



LINKING ENVIRONMENT AND FARMING

Media release

22 January 2020

LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) launches Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS) trial

LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) is offering 60 farmers the chance to participate in pre-pilot trials looking at aspects of the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS), that will pay Land Managers for delivering public goods under the 25 Year Environment Plan.

LEAF, which has nearly 30 years of experience in the development and promotion of sustainable farming delivered through Integrated Farm Management, has been asked by Defra to explore how training and advice can help farmers to provide the 'public goods' towards which public money will be directed.

Lucy Bates, ELMS Project Coordinator from LEAF explains: "We are delighted to be working with Defra in supporting farmers and their businesses on this transition. The new ELMS Tests & Trials project is a unique opportunity for farmers to play a part in shaping future policy whilst accessing LEAF's tried and trusted training."

Using monitored progression towards the established LEAF Marque certification as a measure of effectiveness, LEAF will provide training and support in the implementation of Integrated Farm Management techniques as part of the trial. There will be networking opportunities and the project offers participants the chance to have a positive impact at this important time for policy formulation.

Cont../

Farmers looking to participate must be located in England and will receive benefits including a package of training, a support network and £500 towards their time and other costs, including membership of LEAF.

Applications close on **29th January 2020**. Those looking to apply can do so by visiting <https://leafuk.org/about-leaf/working-in-partnership/elms-environmental-land-management-scheme> or contacting lucy.bates@leafuk.org

ENDS

For interview opportunities or further information please contact:

Cat Cambridge / David Gough
LEAF Press Office - Ceres
T: 01189 475 956
E: leaf@ceres-pr.co.uk

Notes to Editors:

- **LEAF** is a leading organisation delivering more sustainable food and farming. LEAF works with farmers, the food industry, scientists and consumers to inspire and enable sustainable farming that is prosperous, enriches the environment and engages local communities.
- **LEAF** promotes **Integrated Farm Management (IFM)**, a whole farm business approach that uses the best of modern technology and traditional methods to deliver more sustainable farming. IFM is made up of nine sections, which together address the entire farm business. These include soil and water management, pollution control, crop health and protection, animal welfare, community engagement, energy efficiency and landscape and nature conservation.
- **The LEAF Marque** is a leading global environmental assurance system recognising more sustainably farmed products. It is underpinned by the sustainable farming principles of IFM. **LEAF Marque** certified businesses are independently verified against the LEAF Marque Standard.

- The LEAF Network includes **LEAF Demonstration Farms** – commercial farms in England and Scotland, which show the beneficial practices of IFM to a broad range of audiences, through organised visits. They communicate an understanding of IFM to encourage uptake by farmers, support from the industry and political awareness of sustainable food and farming. The LEAF Network also includes **LEAF Innovation Centres** – research organisations from across the UK whose work supports the research, evidence, development and promotion of IFM.

LEAF, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LG

t: 02476 413911

e: enquiries@leafuk.org

w: www.leafuk.org

LEAF is a registered charity (No. 1045781) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England (No. 3035047).