

FORAGE MEMBERSHIP Q&A

NIAB TAG is currently considering developing a forage membership package, and would appreciate your feedback by filling in our questionnaire - either electronically or by hand. Your answers can help us develop a package that is suitable for all, providing the right information at the right price.

NIAB TAG Membership offers a crop advisory service that translates the most recent science and the best practice into on-farm strategies.

Members benefit from exclusive, impartial technical insights drawn from our large member research programme and preferential access to NIAB's strategic research and crop specialists. They have access to independent advice on inputs, variety choice, crop management, soil management and rotations – everything you need to optimise the profitability on your farm. This advice can be face to face at any of our field days throughout the season, at winter conferences, over the phone, on-line or via many of our publications. Advice is tailored specifically for your situation.

The close relationship between NIAB TAG and its membership keeps our research relevant and services up-to-date and offering good value for money. And we continue to invest in new technology, new approaches and new thinking, delivering technical advantages to farming businesses all over the UK.

For more information go to www.niab.com/niab-tag-membership

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1. Which livestock types and numbers do you keep?

Beef cattle
 Dairy cattle
 Sheep
 Pigs
 Poultry

2. How much forage area do you have?

Less than 10 ha
 10-50 ha
 51-100 ha
 101-200 ha
 200+ ha

3. What type of grassland do you have?

1-2 year ley
 3-5 year ley
 5+ year ley
 Permanent pasture
 Rough/upland grazing

4. How much of your grassland is re-seeded annually?

Less than 10%
 10-25%
 26-50%
 51-70%
 71% +

5. What other forage crops do you grow?

Forage maize
 Brassicas
 Legumes
 Others:

Multi-species swards/herbal leys. Which species?

6. Which grazing systems do you operate?

Daily rotational paddock
 Mob grazing
 Strip grazing
 Set stocking
 Holistic/long grass grazing
 Zero grazing
 None - forage sold
 None- AD use only

7. Do you use the Recommended Grass and Clover List?

Yes, to select varieties
 Yes, to select varieties with my adviser/merchant
 Yes, to select a mixture that has listed varieties
 No, I don't see the benefit
 No, I rely on my adviser/merchant

8. Do you regularly measure grass growth?

- Yes, daily during the season
- Yes, weekly
- Only by eye
- With a platemeter
- Using a sward stick/boot level

9. What do you find most challenging about growing forage?

10. Please add your own suggestions for research projects/information:

11. Which areas of research and technical information are of interest:

- Cost/benefit tool for decisions on reseeded
- Grass/clover production
- Forage maize production
- Mixed leys (grass, legumes and herbs)
- Other forage crop production (state which crops):

- Minimising greenhouse gas emissions of grazing livestock
- Nutrient use efficiency – on-farm monitoring
- Trace element assessment in grazing land
- Maize under-sowing and follow-on/catch crops
- Seasonal growth/agronomy update
- Forage discussion forum
- Video clips of agronomy issues
- Trial insights/practices.
- Access to ARTIS training module on forage agronomy
- Access to a grass/forage monitoring app – growth, agronomy, seed mixes, pests etc.
- Summaries of latest research literature
- Access to discount forage analysis
- Become involved in forage trials and projects

Thank-you for completing our questionnaire. Include your details below and send your finished forms to:

By post: Ellie Sweetman, NIAB, Lawrence Weaver Road, Cambridge, CB3 0LE

By email: ellie.sweetman@niab.com

Name:

Company name:

Address (including postcode):

Email:

Phone:

If you are interested in a NIAB TAG Forage Membership package, would like to be involved further in its development or are interested in more information on future on-farm projects contact Ellie or tick this box.

