



**Richard Orr  
Meadow Farm  
Downpatrick**

**Local and sustainable food  
Reconnecting with the source**





# Farmed Area





# Farm profile



Crop	Ha
W. Wheat	40
W .Barley	15
Oats	15
Potatoes	16
Silage AD	38



# Farm Shop & Tearoom





# Farm Shop & Tearoom





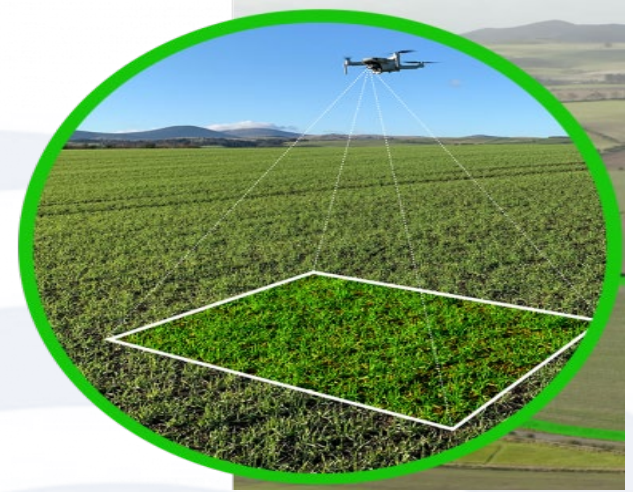
# Technologies used on our farm



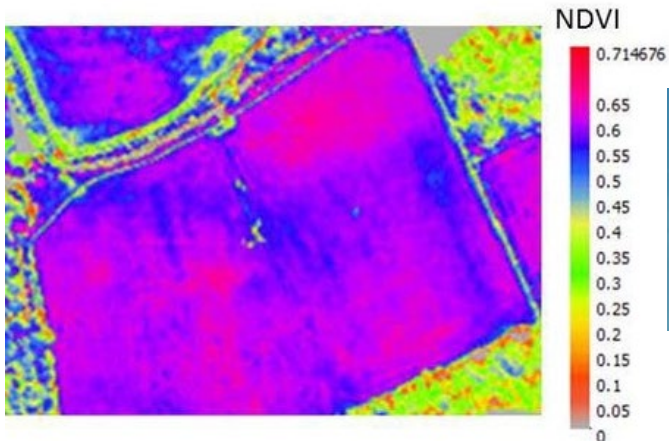
Soil analysis



Plant and tiller counts



Skippy Scout



NDVI technology



Solar panels





1 sq. mile 640 acres \*\*\*







# IPM at Meadow Farm







# IPM to control pest, weeds & disease

- No pesticide (insecticide) use on farm in past 7 years
- Less cultivation or ploughing to improve soil structure and organic matter (OM)
- Rolling to control slugs
- Crop rotation to avoid carryover of similar diseases
- EFS margins to encourage beneficial' s e.g. potato headlands
- EFS margins to improve pollination
- Stubble raking to germinate volunteers and weeds before planting
- Visual monitoring







