

# Soil & Carbon

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#### Farm Carbon Calculations

Carbon calculator is a useful tool to assess farm efficiency

The big four emitters are:

The big four carbon storage areas are:

- 1. Livestock Efficiencies
- 2. Feed
- 3. Fuel4. Fertiliser

1. Soil

Resilience

2. Woodland Biodiversity,

3. Hedgerows4. HabitatsStewardshipEfficiencies





### Farm efficiency

Emissions	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e	%
Fuels	11.54	2.58%
Materials	2.14	0.48%
Inventory	18.61	4.16%
Crops	65.41	14.63%
Inputs	128.70	28.79%
Livestock	220.68	49.36%
Total	447.08	100%

Offset	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e	%
Habitats	-1.48	6.25%
Hedgerows	-11.30	47.82%
Other (E.G. Recycling)	-1.02	4.33%
Woodland	-9.83	41.60%
Total	-23.63	100%

Meat produced per unit carbon 8-10tCO2e/tonne of meat (live weight) Milk produced per unit of carbon 0.9kg CO2 per kg FPCM





### Why soils? And why Dartmoor?

 40% more carbon per hectare is held in Dartmoor soils compared to Bradninch Estate

- Per ha this difference (382tCO2e) is equal to:
  - 1811 ewes
  - 167 tonnes of ammonium nitrate
  - 170 finished beef animals





## Scope for more carbon storage?

• Across fields sampled on DOC Dartmoor fields Soil organic matter (%) to 0.5m:

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Minimum = 3.77%
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Maximum = 51.6%

Average = 14.82%

• 20ha increase in soil organic matter by 1% is estimated to be the same as:

80ha deciduous woodland (5-10 years old)

3422 ha of rough grazing moving to scrub



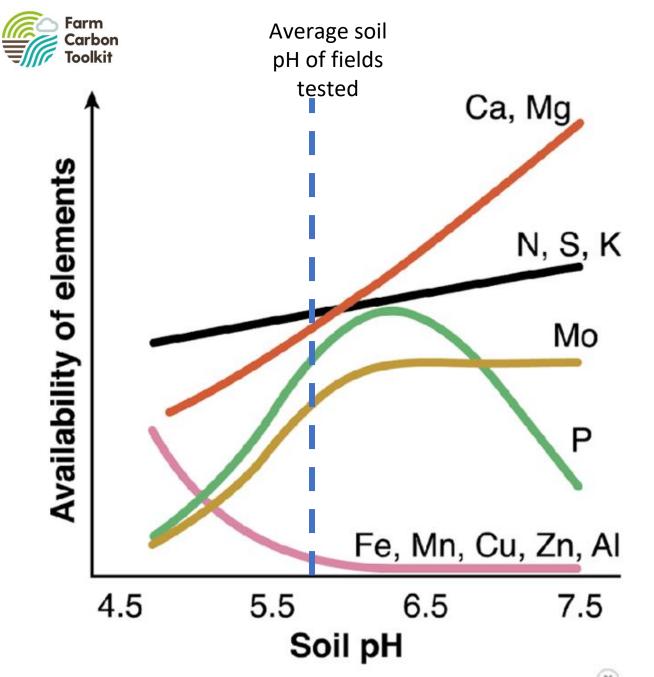


	VESS top	VESS bottom
Bradninch	1.3	2.0
Duchy Eastern District	2.2	2.7
Dartmoor	1.1	1.3





	pH	Available phosphate	Available Potassium	Available Magnesium
Bradninch	6.41	33.0	125.2	209.2
Duchy Eastern District	7.04	21.9	139.2	167.4
Dartmoor	5.77	16.9	81.6	102.7





Source: Department of Primary and Regional Development Industries of the Government of Western Australia

https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/soil-acidity/effects-soil-acidity?page=0%2C1





### Fertiliser savings?

Ammonium nitrate = £870/tonne (imported October 2022)

If you put 250kgN/ha on your grass, at average pH = 5.5 only 70% is available = wasting 75kgN/ha

- ≥1 tonne (£870) is lost every 5ha
- ➤ 30% saving on carbon from fertiliser across Dartmoor farms (DoC) assessed = 158tCO2e





### Livestock footprint

- Animal performance
  - Fertility figures improving reproductive KPIs can be a way to reduce your footprint.
    - 100 cows 80% survival to weaning 80 calves
    - 90 cows 90% survival to weaning 81 calves
    - 10% reduction in carbon footprint
    - 250 ewes 85% lambing percentage 213 lambs
    - 200 ewes 105% lambing percentage 210 lambs
    - 20% reduction in carbon footprint
  - Finishing reduction in days to finishing has benefits across the business, can be achieved with
    - improved grazing management (rest is key)
    - genetics