



McGregor Farms

Colin McGregor



SSCR Cereals Winter Meeting

McGREGOR FARMS – Agri Business

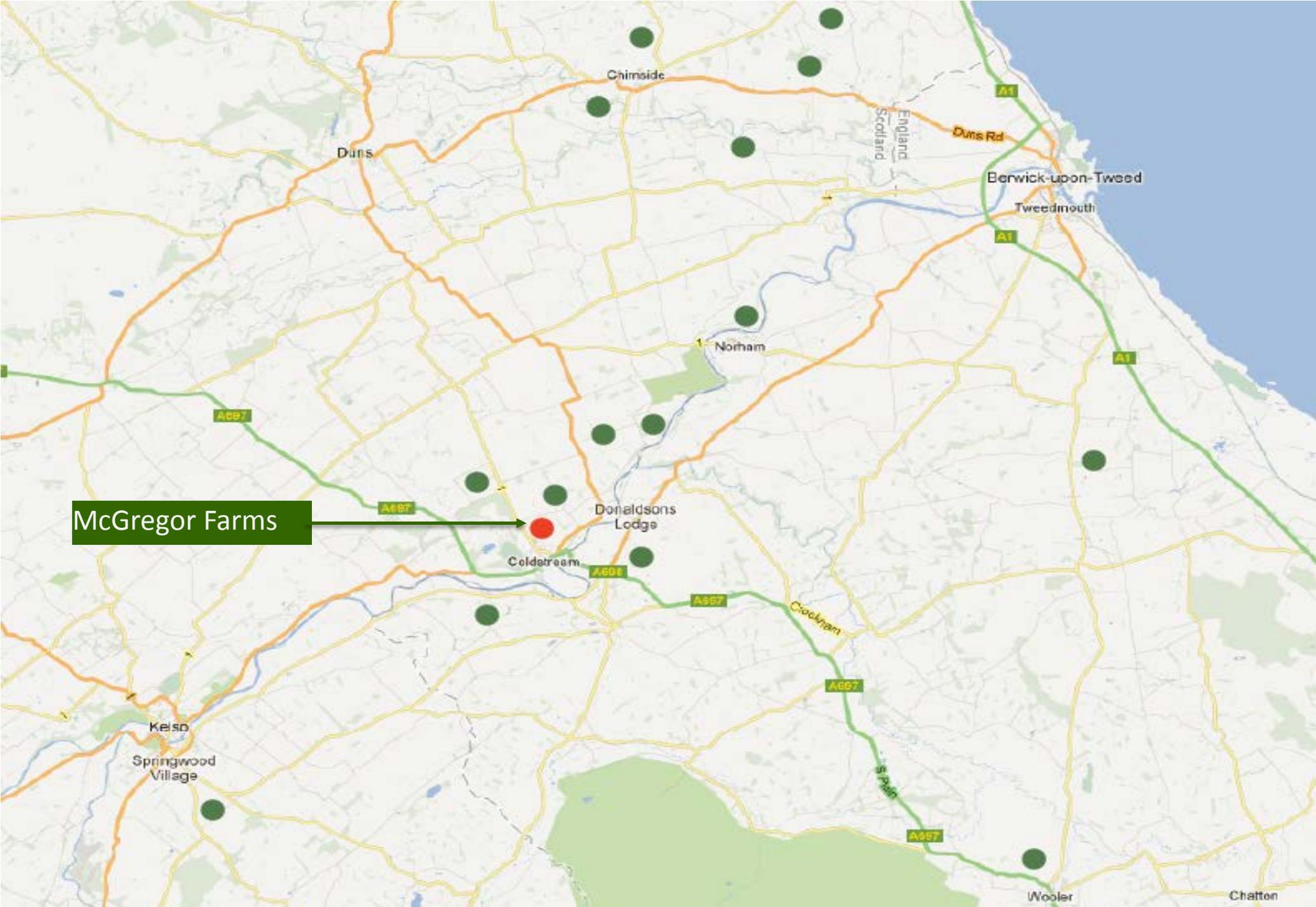
Tuesday 24 February 2015



McGregor Farms

Who are McGregor Farms ?

