



Farm Snapshot

- NW Herefordshire
- 1100 Hectares
- 10 Farms
- Mainly Arable
- Grassland
- Herbage Seeds
- Bio Digester



Case Study

Garnstone Farms

Garnstone Farms are a large North West Herefordshire estate of about 1100 hectares set across 10 farms, run by farm manager Stephen Klenk. Cobb Agri have been working with Stephen for over 20 years.

The farm is mainly arable with a rotation of first wheats followed by break crops of herbage seeds, oilseed rape, soya and maize. Some triticale and rye is grown for a Bio digester and there is also grazing ground.

Initially the soil index levels were 0-1 and the pH was below average at 5.8. Following a robust soil sampling strategy and planning, Fibrophos was introduced to replace mainstream chemical bagged fertiliser alongside strategically placing poultry manure plus a policy commenced of chopping in straw.

Regular analysis of soils, poultry manure and digestate have been carried out enabling P and K applications to be reduced. Over a 5-8 year period the soil indices have moved to a regular 3-4 and pH levels are optimal around 6.6. These changes have resulted in better yields. Reviewing and amending the utilisation and timings of Sulphur application plus a strict buying policy has saved Nitrogen costs consistently.

Overall this policy of soil improvement has led to PK expenditure drastically reducing. We are looking to introduce placed fertiliser, with more reliance on foliar coupled with moving from solid to liquid Nitrogen.

Stephen says *"Cobb Agri have soil sampled, produced results and recommendations in a easy to follow format. The delivery and spreading of Fibrophos has been organised by them easing the Autumn workload. The sourcing of fertilisers has been handled by Paul and the team to give the most cost effective solution."*