

EML and Biodiversity. IPM practical impact on weed management

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What can we do to support all farmers to fully adopt a truly IPM approach to land management.

- Help farmers to learn from each other, share best practice of what works for them and our environment at the same time as improving their farming business
- Focus on soil health and environmental benefits that help reduce farmers costs and the need for pesticides
- Get farmers to focus on how they reduce their pesticide use over a number of years by changing their farming practices
- Use science to lead the way but also take into account public opinion
- Focus on how we can farm with less inputs
- Have the same standards for all food consumed in the UK
- Incentivise farmers to use the full range of management tools and not just tick boxes



Starting at the beginning with farming best practices.

- We need to start from the view point, and change the farmers mindset, that we can farm without pesticides
- Organic farming demonstrates what can be done with good management
- We need to be able to demonstrate and show farmers how working with our landscape, soil, nature and science can reduce our need for pesticides.
- How working with nature, improving soil health is more profitable and reduces weed burdens

ELM and SFI

- SFI arable and horticultural soil standard introductory £22 for Ha
- Action 1. Complete a soil assessment and produce a soil management plan
- Action 2. Test soil organic matter
- Action 3. Add organic material to the land once during three years
- Action 4. Have green cover on at least 70% of the land over winter.

SFI soil Intermediate standard

- Action 1. Complete a soil assessment and produce a soil management plan
- Action 2. Test soil organic matter
- Action 3. Add organic material to all land in the standard at least once during the agreement.
- Action 4 Have green on at least 50% of the land in this level of standard overwinter and multi species cover crops on an additional 20% of the land.

ELM SFI IPM standards coming soon

- A new IPM standard will focus on ways that combined cultural, biological physical and chemical tools to manage disease, weeds and invertebrates in an environmentally sensitive way.
- Planning and a live document
- Training and knowledge transfer
- Habitat creation
- Long crop rotations with varying crops
- Reducing pesticide inputs.

The answer is not in new products but it's in
the way we farm



The answer is working with nature to have a healthy environment,
healthy soils and healthy crops.



This is how we used to move the soil



We have changed our crop establishment to help improve our soil health.



Using cover crops to improve your soil health and reduce weed burdens

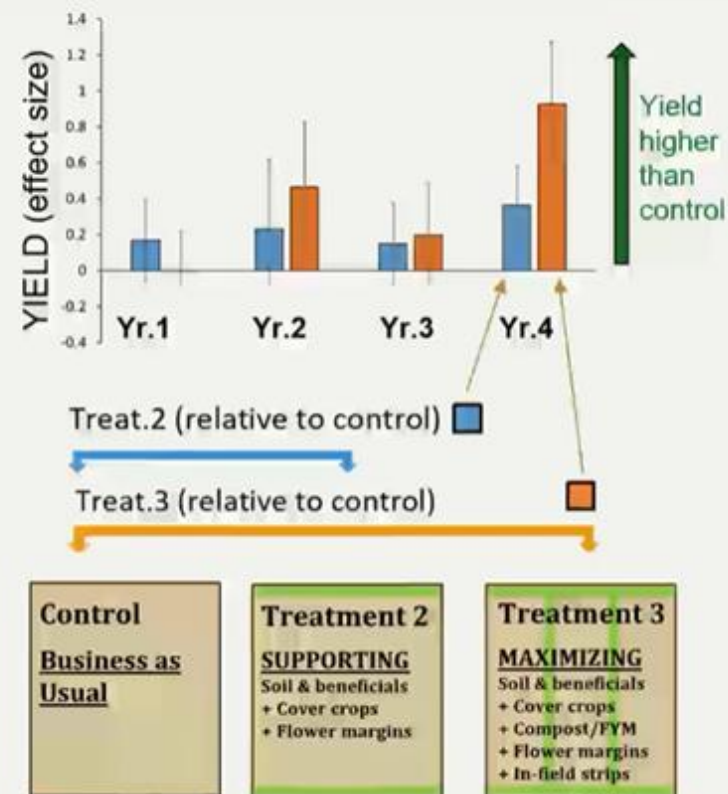


Working with nature can improve outputs.