- Core Family Business of 304ha – Arable Farming
- Contract Farming 3169 ha – 14 separate businesses
- 17 mile operating radius from Coldstream Mains
- Based on winter cropping rotation + spring break crops
- 7 Full-time (2 Part-time) Employees plus Colin & Jill
- **Business Aim** – to be the Leading Large Scale Arable Farming Business in The Scottish Borders/North Northumberland



McGregor Farms

Chirnside

Duns

England
Scotland

Duns Rd

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Tweedmouth

Norham

Donaldsons
Lodge

Coldstream

Kelso

Springwood
Village

Crookham

Wooler

Chalton



McGregor Farms – Cropping 2015

- Winter Wheat 1626 ha
- Winter Barley 357 ha
- Oilseed Rape 512 ha
- Spring Barley 36 ha
- Spring Beans 182 ha
- Potatoes 194 ha
- Vining Peas 262 ha

6 year rotation WW, WB, OSR, WW, WW, SpBe

8 year rotation WW, OSR, WW, VP, WW, OSR, WW, Pots



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CULTIVATION SUMMARY :

OUTPUT :

Medium Land Conventional Tillage – 3.2 hrs per ha worked

Surface Cultivations – 1.23 hrs per ha worked - ↑ 62%

2 Operators + Quadtracs = 2495ha in 10 weeks

Plus Rolling plus Spraying seedbeds plus Ploughing 357ha

- Speed of Operation / Timeliness
- Seedbed Weathering & Volunteer Control (Weatherproof X)
- Seedbed Consolidation
- ATD – Management



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3 Tracked Combines – 2009 combined header width – 27m : 90'
2014 combined header width – 36m : 120'





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Precision Farming Technologies used :

- Variable Targeted Application of Soil Nutrients
- Steering Systems
- Variable Rate Seed Drilling
- Automatic Sprayer Boom Switch on/Off & Leveling
- Variable Targeted Application of Nitrogen
- Yield Mapping
- Machinery Telematics

“To be good stewards of the soil, we must take full advantage of what science and innovation can offer”

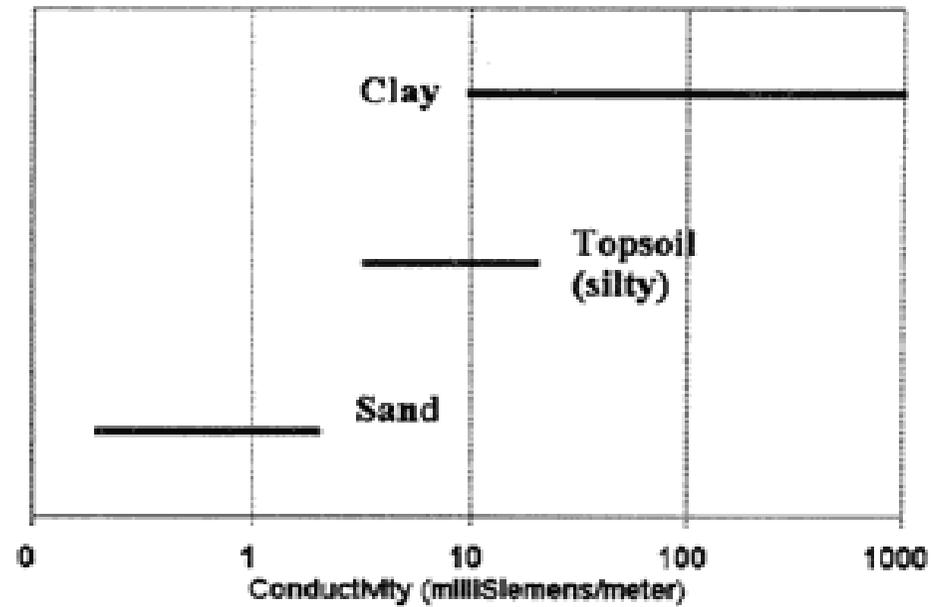


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VARIABLE RATE SEED DRILLING



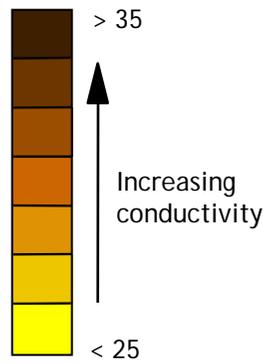
Electrical Conductivity (EC)





