

Petworth Monitor Farm

Meeting title: Yield enhancement

Date: 24 October 2019

Speakers: Roger Sylvester-Bradley (ADAS), Alex Wilcox (YEN winner)



Yield Enhancement Network

Take-home messages

- Ensure efficient light and water capture to allow crops to achieve full yield potential – aim for maximum rooting and good tiller production, hence high biomass and grain numbers
- Use YEN to innovate on your farm to push yields – try new ideas on a plot and learn from the analysis through the report
- Work with nature to improve your yields, eg through pollination – use Countryside Stewardship to maximise potential in unproductive areas
- Dig holes to establish soil structure (don't roll if you don't have to)
- Grow the right variety
- Nutrient use efficiency – tissue sampling gives you data at the exact time; grain sampling will tell you if your plants have utilised the nutrients you have applied to that crop
- Use YEN to assist in developing a robust crop husbandry strategy for your farm BUT keep strategies simple!

Further information

- [Yield Enhancement Network](#)
- [Wheat growth guide](#)
- [Barley growth guide](#)
- [Farmbench](#)

AHDB resources

- Understand your business costs with AHDB's benchmarking tool Farmbench at ahdb.org.uk/farmbench
- Monitoring tools are available at ahdb.org.uk/tools
- Sign up to market information and research newsletters at ahdb.org.uk/keeping-in-touch
- Find out what's going on at other Monitor Farms and Strategic Farms at ahdb.org.uk/farm-excellence
- All AHDB events can be found at ahdb.org.uk/events
- For guidance on how Brexit will impact your business, see ahdb.org.uk/brexit

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