

Introduction to Agriculture Training November 2013

Overview:

This 5 day training course has been devised and developed by Harper Adams to give an overview of the sector for those requiring an overview of the sector. Delivered by sector specialists and academic experts; delegates can expect to gain a good understanding of the industry especially Agri-business, Animal and Crops businesses, to improve their skills and employability.

Delivery:

The course will be delivered at Harper Adams University in Shropshire; the UK's leading agricultural university with academic excellence across the sector and a long tradition of working closely with rural businesses. Training will be in 2 blocks consisting of 2 days followed by a 2 week break for reflection and development of ideas followed by 3 further days.

Logistics:

There will be a minimum of 8 delegates and a maximum of 20; discounts are available for over 15 delegates. If required, accommodation can be arranged in local hotels, a mini-bus service will be available to and from hotels at no charge.

Course Content:

- Day 1:** The farming calendar year, Beef, Dairy and Sheep production systems, Exploration of good agricultural practices, Government support mechanisms for UK agriculture
- Day 2:** Pasture production systems, Crop/arable commercial operations, Pig and Poultry production systems, Small animal unit operations + Farm Visit
- Day 3:** The importance of business records, Components of financial management, Profit and loss balance sheet interpretation, Farm business performance benchmark indicators, Farm accounts analysis, On-farm case study visit
- Day 4:** Farm accounts analysis (case study/discussion/interpretation), Farm modernisation, Economic policy, Global market decisions
- Day 5:** Farm business diversification & new business opportunities, Agricultural health & safety awareness, Case Study: presentation host farmer + discussion, Risk identification and management, maintaining an up to date understanding of the industry, Supply chain.





Please contact the centre for more information or a costing guide.

Email: fdavies@harper-adams.ac.uk

Phone: 01952 815319

Web: www.harper-adams.ac.uk/initiatives/land-and-rural-business

Example Profiles of Delivery Team:

 <p>Martin Wilkinson</p>	<p>Teaching Duties: Farm Business Management, Rural Diversification, and Agricultural Policy to students on Agriculture and REALM routes to students on FdSc, BSc and MSc qualifications.</p> <p>Research Interests: Business structure and management of change, Business performance and business benchmarking, Unit cost of production as a business management tool, Feasibility of farm based rural diversification</p> <p>Professional Memberships Member of the Institute of Agricultural Management</p>
 <p>Simon Marsh</p>	<p>Teaching Duties: BSc & FdSc Agriculture Short courses for industry: EBLEX, Wynnstay Group Plc, BATA, Environment Agency. Invited speaker at various conferences e.g Maize Growers Association, British Cattle Breeders Club, British Cattle Veterinary Association, Dairy Event & Livestock Show</p> <p>Research Interests: Intensive beef production systems, Beef cattle nutrition, Calf rearing, Beef cattle, breeding, Suckled calf production</p> <p>Professional Memberships: British Society of Animal Science, National Beef Association, British Grassland Society, National Sheep Association, Higher Education Academy (ILTM)</p>
 <p>Alan Stewart</p>	<p>Teaching Duties: Pig Production and Science at all levels, Monogastric Nutrition and Growth Physiology.</p> <p>Research Interests: Pig production systems and Nutrition. Recent major projects and programmes of work include: The effect of weaning age on lifetime performance, health and welfare, The effect of low protein diets on performance, meat quality and environmental impact, The evaluation of a low phytate wheat germplasm, The effect of supplementary milk to litters from birth, The effect of weaning management on litter performance, The effect of straw bedding on pig nutrition and environment.</p> <p>Professional Memberships: British Society of Animal Science, National Pig Association</p>
 <p>Mark Simcock</p>	<p>Teaching Duties: BSc (Hons) and MSc/PgD Rural Enterprise and Land Management covering all aspects of land management and in particular valuation and compulsory purchase. Associate Head of Land, Farm and Agri Business Management Department (Land Management Section), Principal Lecturer in Land Management and Property Valuation, Link Tutor for the Certificate of Higher Education on Professional Studies - Livestock Market Operations and Management. This is a programme that is run in association with the Livestock Auctioneers Association in England and Wales together with the Institute of Auctioneers and Appraisers in Scotland</p> <p>Professional Memberships: Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Fellow of the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers, Fellow of the Higher Education Academy</p> <p>Additional Information Examiner for the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers, Assessor for the RICS Assessment of Professional Competence (Rural), Member of the RICS Valuer Registration Scheme, Active Livestock Auctioneer, Secretary of the North Staffordshire RICS Local Association, Secretary of the Manifold Valley Agricultural Society</p>