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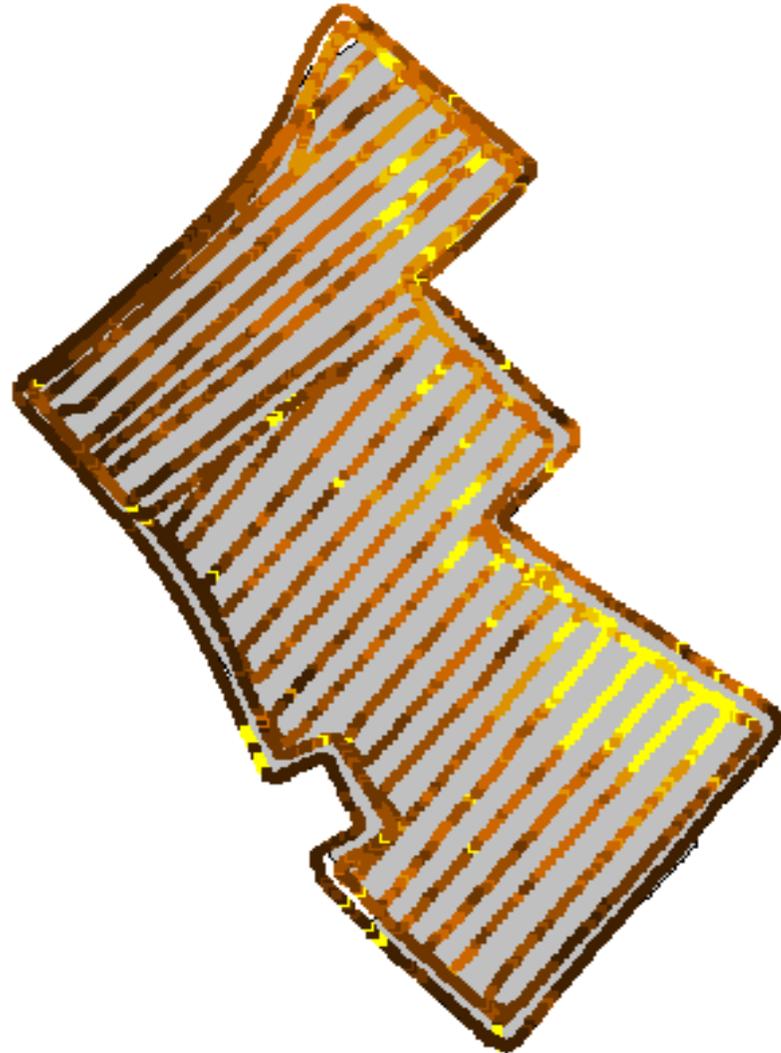
Electrical Conductivity



