Scotland’ Woodland Expansion

What part can Agroforestry play?

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Current land use

- Agriculture – 67%
- Forestry -17%

- Cattle – 2.3 mill to 1.8 mill (20 yrs)
- Sheep – 8.5 mill – 6.5 mill (20 yrs)
- Result of extensification payments
Concerns from Farming Community

- Perceived loss of Agricultural production
- Government purchase of productive farms (44 to date)
- Loss of rural communities and viability of services

- Over 1 mill ha of land where LSU/ha < 0.12 (1 sheep)
- 7 starter farms leased and more to follow
- Alternative rural employment
- Set up WEAG
• 6 stakeholder meetings for open discussion

• High quality land to be kept in agriculture
• Lack of skills amongst Farmers
• Better integration of land use and policies
• Permission to graze existing woodland
• Most farms could accommodate up to 10% woodland
• Existing woodlands not being managed
• **No3**
  • The focus of woodland expansion should be away from prime agricultural land.
  • Grazing land has significant potential (for woodland expansion)

• **No10**
  • Making use of Agroforestry measures in the RDR
  • Support woodland creation models which combine grazing and shelter.
The way forward?

- Agroforestry measures to be included in Scotland’s revised RDP
- Continue lobbying to ensure that we have an integrated RDP
- Work with EU to ensure that 7% greening will allow for inclusion of managed woodland, in particular woodland managed with grazing being an outcome.
• Richard Lockett Rural Affairs Secretary stated
• The report was ‘practical and realistic’
• “The Scottish Government is committed to achieving a balance between achieving our woodland creation targets and the needs of agriculture”.
• “It fits very well with our Land Use Strategy principles of making the best use of our land”
• “I recognise the farming sector’s desire to protect land for food production”