A beginners guide to arable farming

Demonstrate an understanding of arable farming.
Make better decisions that take into account the needs of the farm.
Gain confidence when engaging with farm businesses.

**Practical Agronomy**

**ePR02**

**Designed for:**
An entry level course designed for those who are new to agriculture and need a basic understanding of arable farming. This course is ideally suited to people working in the agricultural industry, but not directly involved in farming.

**Entry requirement:**
No previous knowledge is required for this course.

**Price:**
£150 + VAT as part of a subscription to all e-learning courses at www.artistraining.com or £20 for access to this course only.

**Duration:**
2 hours – self paced.

**CPD points:**
4 BASIS points; 2 NRoSO points.

**Learning outcomes:**
At the end of this course you will be able to:

- Understand the process of growing six common agricultural crops.
- Show how the food supply chain is structured – from crop research and development to purchase of products by the consumer.
- Understand the importance of factors such as soil and rotations on arable farming.

This entry level course gives an overview of arable agriculture, showing the process of growing six common agricultural crops over the course of a year, as well as exploring related issues, such as soil, rotations and the supply chain from crop research and development through to purchase of the product by the consumer.

The course contains the following sections:

- The road from research to fork with insight into the arable supply chain: Research and development; agro-industry suppliers; arable production; merchants; processing; retailer through to the consumer.
- Soils for arable farming: Types/textures; mineral properties; structure.
- Soil problems: Compaction; cultivation/plough pan; capping.
- Crop rotation: What is crop rotation and why is it important to rotate crops? Information is given on crop choice.
- The arable year: Explores the processes involved in growing winter wheat, winter barley, potatoes, field beans, sugar beet and oilseed rape through the course of a year. This section also looks at common pests, diseases and weeds and describes the damage they cause.
- Arable farm machinery: Land preparation; drilling; applications; harvest; maintenance.
- Production figures and useful charts.
- Useful glossary, with definitions of key terms.
- Arable year toolbox.

This course would be ideally suited to people working in the agricultural industry, but not directly involved in farming or agricultural science, who may benefit from learning more about their industry. It would also be suited to new entrants or potential new entrants to the industry who have no farming background.

This is a self-paced course which may take up to two hours to complete in one sitting; however users can complete it at their own pace, revisiting sections as and when required. Do read the instructions on navigation carefully, as this will help you to find your way around and not miss anything interesting. This course does not offer BASIS/NRoSO points as it is not aimed at participants who would require those CPD points.

**Trainers:**
Nick Watson, NIAB TAG and Liz Robinson, Technical Writer, NIAB TAG.

For more information or to book online go to www.artistraining.com

01223 342444  info@artistraining.com  @ARTIStraining

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