



SARIC • SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE RESEARCH & INNOVATION CLUB

## Workshop Invitation

### Grassland Management Learning Tool

Rothamsted Research, North Wyke, Okehampton, EX20 2SB

Friday 14th February 2020 - 10.30 -12.30

This workshop is aimed at consultants, advisers and interested farmers who want to improve grassland management and planning.

The workshop demonstrates a grassland tool developed from models by Rothamsted Research and Cranfield University. It will be a hands-on session to give potential users a chance to test out the tools and provide feedback to the developers. Using local weather data, participants can examine the effect of different cutting regimes on green leaf and total dry matter yield, as well other parameters of interest to them.

The tool is based on cut grass systems, but some of grass responses and the principles of grass management also translate to lowland grazed systems.

As a bonus we allow participants to take the prototype tool away with them.

**For booking** please email Julie Ingram [jingram@glos.ac.uk](mailto:jingram@glos.ac.uk)

**For technical questions** please email Paul Burgess [p.burgess@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:p.burgess@cranfield.ac.uk)

**Directions:** <https://www.rothamsted.ac.uk/sites/default/files/Rothamsted%20Research%20-%20How%20to%20Find%20Us.pdf>

#### What does the tool do/how it can it help farmers?

The tool simulates **yield** of green leaf or total dry matter production **in response** to the climate (temperature, rainfall, solar radiation), carbon dioxide concentration, harvesting management (number and date of cuts, amount of leaf left after cutting), and nitrogen application. The tool **allows farmers to see how changing** the above will change the predicted amount and distribution of grass. Because the models are embedded in Microsoft Excel, people find it easy to change the assumptions within the models. The outputs are instantaneously displayed using Excel graphs.

