



FEATURED COURSE CONSERVATION GRAZING



Who should attend?

Farmers and land managers who are part of an Agri-environment scheme, farmers and land managers that wish to incorporate traditional and sustainable management practices. Conservationists, ecologists, volunteers, nature trust staff responsible for managing areas of habitat land.



About:

- Assess habitat type on a farm.
- Match grazing requirements to conservation objectives.
- Choose grazing management systems compatible with agricultural market demands.
- Operate management systems to fulfil biodiversity objectives including hedges, dry stone walls and general boundary management on an agricultural holding.
- Evaluate grazing characteristics of different species and breeds within species.
- Efficiently record data and evidence for review of effectiveness of different grazing regimes.

The finer details

Sessions include:

- What is Conservation grazing ?
- Identify Main habitat types- characteristics (to include Marshy Grassland, heather moorland, species-rich pastures and hayfields, acidic grassland etc
- Grazing characteristics of various species, and within species breed differences. Basic ruminant digestion, horse digestion.
- Matching grazing to habitat- to include timings, stage of growth, vet and med considerations such as worming etc.
- Traditional management systems- stratification of sheep Industry etc.
- Boundary management for stock and flora and fauna. Habitat value of dry-stone walls, hedges, shelter belts, field margins.
- Carbon cycle, carbon sequestration, carbon footprint.
- Recoding data for Agri environment schemes.



The course is usually run as a classroom start followed by a walk and talk on farm- venue dependant.



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01443 670267

office@simplythebesttc.co.uk