

# MEET THE FARMERS: DAVE AND CAROLINE WILLIAMS



Farmers, Dave and Caroline Williams run a herd of 450 three-way cross cows on an all-year-round calving system yielding approximately 8,800 litres per cow, at 4.2% butterfat and 3.4% protein. Located in Cheshire, Curtis Hulme Farm is made up of 540 acres, including 240 acres owned and 200 acres rented, with the rest contract farmed, growing maize, wheat, barley, and grass with clover leys.

The Williams family joined AHDB's Strategic Dairy Farm programme last year, which is designed to help farmers to learn from each other by sharing the stories of different farming systems from farms across the UK. The three-year programme is driven by farmers for farmers, using open meetings on a new cohort of farms to help levy payers share knowledge and learn from one another.

The objective is to give farmers the confidence to explore new ideas and adopt change in their own businesses. A steering group, made up of local farmers and advisors, helps each farm to identify challenges and set goals within the context of the local environment.

"Through joining the Strategic Dairy Farm programme, we want to look at soil mapping on the farm and increase herd productivity, with guidance from our steering group. We are looking forward to seeing what we can do in the next three years," said Dave.

Join Curtis Hulme Farm for its on-farm launch meeting on Tuesday 21 May. The day will include a farm tour, and Dave and Caroline will be sharing what they would like to achieve over the next three years.

**If you would like to attend their launch, register online at [ahdb.org.uk/events](https://ahdb.org.uk/events).**

## AHDB is recruiting a new Strategic Dairy Farm in Wales!

You can join our network of like-minded farmers that are on a journey to improve their farm businesses. As a Strategic Dairy Farm, you will get to make the most of experts within the industry, farmer-to-farmer learning through a steering group and open meetings to help you achieve your business goals and KPIs over three years.

If you are interested and would like to become our next Strategic Dairy Farm, contact Jamie McCoy at [jamie.mccoy@ahdb.org.uk](mailto:jamie.mccoy@ahdb.org.uk) or James Hague at [james.hague@ahdb.org.uk](mailto:james.hague@ahdb.org.uk) before Sunday 30 June.

