



Information Sheet

DATA- Devon Agri Tech Accelerator

Devon Agri Tech Accelerator (DATA) is a pilot scheme delivered through the UK government's Community Renewal Fund (CRF) programme. Supporting the CRF's levelling-up agenda, DATA will provide innovation support to Farms in Torridge and West Devon, support Agri-Tech businesses across the county, and build a collaborative alliance to foster innovation and growth.

DATA consists of four elements:

- Sector research and mapping to understand the landscape and opportunities for Agri-tech.
- Develop an Agri-Tech alliance of businesses and organisations across Devon.
- A Knowledge Exchange and Grant Pilot, to support Devon's Agri-Tech developers.
- A Farm Innovation Pilot in Torridge & West Devon, to develop a toolkit to facilitate innovation in farming.

Farm Innovation Pilot in Torridge & West Devon

Delivered by Business Information Point (BIP) and The Rural Business School at Duchy College, this offers the opportunity for 34 farms in the West Devon and Torridge areas to benefit from one-to-one support to

- Analyse the farm enterprise,
- Complete carbon audits and create Decarbonisation Plans, and
- Explore the potential for change and develop Innovation Plans for their businesses.

Buyers of agricultural products are increasingly demanding information from their suppliers on carbon use, so this is a great opportunity to prepare and begin understanding your carbon footprint and how to reduce it in practical ways. Similarly, farms are under pressure to adopt new technologies, change their operations or diversify their businesses, this pilot will help participants understand what is relevant and develop bespoke action plans.



Participating Farms will: -

Receive **one to one support**, including a farm visit (Covid Government advice allowing) with an experienced Agricultural Business Advisor from BIP to carry out a carbon audit and produce a Decarbonisation Plan.

In some instances, further farm enterprise analysis will also take place.

Receive **one to one support** from the Rural Business School to create an Innovation Plan for the farm.

Such plans will consider advancements in the sector; the businesses readiness to innovate; opportunities for diversification and new crops; and the cost effectiveness of technologies. Decarbonisation Plans, and farm enterprise information completed with BIP will be shared with The Rural Business School ahead of this to help inform the Innovation Plan.

Receive **priority invitations** to two show case events demonstrating Agri-Tech advancements and the technologies available to farmers.

Participating farms will need to commit to one-to-one support between 1st February and 31st May and be prepared with work with both BIP and the Rural Business School.

Register Now

To register your interest in receiving support through the Farm Innovation Pilot please contact us via team@businessinfopoint.co.uk or on freephone 0800 592872.

The DATA project is led by Devon County Council, in collaboration with Business Information Point, the University of Plymouth and Duchy College. It is funded by the UK government through the UK Community Renewal Fund, which is managed by Devon County Council.

The UK Community Renewal Fund is a UK Government programme for 2021/22. This aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK, to pilot programmes and new approaches to build community resilience and prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. It invests in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment. For more information, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus>.

