

Strategies for sustainable soil management



Prevent yield loss due to compaction • Improve soil structure
Save money, nutrients and fuel • Principles of control traffic farming

Designed for:

Individuals who wish to understand how to improve soil structure on farm and select appropriate cultivations, land drainage and soil management techniques to achieve optimum and sustainable crop yields

Entry requirement:

An intermediate course best suited to those who are **able** to demonstrate some practical experience

Price:

£225 + VAT

Duration:

One day classroom and field-based course

CPD points:

CPD points to be awarded

Learning outcomes:

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

- Investigate, describe and interpret soil structural conditions
- Relate the degree and depth of compaction in an individual field to key contributing factors
- Take practical measures to alleviate compaction
- Prevent soil issues by considering machinery and tyre selection, controlled traffic principles, cover crops and field drainage
- Assess the impact on soil structure, management and drainage challenges of soil type, geology, land block connectivity, as well as historic/present land use and management.
- Identify risky situations and learn about opportunities for alternative management plans

- Understand ways of reducing the risk of soil structural issues, runoff, loss of nutrients and surface applied pesticides from land to water courses
- Recognise the impact of land management (e.g. sowing and harvest date, crop choices, rotations and field set-up) on soil and water resources and crop yields and the wider environment
- role of key agri-environmental policy and legislation (e.g. NVZs, catchment sensitive farming) in farming systems

Content:

Classroom module 1 (half day) – Land management and drainage:

- The impact of soil structure on crop production and methods of assessment
- The implications of soil type, soil condition and organic matter content on structure
- Tyres and compaction, including the implications of load, tyre pressure, design, working speed, condition and number of passes minimising structural issues through controlled traffic principles

Field module 2 (half day) – Practical guidance on soil and drainage management:

- Exploring evidence of cultivation effect on soil structure and drainage, and implications for optimal management
- Visual evaluation of soil structure using soil pits

Trainer:

Mel Holloway, Senior Farm Consultant, RSK ADAS UK Ltd
Milly Bowden, Farm Consultant, RSK ADAS UK Ltd

This course is an ideal follow on from **SW01 – Essentials of good soil management**

SW03



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