



Supporting biodiversity in livestock systems – a farmers' perspective

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The farmer perspective

Designing schemes and farmer uptake

- Key points:
 - "Work with farmers, not with farmers in mind"
 - Engage and add value
 - Long term measures
 - Manage risk



The farmer situation

- Business, livelihood or hobby?
- Caretaker
- A lot of responsibility/skills stems from one or few people
- Heavily regulated sector
- Workplace and often home



The farm perspective

- Trends of specialisation and scale
- Climate change adaption
- System approach
- Livestock systems are long term.
- Change of production is gradual and slow – "to breed the right cow could take decades".
- Cost intensity and pay-off of alterations to production.



CC on CAP biodiversity and farmer uptake

Attractiveness: **design, fit to the realities on the ground**

- Financial factors – investment, payment rates etc
- Policy design and implementation
- Fit with existing land management practices
- Environmental awareness
- Market developments



Designing a successful scheme

- Co-Design Approach: focus on common ground/aspirations
- Work with farmers – not with “farmers in mind”
- Involve stakeholders along the agri-food value chain
- Long term and consistent
- Consider existing structures and history
- Be aware of goal conflicts/trade offs



Good characteristics

- Easy to understand and manage
- Results based – many ways to reach a goal.
- Consistent and long term
- Buffé-principle vs one solution fits all
- Adds value
- Reward vs risk
- In tune with the farmer's year
- Mutual knowledge transfer structure



Key points

- Farmers are the caretakers
- "Work with farmers, not with farmers in mind"
- Engage and add value
- Long term and manage risk

