

A man and a woman are walking through a field. The man is in the foreground, wearing a dark vest over a light-colored shirt and dark trousers, holding a bundle of hay. The woman is walking slightly behind him to the right, wearing a light-colored sweater and dark trousers. In the background, there are large hay bales and a wooden fence. The entire image is overlaid with a dark blue semi-transparent filter.

Curtins

UNDERSTANDING THE SUSTAINABLE FARMING SCHEME

DEALL Y CYNLLUN
FFERMIO CYNALIADWY

UNDERSTANDING THE SUSTAINABLE FARMING SCHEME

The Welsh Assembly Government's Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) is set to transform agriculture by encouraging environmentally sustainable practices. The initiative shifts focus to innovative soil classification testing and advanced management strategies, moving away from the traditional EU subsidy models. While the full details of the SFS are still being finalised, Curtins are equipped to support farmers during this transition. We provide expertise in nutrient management soil tests and borehole water tests, aiding farmers as they enter a new sustainable farming era.

DEALL Y CYNLLUN FFERMIO CYNALIADWY

Cais Cynllun Ffermio Cynaliadwy (CFC) y Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru yw trawsffurfio amaethyddiaeth trwy annog ymarferion amgylcheddol cynaliadwy. Mae'r fenter yn canolbwyntio ar brofion dosbarthiad pridd arloesol a strategaethau rheoli datblygedig, yn symud oddi ar enghreifftiau cymhorthdal traddodiadol yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Er bod y manylion llawn dal i gael eu penderfynu, mae Curtins yn barod i gynorthwyo ffermwyr yn ystod yr amser o drawsnewid. Rydyn ni'n darparu arbenigedd mewn profion rheoli maetholion pridd a phrofion dŵr treidd-dwll er mwyn cefnogi ffermwyr ar eu mynediad i gyfnod newydd o ffermio cynaliadwy.





THE IMPORTANCE OF SOIL TESTING

A cornerstone of the SFS is soil testing, which helps farmers evaluate soil conditions and nutrient profiles. This knowledge allows for optimised input management, improved soil health, increased agricultural productivity, and cost reductions. Comprehensive soil testing covers soil nutrient levels, biodiversity assessments, and physical soil conditions.

The Welsh Government's draft proposals suggest grants for soil testing, with specific criteria required to access new subsidies. These include:

- **SOIL CHEMISTRY**
Measuring nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), soil organic matter, and pH levels.
- **BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**
Conducting environmental DNA (eDNA) tests, respiration rate analysis and species counts, such as earthworm populations and a variety of micro organisms.
- **PHYSICAL ASSESSMENT**
Evaluating infiltration rates, bulk density, and/or utilising the Visual Evaluation of Soil Structure (VESS).

PWYSIGRWYDD PROFION PRIDD

Un sylfaen o'r CFC yw profion dosbarthiad pridd sy'n galluogi ffermwyr i werthuso amodau pridd a phroffiliau maetholion. Mae'r wybodaeth hon yn caniatáu gwell goruchwyliaeth mewnbynnu ac iechyd pridd, yn ogystal â chynnydd mewn cynhyrchedd amaethyddol, a lleihad mewn cost. Mae profion pridd cynhwysfawr yn cynnwys lefelau maetholion cemegol, asesiadau bioamrywiaeth, ac amodau ffisegol y pridd.

Mae cynigion drafft Llywodraeth Cymru yn awgrymu grantiau ar gyfer profion pridd, gyda meini prawf penodol eu hangen i gael cymorthdaliadau newydd, gan gynnwys:

- **PROFION CEMEGOL**
I fesur nitrogen (N), ffosfforws (P), potasiwm (K), carbon pridd, a lefelau pH.
- **ASESIAD BIOLEGOL**
Cynnal profion DNA amgylcheddol, dadansoddiadau cyfradd resbiradaeth, a chyfrifon rhywogaethau megis poblogaethau abwydod.
- **ASESIAD FFISEGOL**
Gwerthuso cyfraddau ymdreiddiad, dwysedd swmp, neu ddefnyddio'r Gwerthusiad Gweledol Adeileddau Pridd (Visual Evaluation of Soil Structures).

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

With approximately 1.7 million hectares of agricultural land in Wales reliant on farming subsidies, transitioning to the SFS demands a substantial increase in soil testing, aiming to conduct 5.2 million tests nationwide. These tests range in cost from £8 to over £1,500.

