

# Soils and Cereals

A CALU workshop looking at the importance of soils in planning cereal crops, and the wide range of cereals suitable for production in Wales

Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2008, 1.30pm – 3.30pm  
Henfaes Research Centre, Abergwyngregyn, LL33 0LB



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Cereal production is increasing. Whether the crops are being grown for feed, food or processing, their value is high. However, to achieve optimal and sustainable cropping, cereals have to be matched to the site and soils they will be grown on and in. One part of today's event will focus on soils and how to decide what crop your soils are best suited to, and how to manage the crop and soil sustainably.

The two mainstays of cereal production in Wales are barley and oats. Another aspect of today's event will be considering novel varieties of barley and oats which are being developed in Wales. Bangor University is doing pioneering work with naked barley strains, whilst IBERS is at the forefront of developments with naked oats. Both of these crops offer real potential as high value niche crops.

The event is being led by expert advisers from both Bangor and Aberystwyth Universities. HGCA publications, e.g. recommended lists of cereal varieties and agronomy advice will be available. Advice from Gwynedd's Biodiversity Officer will be available.

**Programme** (NB – the programme is flexible with plenty of time for questions and answers)

- 1.30pm – 1.45pm Registration, coffee and welcome
- 1.45pm – 2.15pm
- Cereal production in Wales – an overview (Dr Heather McCalman, Grassland Development Centre, IBERS)
  - Naked oats – benefits and agronomy (Dr Heather McCalman)
  - Naked Barley – Agronomy and usage (Dr Edward Dickin)
- 2.15pm – 3.00pm **Crop walk**
- Soil evaluation in the field (Chris Duller, Grassland Development Centre, IBERS)
  - Naked barley field trials led by Dr Edward Dickin
- 3.00pm – 3.30pm Tasting of Naked barley products, including bread baked by Popty Cae Groes, and question and answer session

*This is an outdoor event - Please bring appropriate clothing*

## How much will the event cost?

This event is **free**. It is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government's Farming Connect Knowledge Transfer Development Programme for Land Management which is delivered by CALU.

**To book your place, or if you have any enquires please contact [calu@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:calu@bangor.ac.uk) or phone 01248 680450.**

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CALU delivers the Knowledge Transfer Development Programme for Land Management on behalf of Farming Connect



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## **Directions**

### **From West**

Exit A55 at Abergwyngregyn. Turn first right, next left (before underpass). Continue until see Henfaes sign on left hand side, turn left. Towards end of lane, bear left alongside converted barn and park in courtyard behind.

### **From East**

Exit A55 at Abergwyngregyn. Turn right, then right again (through underpass), then right again immediately after underpass. Continue until see Henfaes sign on left hand side, turn left. Towards end of lane, bear left alongside converted barn and park in courtyard behind.