



# Performance Recording Sheep in a High-Forage System



**JAMES DRUMMOND**





# High-Forage System?





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# High Forage





# James Drummond

- Forage Focused Performance  
Recorded Livestock Production
- Outwintered Sheep and Cattle
- Breeding Partner and Ram Rearing  
for Innovis

## 40 Things to Ditch at 40

- Silage for sheep
- Mess in field
- Clearing feeder sites
- 'Sorting' soil damage
- Fucking Rutts!
- Mess on road
- Bloody Plastic
- Shit job
- Wintering cattle on pad
- Bloody mess off concrete for
- Slop/run-off for us
- Shit job/mucky wellies!
- Silage (stinking)
- Not for any bought in f
- (ence)
- to spend summer
- Beer much better
- (n sunny days)
- !! (Better ra
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- grazing o
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‘You can do things right, but are you doing the right things’

- Optimise not Maximise System
- Grazed Forage Production
- Remove Volatility
- Improve Resilience

Provide grazable  
forage all year

Develop stock that  
thrive in this  
Environment /  
Management



## 6 years of Fodder Beet



Post mating until  
pre lambing  
grass rotation

# Replicate cattle system with sheep

**½ Area Fodder Beet**

**½ Diverse Mix;**

- Westerwold & IRG
- Berseem Clover
- White Clover
- Leafy Turnip
- Forage Rape
- Hybrid Brassica
- Plantain
- Chicory





3<sup>rd</sup> year of Winter  
Grazing Mix



# Deferred Grass/Bale Grazing



## Young Cattle Beet/Diverse Mix



Set stocked outdoor lambing

Paddocks rotated through grazing season

All lambs tagged at birth or DNA  
shepherded -1000 TSU sampled

Backfat Scanned

Replacements PAC / FEC



$\frac{1}{2}$  Grazing Herbal Mix



$\frac{1}{2}$  Perm Pasture





# Whats Next ?

- ADAS Climate Farm Demo
  - AHDB Environmental Baselinning Pilot
- Farm Resilience Funding to Quantify Financial Implications of New System

# Thank you



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A logo featuring a stylized tree with many small leaves inside a light green circle. Overlaid on the tree is the text 'Birslev' in a large, bold, black script font, and 'Woodside' in a smaller, black script font below it.

**Birslev**  
**Woodside**