# Reducing Cultivation to improve soil





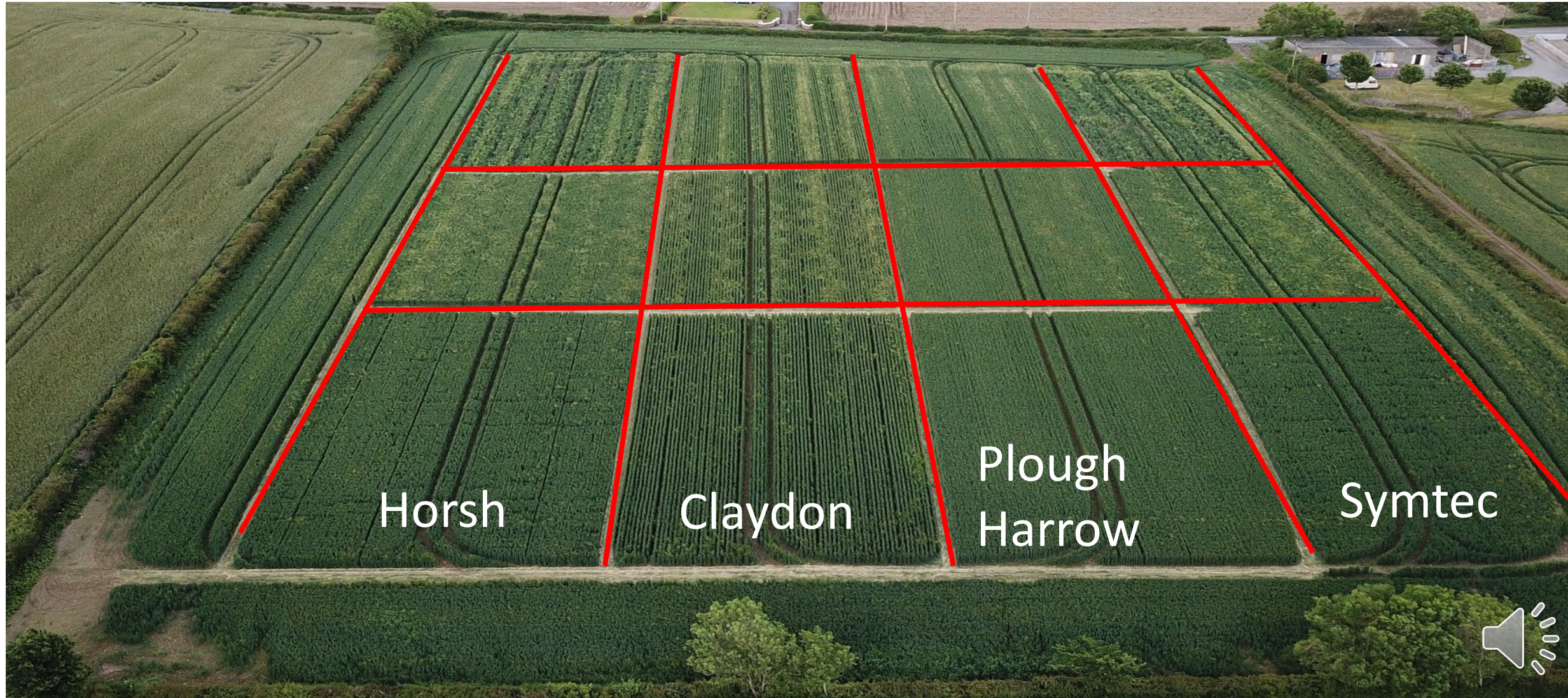
600 VF tyres / GPS







# 12 different ways to establish one field





# Nature and chemicals both have a role





# Is food expensive?



**1950's 1/3 of income on food**

**1970's 1/4 of income on food**

**2000's 1/10 of income on food**

**Today is still close to 10% on household food.**

**We now spend more than that on eating out.**

**So no, food is cheaper than ever**





# Priorities have changed



Socializing  
Holidays  
New cars  
iPad iPhone etc.

Media perception  
People believe it is a right to be fed





# Media influence



Loose woman TV program

What do you want from your supermarket

More choice , spread out with samples and maybe a wee coffee while there

And more importantly cheaper prices\*\*\*





# YOUR STUDENTS ARE THE FUTURE



CHEMIST



MECHANICAL  
ENGINEER



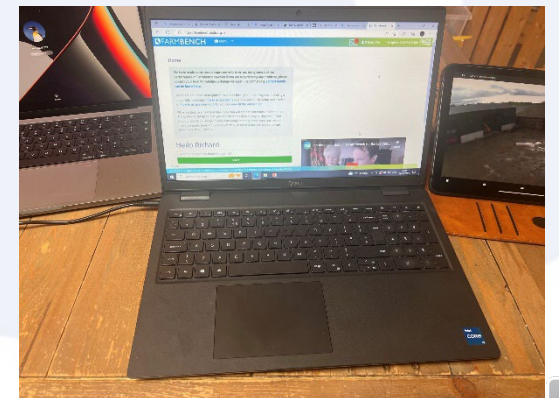
BUSINESS  
STUDIES



BIOLOGIST



VET



COMPUTER STUDIES







**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

**YOUNG PEOPLE ARE THE FUTURE**

**AND YOU ARE THEIR MENTORS**

