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**Newsletter January 2008**

<p><b>Slugs solids &amp; safety</b> Voluntary Initiative —Slugs, Solids &amp; NRoSO points —28<sup>th</sup> January am. Members initiative Workshop        Slugs, Solids and Safety.        The application of fertilizers &amp; slug pellets is one of the most important jobs on the farm, and poses particular challenges for operators. There are both cost, wildlife and quality issues. This 1/2 day course will give ample opportunity for discussion and best practice techniques. It will also include an update on the latest changes to pesticide regulations.</p>	<p><b>Lantra Basic Tree Survey</b> —23rd January 9.00am. Members Course Rate £75 —With recent high profile cases such as the Schoolboy killed at Felbrigg Hall by a falling branch, this course is a must for all of you that have trees along roadways and public footpaths. The aim of the course is to give training at a basic level on the legal situation of hazardous trees, recognition of foreseeable defects and level of risk and the appropriate action to take, based on your limitations.</p> 
<p><b>Tyre &amp; Traction</b> —22nd January, Terling, 9.00am Members Rate £45, NRoSO &amp; BASIS points available. This 1/2 day course will look at examining wheels on all soils. Wheels, loads, tyre pressures, tyre selection, compaction. It will give an improved appreciation of soils management and the effect of all vehicles working on the land. Thus all equipment can be operated more efficiently with both soils and energy management being highlighted.</p>	<p><b>Farm Machinery Costing &amp; Planning</b> —22nd January 13.30—17.30. Members Rate £45 This 1/2 day course will give you a knowledge of mechanisation operational costs, optimisation of machinery complements and will look at preparation of system costs comparisons. It will also look at standards and benchmarks for machinery complementing to various farm systems. Discussion on such comparisons and example costings are included. Ability to cost out systems on farm will be encouraged.</p>
<p><b>Fertilizer Calibration Clinic</b> —We still have places left for these clinics. This course can help improve spread patterns and distribution rates and prevent an overspend on fertilizers. Dates available 22nd Jan —B.S.E, 23rd January Haverhill, 7th February Kirtling, Nr Newmarket, 8th February, Lord Raleigh's Farms, Terling. Cost £105 per machine and a test certificate will be issued 6 NRoSO points available.</p>	

**Management Courses**

**Risk Assessment** —30th January, Haverhill area. Cost £75. This one -day course is designed for Managers and supervisor to give them the knowledge and practical skills to carry out general risk assessments, which are now required for most routine jobs and locations on the farm. It will cover the principles of risk assessment, current legislation and allow you to put risk assessment into practice.

**Price Risk Management** 5th February, Haverhill Golf Course, cost £20. Price is the biggest driver of farm profitability and in the age of decoupling, income from cropping is now 100% reliant on price. Market prices are extremely volatile, with wheat prices moving by at least **£100 per tonne** within this season. Increasing pressure on intervention is likely to mean further market uncertainty. Price Risk Management can help you secure minimum prices. This 1/2 day workshop run & part -funded by HGCA is designed to improve understanding and uptake of Price Risk Management among growers. Please support this event to ensure HGCA are prepared to fund courses for us in the future.

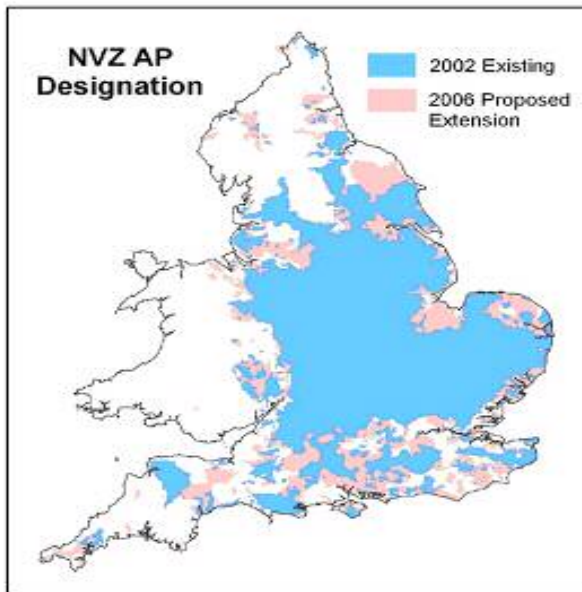
**Positive Land Management for Farmland Birds** —7th February, Hill Farm, Gestingthorpe, Free Course including Lunch. This 1 -day course is being delivered by the RSPB to members absolutely free of charge. It will be looking at Farmland birds, some identification, conservation status, key species and their habitats. It will then be looking specifically at environmental schemes and the action for farmland birds specifically in relation to boundary features, buffers and margins, arable land, crop types, grassland and set -aside. A farm walk will also take place demonstrating these features and having a live discussion. Places limited so please contact me ASAP.