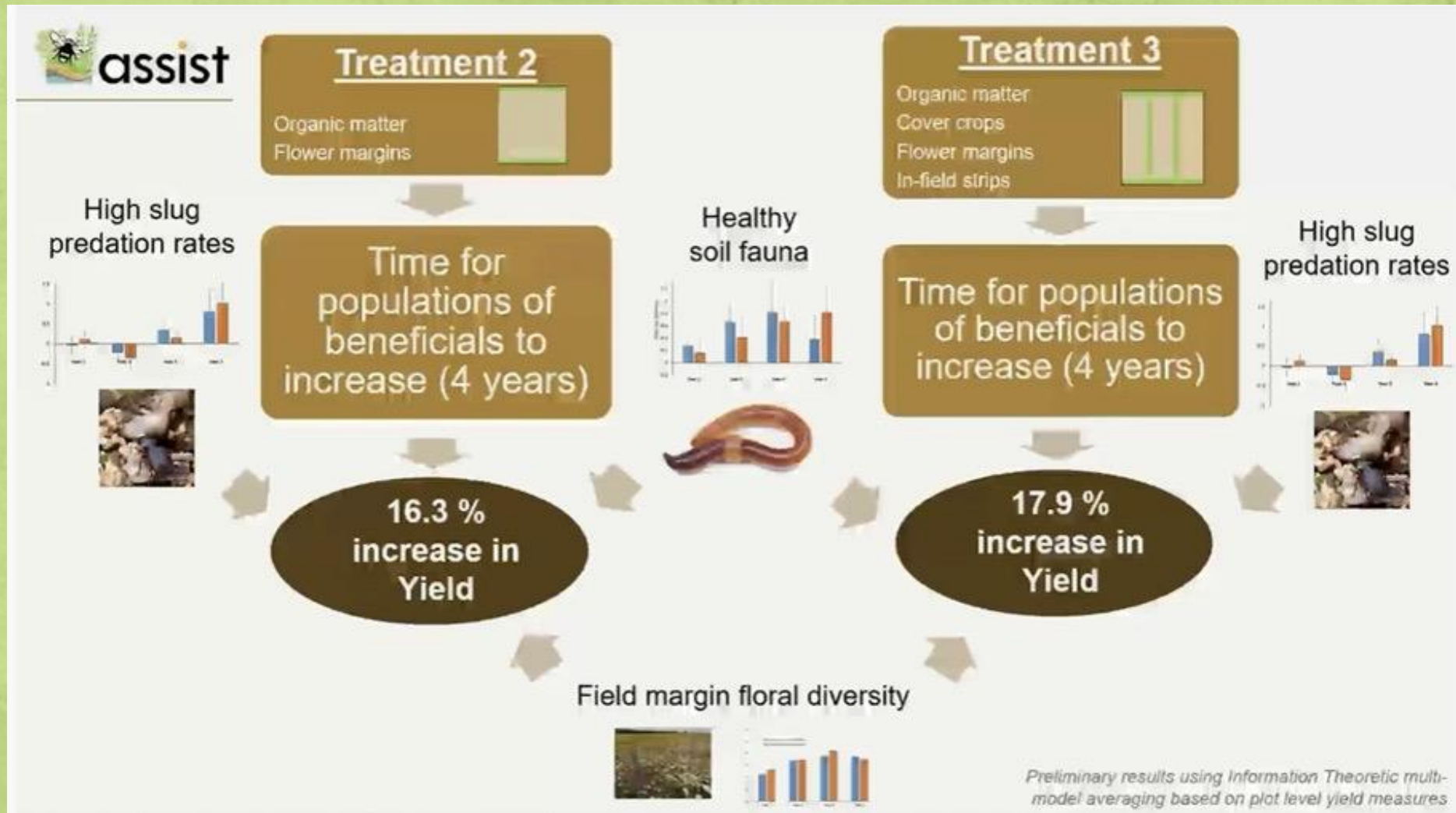


Impacts on yield

- Overall results across 18 sites for 4 years.
- Cereals and oilseed rape crops.
- Sustainable management systems treatments 2 & 3 have positive effects on yield.
- The more complex system (Treat.3) is on average better.
- It takes time for biological systems to respond.



Preliminary results using Information Theoretic multi-model averaging based on plot level yield measures





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