

DEVON COUNTY FARMS ESTATE
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR EXISTING TENANTS



**NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE USE AND INFORMATION REQUIRED TO ASSESS
POTENTIAL ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FEASIBILITY**

The County Council is currently producing a Pollinator's Action Plan setting out how Council activities (including the County Farms Estate) support the conservation of bees and other pollinators. As part of this the Council has been asked, where possible, to prohibit the use of neonicotinoid pesticides (which some commentators believe is having a harmful effect on pollinators including bees) on land that the Council manages. This request will be easy over much of the DCC Estate. However the Council appreciates that the situation regards the County Farms Estate is complex and that **further information is needed on their use across the Farms Estate BEFORE existing tenants may be asked to sign up to a VOLUNTARY CODE agreeing to not use any neonic pesticides.** The Council has therefore asked us to undertake this quick survey to understand how neonics are used on our CFE.

1. How many acres do you farm? acres

- > Devon County Council rented land
- > Other rented land (AHA '86 tenancies and FBT's)
- > Grazing/cropping licences
- > Owned land
- > Total

2. What is your typical cropping pattern? acres

- > Permanent Pasture
- > Temporary Pasture
- > Wheat
- > Barley
- > Maize
- > Forage crop (Rape, kale, beat & stubble turnip type mixes)
- > Other

3. What is your current total number of livestock? Head

- > Dairy cows
- > Dairy young stock (0 - 12 months)
- > Dairy young stock (12 - 24 months)
- > Suckler cows
- > Beef cattle (0 - 12 months)
- > Beef cattle (12 - 24 months)
- > Sheep (ewe flock only)
- > Other (Please specify:)
- > Other (Please specify:)

4. In terms of pest control, do you , or your contractor/agronomist use any of the pesticides listed on the back of this questionnaire which all contain Neonicotinoids? Please put a x in each box on reverse.

Yes/no

5. If you answered yes to qu. 4 above, then is it because they are:

(a) More effective than other Pesticides? Yes/no

(b) More cost effective than other Pesticides? Yes/no

6. Did you previously use any of the Neonic Pesticides that are now restricted by the EU? Yes/no

If yes, then has this restriction caused any problems ie less effective pest control, lower yields, enforced change in farming system?

Please specify how:

7. Would you be interested in a FREE training event on Pesticides and initiatives such as Integrated Pest Management Plans? Yes/no

8. Would you be willing to sign up to a VOLUNTARY suspension on the use of ALL Neonicotinoid Pesticides on all crops on all County Council leased land? Yes/no

The information you are being asked to supply may be subject to the Data Protection Act 1998. It will be held by NPS South West Ltd and Devon County Council and be used by us for considering the extent of Neonicotinoid Pesticide Use on the Estate and to refresh data held that may inform whether or not Anaerobic Digestion is a viable renewable energy opportunity anywhere on the Estate. If we want to use the information for any other purpose, we will not do so without your express prior written consent. The information will be stored securely while you remain a tenant on the Estate after which it will be destroyed. The information specifically relating to your farm will not be disclosed to any other party without your express prior written consent although the information will be collated and merged with information provided by other tenants to produce Estate wide reports which may be made publicly available.

Thank you for spending time on completing this questionnaire.