Working together for a healthy river

Cranfield UNIVERSITY

Application of the *FARMSCOPER* Decision-Support Tool to the Wensum Catchment

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Research objectives

- Evaluate application of *FARMSCOPER* to the Wensum catchment
- Develop cost curves for different mitigation measures according to soil type and land use
- Discuss results with agronomists
- Evaluate optimal locations for implementation of cost-effective methods

Key messages

- *FARMSCOPER* is a useful software tool for providing guidance on the selection of mitigation measures

But:

- How realistic are the prices?
- What are the constraints against implementing the low (or money saving) cost options?

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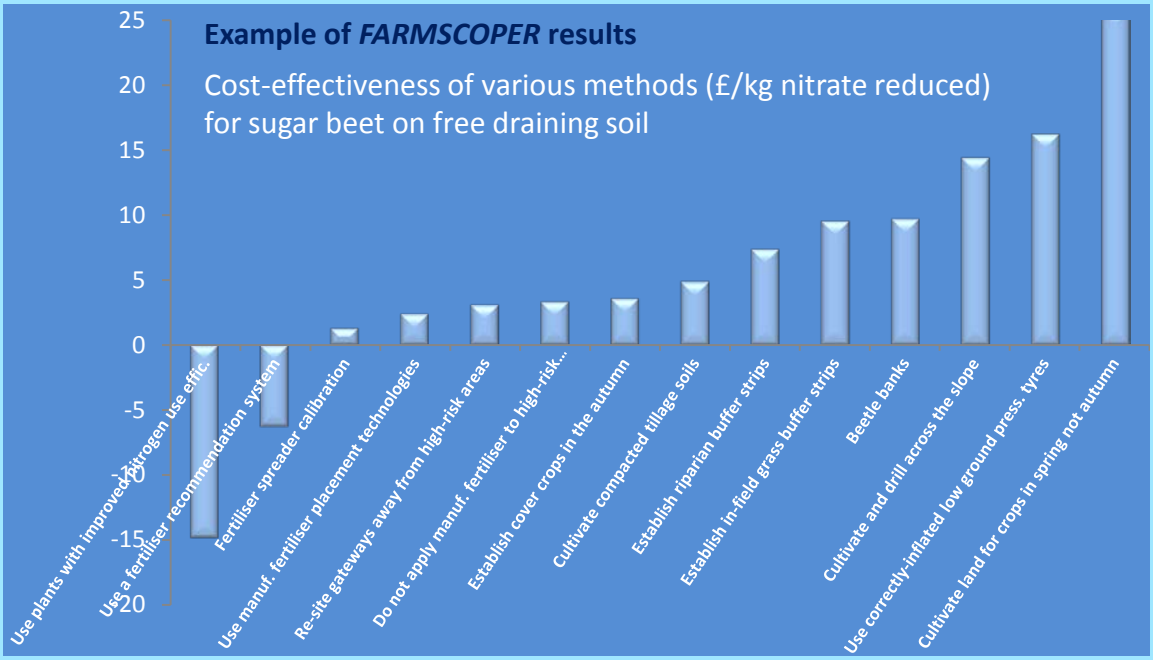
Description of research/methods

What is *FARMSCOPER**?

- *FARMSCOPER* is a decision-support tool for farmers
- Free, user-friendly software (http://www.adas.co.uk/Home/Projects/FARMSCOPER/tabid/345/Default.aspx)
- Assesses diffuse agricultural pollution losses from farms
- Quantifies the impact of mitigation measures on these pollutant losses
- Contains over 100 mitigation measures

Inputs: Crop type, soil type (impermeable or free-draining), rainfall, fertiliser application rates, degree of implementation of prior measures, land surface area.

Outputs: Pollutant losses generated and list of mitigation measures with relative pollutant reduction and cost.



The cost abatement curve above classifies the different mitigation measures according to their cost-effectiveness. Measures with negative values will save the farmer money whereas the measures with positive values come at a cost.

Exchanging knowledge

Sharing expertise

Wensum Alliance

www.wensumalliance.org.uk

defra Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Environment Agency

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru Welsh Assembly Government

Living With Environmental Change