

Monthly Update



November 2023



Brassica Trial Results Day

Join us on Wednesday 15th November (11:00-2:00) at Youlden Farm, North Bovey for the results from the second part of our Brassica trials we have run this year. We will be looking at the results from 3 different varieties, with vastly different seed costs to identify the most beneficial variety. Including a discussion into our cover crop trials and their effect on soil and plant health with Dr. Hannah Jones.

Book a place by clicking below, or email hfp@dartmoor.gov.uk or call 07805 329704.

Book Here



Farm for the Future

Thanks to everyone who joined us for the first two events recently, which helped introduce the programme and discuss some of the Environmental schemes. Where possible these are on farms. The next events are; a Business event on Weds 29th Nov (from 12 noon) at Two Bridges Hotel (Princetown) followed by our first topic event; the Animal Health & Welfare Pathway (AHWP) focussed on sheep – Weds 6th Dec (also from 12 noon) on farm nr. Sampford Spiney. Note we will be running further complementary events in the new year, including AH&WP focussed on cattle, plus a repeat/update on Environment schemes as we anticipate further announcements from Defra soon.Keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages.



2023 Wool Season - Adding Value

We have been busy procuring wool for our pilot projects this year with the Southwest Peatland Partnership, Duchy of Cornwall and Natural Dales Wool Products. The majority is destined for peatland restoration, but we have new contracts to pilot uses for the forestry and the manufacturing sectors. The first batch of felted wool is due back before Christmas, and we have just sent another 12 ton artic load of greasy wool to Bradford for scouring.



Grazing Discussion Group – Practical Look at Meeting SFI Standards

You are warmly invited to join the Grazing Discussion group on Tuesday 28th November (12:00-2:00) for a practical overview and demonstration into how to achieve the SFI standards for grassland options. We will explore what's on offer and how to implement the actions in the field with an eye on costs and establishment. This will be on farm in the Tavistock area. Book using the button below. Alternatively, email hfp@dartmoor.gpv.uk or call 07805 329704 to register interest.

Book Here



Dartmoor Review - Update

The Independent Review of Protected Site Management on Dartmoor has now closed the window for evidence submissions. To their great credit they have gone out of their way to engage with the farming community and have spoken with a wide range of interests, commons associations and landowners. The report with recommendations is now being drafted and will be issued to the Minster Mark Spencer (Defra) by the end of this month. We await the outcome with interest and will provide a detailed update in our next update.



FREE Course Places worth £500 for Commoners and those Working on Commons

The Foundation for Common Land and Our Upland Commons project is pleased to announce that we are offering 12 fully funded places, each to the value of £500, on a new part-time short course recently launched by the University of Cumbria, to be delivered in Dartmoor through a combination of in-person and online sessions. Click below for more details.

More Details

Mental Health Contacts

Helplines and help is always available to those in crisis - contact:

RABI 24hr Helpline: **0800 188 4444 FCN** Helpline: **03000 111 999**

Samaritans, Call: 116 123 or email: jo@samaitans.org

Contact us:

Russell Ashford, Steering Group Chairman

David Attwell, Land Management Adviser **Hazel Kendall,** Dartmoor Farming Officer **Columb Anderson-Hague,** Farm Support Officer

Office Telephone: 01822 890913

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