking at sector by sector training needs, considering the full sustainability story from input to output.

These papers will be reviewed by relevant AIC sector committees to help inform future Member services required.

For further information, contact the Chair of the AIC & AIC Services Sustainability Liaison Group, Andrew Pearson at andrew.pearson@agindustries.org.uk or calling 07464 540 421.

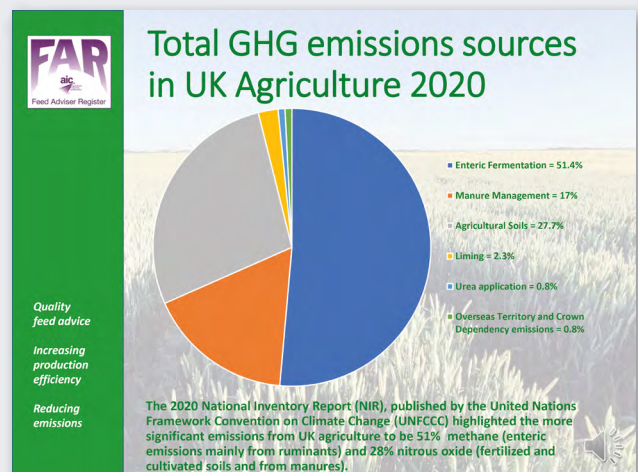


Andrew Pearson
Policy Manager



FAR Sustainability CPD 2021-22

The FAR CPD for 2021-22 is scheduled for release by the end of 2021. Industry experts have been helping AIC Services to provide advisers with the tools they need to support discussions on farm about sustainability. An introduction to sustainability, policies and targets set in the UK, Europe and globally is followed by an in-depth look at sustainable sourcing of ingredients, the sustainability of feed production processes, Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) and new innovations within feed. The training concludes with consideration of the different livestock production systems in the UK and their sustainability.



FAR Animation

AIC Services has developed a short, animated video explaining the Feed Adviser Register and the role of feed advisers in delivering professional advice to farmers to provide their livestock with nutritionally balanced and sustainable diets.

Advisers are encouraged to make use of the animation by uploading it to their websites, sharing it on social media and using it in meetings with industry stakeholders to succinctly explain the work they do.

The animation can be viewed and downloaded via this link:

<https://www.agindustries.org.uk/feed-adviser-register.html>



FAR Webinar

This winter, look out for a webinar coming from AIC Services on FAR and new developments within feed advice, including the FAR Qualification and the development of the GFLI database for advisers to use for feed ingredients environmental footprint information. Recordings will be made available on the AIC website for those unable to attend. Contact far@agindustries.org.uk for more details.



MyFAR

Earlier in the summer, the MyFAR management tool launched on the AIC website. It enables FAR members to manage their details, areas of specialisation and interests, as well as track their progress through ongoing FAR training for both core modules and annual CPD.

Note: If you haven't logged in to the AIC website previously, you will need to do so by using the reset password link under the login button and follow the instructions.



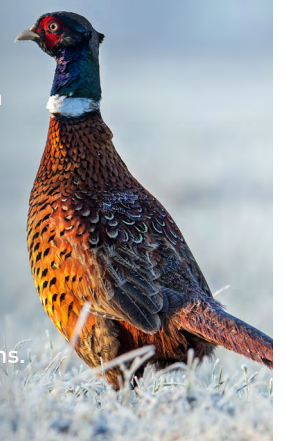
David Moss
Technical Manager

Game Feed Module

Launching in spring 2022, the FAR Game Feed Module is primarily aimed at feed advisers working within the game sector and looks to provide them with the necessary knowledge to deliver the most up-to-date feed advice to game bird breeders and rearers. The module will be available to all registered advisers with an interest in game feed.

The module will look at key aspects of game feed management including nutrition, health & welfare, feeding, labelling, essential KPIs, rearing/production systems and disease. It also addresses environmental issues facing the industry currently, specifically focusing on feed related emissions.

For further information, please contact far@agindustries.org.uk



New FAR Working Group members



Debby Brown

Debby qualified as a vet in 1999 and worked in farm animal practice for 12 years. She then moved towards advising in health and providing nutrition advice to vets, feed advisers and farmers. Debby is now with Dugdale Nutrition as their Veterinary Technical Manager, supporting all areas of the company from a technical and animal health perspective. In the wider industry, she works with AHDB Beef and Lamb with their Strategic Farm Project and is currently studying for a MSc in One Health.



David Wilde

David is the Global Innovation Manager and Ruminant Lead for Anpario plc. He has 30 years of experience in the animal feed industry as a ruminant nutritionist, working for companies involved in feed additives, premixing and compound feed milling. All aspects of ruminant nutrition fall within his expertise, especially transition cows and pre-weaned calves. The role of management and nutrition in the mitigation of greenhouse gas production is of great importance as we aim, as an industry, for Net Zero impact.



Mark McFarland

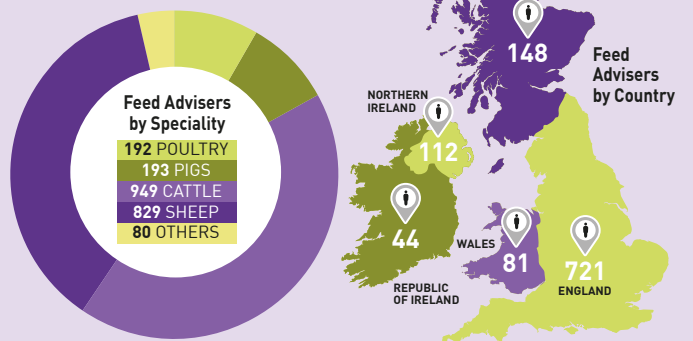
Mark is from a family farm near Dungannon, Northern Ireland and is Feed Additive Product Manager for Lallemand Animal Nutrition. For the last 10 years, he has worked in the feed industry providing product support for the Lallemand Animal Nutrition range of feed additives in the UK and Ireland and is in regular contact with feed industry representatives and other stakeholders across all livestock species. His BSc (Hons) in Business Economics and MSc in Carbon Management – combined with his farm background – reflects his career interests of business, agriculture, and sustainability.



Lewis Graham

Lewis graduated from the RAU with a BSc (Hons) Agricultural Management in 2015. He joined ForFarmers as a Dairy Account Manager and then moved into farm consulting at Promar International, where he has continued to advise on best practice feeding in dairy, including the improvement of feed efficiencies to reflect an opportunity to reduce carbon footprints.

Statistics



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