‘Developing a Farm Woodland & Agroforestry Economy’
A strategy to make farmer led tree planting credible
Tories pledge 30 million trees a year until 2024

Lib Dems aim for 60 million trees a year through to 2045

Labour announces 2 billion more trees by 2040 = 100 million a year
But the reality is only 15 million publicly funded trees over the last 8 years – maybe it’s time for a new strategy?

### Farmers as foresters?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Woodland Ownership</th>
<th>England (000 ha.)</th>
<th>Scotland (000 ha.)</th>
<th>Wales (000 ha.)</th>
<th>Northern Ireland (000 ha.)</th>
<th>%age of Total Woodland area</th>
<th>TOTAL area (000 ha.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farm Woodland</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>33% (45% of all private woodland)</td>
<td>1037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Woodland area</td>
<td>1307</td>
<td>1445</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>113</td>
<td></td>
<td>3173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benefits from trees

1. Public benefits = public money
2. Farm benefits = increased farm enterprise revenue

Farm benefits

Indirect

- from the interaction between trees and the agricultural system e.g. nutrient provision for crops or shelter benefits for livestock
- farm management benefits e.g. water management

Direct – substitution or market opportunities for the tree outputs e.g. timber, fuel, food

Strategy = more focus on the direct farm enterprise benefits of trees
Timber from trees?

➢ For on farm fencing demand and farm buildings?

➢ For sale to timber markets
Fuel from trees?

➢ For on farm heat demand and/or local use
Fruit production from trees?

➢ Hard & soft fruit
➢ Nuts
➢ Cider/Perry/Juice
Contract growing opportunities?

➢ Cobnuts
➢ Cricket Bat Willow
➢ Poplar
➢ Cider/Perry
Income from capital grants

➢ Is tree planting & maintenance really that difficult?

➢ Transferable skills...
Farm fencing requirements – for trees and livestock

➢ Grown on the farm, erected by farmers?
Dealing with scale

➢ Mobile equipment

➢ Machinery rings

➢ Cooperatives/Groups
Dealing with scale

➢ Low cost farm machinery adaptations
Making it happen?

➢ Learn from longstanding initiatives – e.g. Coed Cymru
➢ Support for developing capacity/capability in tree management
➢ Rural development support for new business opportunities & supply chain development
The future?

Trees for farmers, managed by farmers...

...with public benefits as well...

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