



SOIL FARMER OF THE YEAR



Celebrating our UK



SOIL FARMERS

In 2016 the Farm Carbon Cutting Toolkit and Innovation for Agriculture launched a competition kindly sponsored by Cotswold Seeds to find the first UK Soil Farmer of the Year. The aim was simple - celebrating farmers who were passionate about looking after their soils.

The competition has just finished its third year, finding more fantastic farmers who are doing great things in terms of managing soil health and resilience.

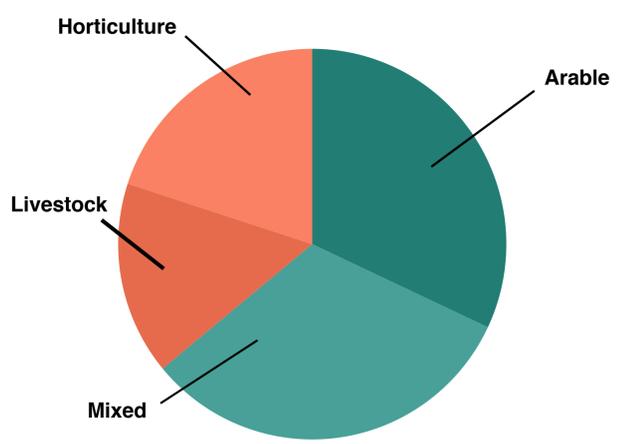
APPLICATIONS



Farmers managing 10,607 ha collectively

Great farmers managing farms ranging from 2 - 1600Ha, on a variety of soil types around the UK

FARM TYPE



From the farmer applicants the entries were split across the major farm types

SHARING INFORMATION



Farm walks are held with the top 3 farmers which attracted over 150 farmers and growers to learn more

ON GOOD PRACTICE



Assessing soil structure



Improved soil resilience



Understanding soil biological populations



Some of the great things that our farmers are doing to safeguard soil health and build business performance.

LEARNING TOGETHER



We know how important soil management is, but there is so much that we are still learning. Working together facilitates the learning process!

DISCUSSING NEW IDEAS



Lots of standing in soil pits and round machinery! Discussing how to go home and put into practice what they learnt.

KEY ATTRIBUTES



Flexible rotations

Enthusiasm for trying new things

A drive to protect their most valuable asset

Understanding of their soils and how they perform



Some key attributes shone out from our soil farmer applicants. These were all discussed in depth during farm walks.

FEELING INSPIRED?

Log onto www.farmcarbontoolkit.org.uk to find out more and join the network!



All the information on this year's competition, key dates and any upcoming events are all on the FCCT website.