

Clynfyw Organic Farm case study

Farm owner	T&G Bowen.
Farm manager	Jim Bowen.
Address	Clynfyw Countryside Centre, Abercych, Boncath, Pembrokeshire SA37 0HF.
Phone /email	01239 841236 / jim.clynfyw@virgin.net
Grid Ref	
Size	81 hectares.
Tenancy	The farm is owned by the Bowen family.
Date when farm competed organic conversion	Pigs & arable land became fully organic on 24 th January 2001. Cows became fully organic on 21st October 2001.
History	

Physical features

General description	Mixed arable/livestock farm.
Soil types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shale from paleozoic period. • Brown earths and brown podzolic earth. • Well drained fine loamy slaty /shaley mud stone / silt stone Denbeigh grade 3&4 LSA B.
Altitude	120m.
Rainfall	125 cm per year.

Land use

Crops	Barley, Oats.
Crops used in rotation	Barely and Oats undersown with clover.
Set a side	Yes - currently about 12 hectares.
Stewardship	Accepted for Tir Gofal (stewardship scheme in Wales). This will begin in June 2003.
Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31 hectares of established mature woodland. • 16 hectares of new woodland (planted in 1997).

Animals

Cows	30 suckler (beef) cows. The breed is Welsh Black.
Sheep	The farm keeps Tack
Pigs (nos)	20 pigs. The breeds are Saddleback and Duroc.

Labour	1 full time 3 part time.
--------	-----------------------------

Machinery	2 tractors.
-----------	-------------

Markets for farm produce

Cows/pigs	The meat from the cows and pigs is sold through a local cooperative group called 'Cambrian Organics Cooperative'.
Sheep	
Charcoal	Sold through local retailers.
Cereals	Some cereals are kept to feed the pigs at Clynyfw. Others are sold to local farmers.

Diversification

Alternative sources of income	Holiday cottages. Accommodation for up to 46 people is offered to those looking for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully accessible peaceful rest and relaxation • Rural crafts and countryside activities • Organised educational holidays • Outdoor activities • Family weeks • Respite care.
Other features / attractions	
Charcoal	Charcoal is made in a kiln in the Clynyfw quarry.
Victorian walled kitchen garden	The walled garden is managed organically by the local community with all profits from the sale of vegetables, flowers and fruit going back into the community.
Alternative technology	Environmentally friendly features at the centre include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar panels – running electric fences used for livestock management. • Reed bed sewage system – to purify waste water. • Bio-mass wood-chip burner – for central heating and hot water in the cottages.

Environmental benefits

Habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland • Hedges • Ponds
Wildlife	Badgers, bats, butterflies, barn owls, buzzards, foxes, rabbits,

	newts, frogs, moles, bees
--	---------------------------

Significant changes arising from organic conversion

Animals	
Labour	
Types of crops grown	
Change in balance of land use (arable v. animal)	
Income from produce / profitability of farm	
Noticeable changes in wildlife	
Other – eg personal outlook on farming	