



**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



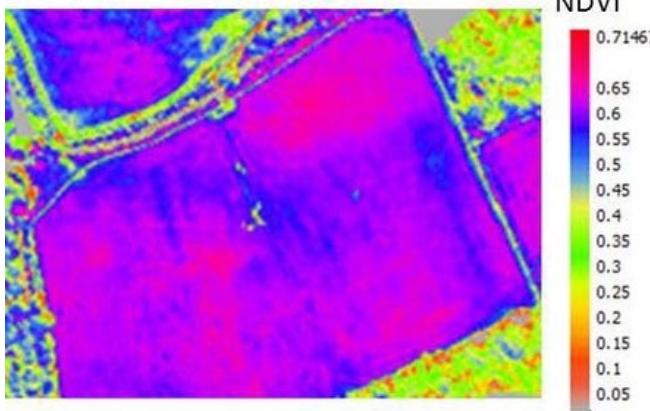
Soil analysis



Plant and tiller counts



Skippy Scout



NDVI technology





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



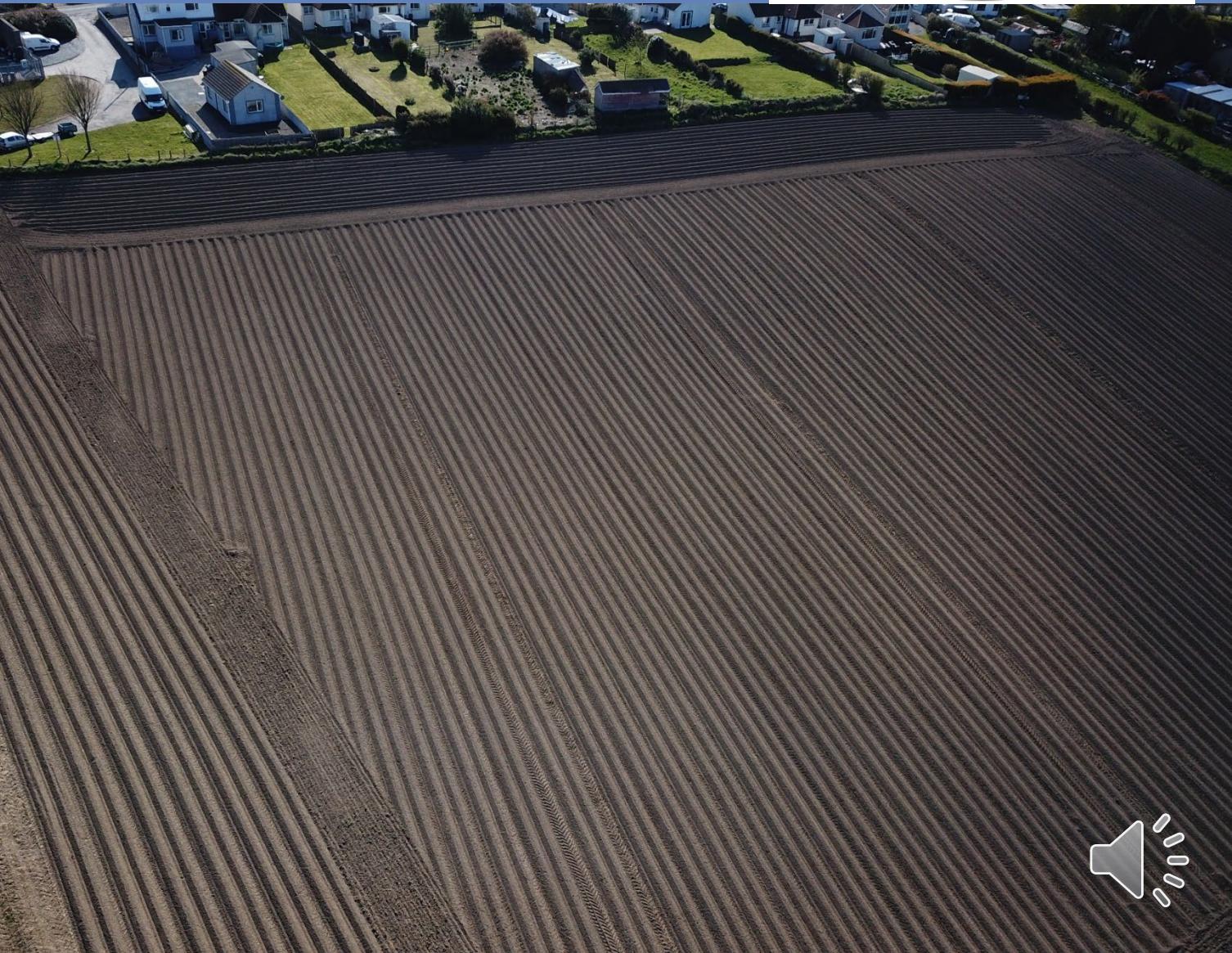
Reducing Cultivation to improve soil



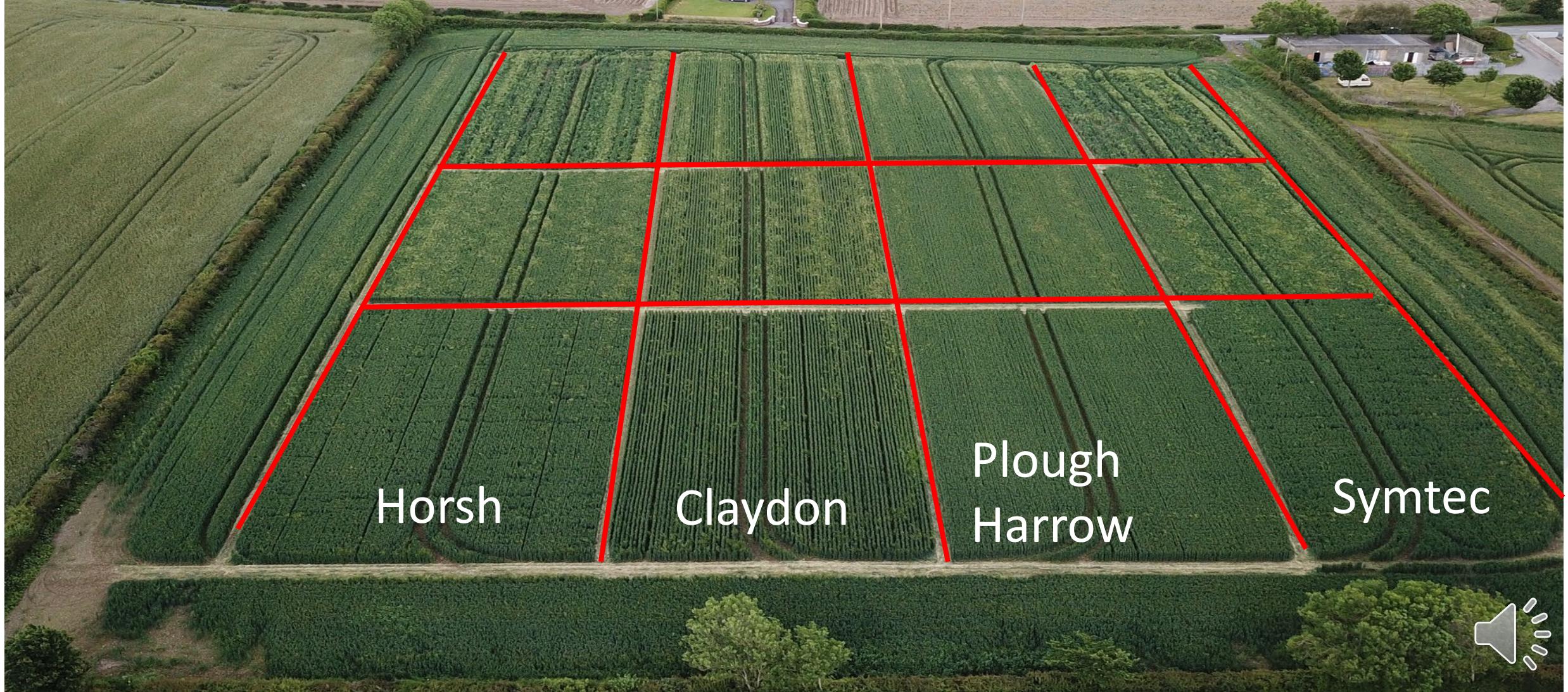
Soil
Most Important
Asset



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

