

'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 its time for a new strategy?



Farmers as foresters?

Woodland Ownership	England (000 ha.)	Scotland (000 ha.)	Wales (000 ha.)	Northern Ireland (000 ha.)	%age of Total Woodland area	TOTAL area (000 ha.)
Farm Woodland	368	560	93	16	33% (45% of all private woodland)	1037
TOTAL Woodland area	1307	1445	308	113		3173



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?

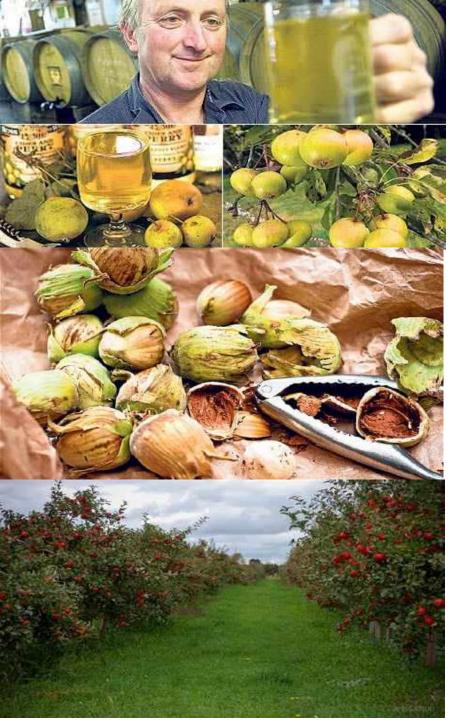
- For on farm fencing demand and farm buildings?
- ➤ For sale to timber markets





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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1,2,11,12,13,14