To meet this challenge, Curtins has partnered with a leading environmental analytical company to help farmers manage the increased demand whilst minimising costs. We also work in collaboration with prominent geological drilling firms to enhance soil sampling processes, through traditional hand-digging or innovative dune buggy-mounted drilling rigs for efficiency.

We are aligned with key stakeholders to manage and optimise the soil sample volume, helping to overcome challenges in agricultural laboratories limitations and shortages of specialists during the transition.

CYRRAEDD YR HER

Gyda bron i 1.7 miliwn hectar o dir amaethyddol yng Nghymru yn dibynnu ar gymorthdaliadau, mae trosglwyddo i'r CFC yn gorchymyn cynnydd sylweddol mewn profion pridd, gyda nod o gynnal 5.2 miliwn o brofion ledled y wlad. Mae cost y profion yn amrywio o £8 hyd dros £1,500.

Er mwyn curo'r her hon, mae Curtins wedi ymuno gyda chwmni amgylcheddol analytig blaenllaw er mwyn cynorthwyo ffermwyr i reoli'r cynnydd yn y galw wrth leihau'r gost. Rydyn ni hefyd yn cydweithio gyda chwmnïau drilio daearegol er mwyn gwella prosesau samplu pridd, trwy gloddio-llaw traddodiadol neu drwy'r defnydd o rigiau drilio wedi'u gosod ar bygis twyni i gynyddu effeithlonrwydd.

Rydyn ni mewn cytundeb â rhanddeiliaid allweddol i reoli a gwella maint y sampl pridd er mwyn goresgyn heriau megis cyfyngiadau labordai amaethyddol a phrinder arbenigwyr yn ystod y newid.





HOW CURTINS CAN HELP

We understand the vital role soil health plays in agriculture and are dedicated to supporting the farming community. Our team of environmental engineers will expertly deliver soil testing and analysis across Welsh farms, empowering farmers to meet SFS standards straightforwardly.

Our other complimentary services include:

- Environmental Soil & Water Assessments: Point source pollution analysis, advanced surface water monitoring, thorough soil and water testing, heavy metal contamination, and compost.
- Carbon sequestration in soil calculations
- Geotechnical Design: Foundation, retaining walls and earthworks
- Civils Design: Drainage, external works and earthworks.
- Transport Planning: Car parks, access roads and transport assessments
- Flood Risk Assessment & Hydraulic Modelling: Surface water layouts
- Structural Engineering: Design for agricultural sheds, barns, solar/wind farms, new buildings, large fences, gas-to-energy projects, anaerobic digesters, silage tanks, silos, yard design, and various external bases
- Structural Condition Surveys: Visual inspection for cracks and subsidence

SUT FEDRU CURTINS BOD O GYMORTH

Rydyn ni'n deall pwysigrwydd iechyd y pridd a'i swyddogaeth hanfodol mewn amaethyddiaeth ac felly'n benderfynol o gynorthwyo'r gymuned ffermio. Bydd ein tîm o beirianwyr amgylcheddol arbenigol yn darparu dadansoddiadau a phroffion pridd ar draws ffermydd Cymreig gan gefnogi ffermwyr i gyrraedd safonau'r CFC.

Ein Gwasanaethau Ychwanegol:

- Asesiadau Amgylcheddol Pridd a Dŵr: Dadansoddiadau llygredd tarddle penodol, monitro dŵr wyneb datblygedig, profion pridd a dŵr trylwyr, halogiad metelau trwm, a chompost.
- Atafaelu carbon mewn cyfrifiadau pridd.
- Dyluniad Daear-dechnegol: Sylfaen, waliau cynnal a gwrthgloddiau.
- Dyluniad Sifil: Draeniad, gwaith allanol a gwrthgloddiau.
- Cynllunio Trafnidiaeth: meysydd parcio, ffyrdd mynediad ac asesiadau trafndiaeth.
- Asesiad Bygythiad Llifogydd a Modelu Hydrolig: gosodiadau dŵr wyneb.
- Peirianeg Adeileddol: Dyluniad am siediau amaethyddol, ysguboriau, ffermydd solar/gwynt, adeiladau newydd, ffensys mawr, prosiectau nwy-i-drydan, treulwyr anaerobig, tanciau silwair, seilos, dyluniadau buarth, ac amrywiaeth o ganolfannau allanol.
- Arolygon Cyflwr Adeileddol: Arolygiad gweledol ar gyfer craciau ac ymsuddiant.

For more information or to schedule a farm visit, please contact us.

Am ragor o wybodaeth neu i gofrestru ymweliad fferm, cysylltwch â ni.

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