**Inheritance & Capital Gains Tax** —21st February 9.00am, Ensors Bury St Edmunds. Members Course Rate £35 This short morning meeting will be looking at Capital Gain tax in relation to the basic principles, what exemptions are available and what can be done to mitigate liability, it will also look at Inheritance Tax and the recent changes that have occurred also at exemptions, agricultural property relief, business property relief and planning for reduction of liabilities. There will be a discount available for attending both accounting courses.

**Accounting Principles and VAT** —21st February 11.30am, Ensors Bury St Edmunds. Members Course Rate £35. This short morning course will follow on from the earlier Inheritance Tax meeting. It will look at the basic understanding of accounts and how to interpret them, it will also look at accounting profit and taxable profit, what is allowable for tax and what not, it will also look at VAT in relation to your business. There will be a discount available for attending both accounting courses.

# IMPORTANT COURSE NOT TO BE MISSED!

I am being told by the people in the know that you seriously need to attend this 1/2 day course. We have been lucky enough to be offered some of ADAS's DEFRA funding to cover the costs of the speakers so we can offer this course for £20.00 per person. If we have to run it again in the future it is more likely to cost Members £75.00 per person to bring in a consultant. So please book your place now. If I have to cancel this course ADAS will not be as keen to work with our Group again so please help me fill it!



in an NVZ, and if you aren't, under consultation the coverage will be the whole of England, - in either case UR AREA) will be included.

affected mainly livestock farmers but it is not a rare farmer's thing. For the rules require that if you intend to arbeet, you will have to put a and you cannot plough it out before

season for nitrogen fertiliser application (31 January), except for a small number of vegetable complete field by field nitrogen balances for 5 years. Under Cross Compliance NVZ rules on your single farm

nts, but the message is that all farms will be affected.

## FERTILIZER & MANURE MANAGEMENT — Haverhill Golf Club 29th January, 2007 9.00AM – 12.30PM £20.00 PER PERSON

- 1) The proposed changes to the NVZ areas and requirements - background and reasons for changes; details of proposals
- 2) Assessing what nutrients are needed by crops - by crop type & market requirements
- 3) Calculating nutrient supply from applied manures and the soil itself - taking account of manure type & quantity and soil type
- 4) Calculating farm average maximum N rate for a range of crops & whole farm manure N loading.
- 5) Storage and handling of manures - requirements of proposed NVZ revisions
- 6) Closed spreading periods for fertiliser & manures
- 7) Cover crops - proposed rules for cover crops where no winter crops sown.
- 8) Further help for farmers (sources such as g.PLANET)

### Course Availability

#### January

		NRoSO	BASIS
Monday 14th	FLTRough Terrain Telescopic Refresher		
Tuesday 15th	FLTRough Terrain Telescopic Refresher		
Monday 21st & 22nd	FLTRough Terrain Telescopic		
Tuesday 22nd	Tyre & Traction 1/2 Day am	TBA	8
Tuesday 22nd	Farm Machinery Planning & Costing 1/2 day pm		
Wednesday 23rd	Lantra Basic Tree Survey		
Monday 28th	Slugs Solids & Safety, Withersfield Village Hall	10	
Tuesday 29th	Fertilizer & Manure Management, Haverhill Golf Club		
Wednesday 30th	Risk Assessment Manager course		
Thursday 31st	Lantra Chainsaw Maintenance & Cross -Cutting Refresher		
Thursday 31st	FLT Industrial Masted Refresher		

#### February

Tuesday 5th	Price Risk Management		
Tuesday 5th	PA1—Safe Use of Pesticides	12	12
Wednesday 6th	Lantra Chainsaw Maintenance & Cross -Cutting Refresher		
Thursday 7th	Positive Land Management for Farmland Birds		
Friday 8th	FLT Industrial Masted Conversion		
Friday 8th	Emergency First Aid, Gosfield Golf Club		
Monday 11th	Spray Operators Update Course	12	10
Tuesday 19th	PA4—Granular Application	12	12
Thursday 21st	Inheritance & Capital Gains Tax		
Thursday 21st	Accounts Interpretation & VAT		
Tuesday 26th	PA6—Hand Held Application	12	12