Profile: 0-120 cm

Scan date: March 10

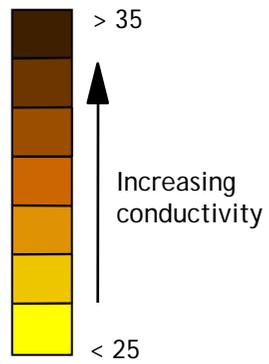
Area: 20.58 ha





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Electrical Conductivity



Profile: 0-120 cm

Scan date: March 10

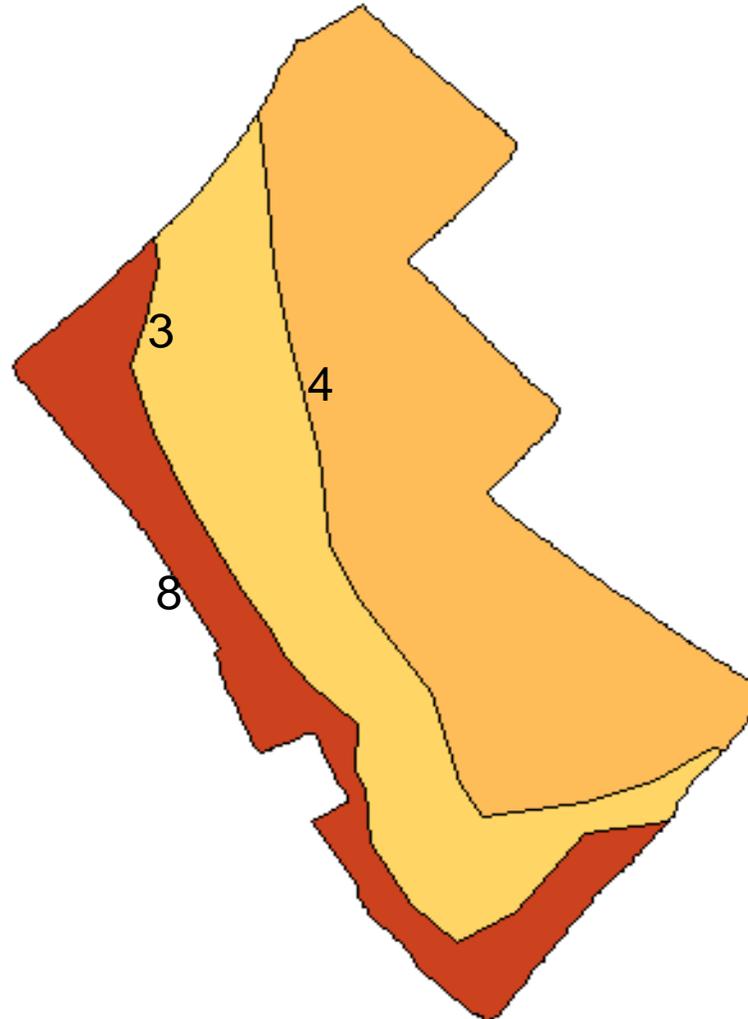
Area: 20.58 ha





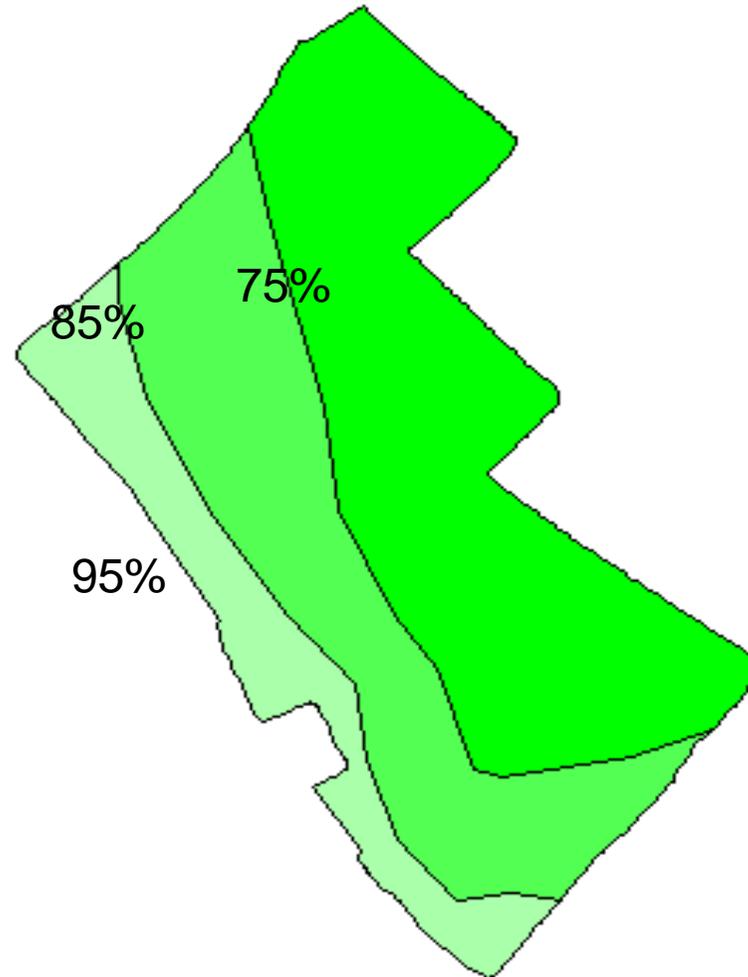
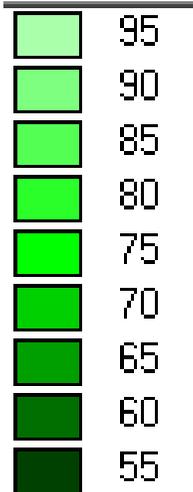
Ground truthing = Soil texture

	01) light calcareous
	02) light non-calc
	03) medium calc slightly stony
	04) med chalky slightly stony
	05) med chalky mod stony
	06) med non-calc
	07) med chalky very stony
	08) med/heavy
	09) med/heavy stony
	10) heavy
	11) heavy stony





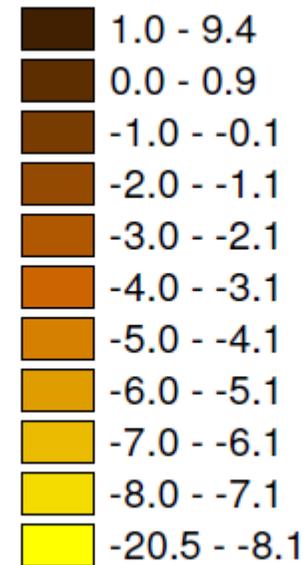
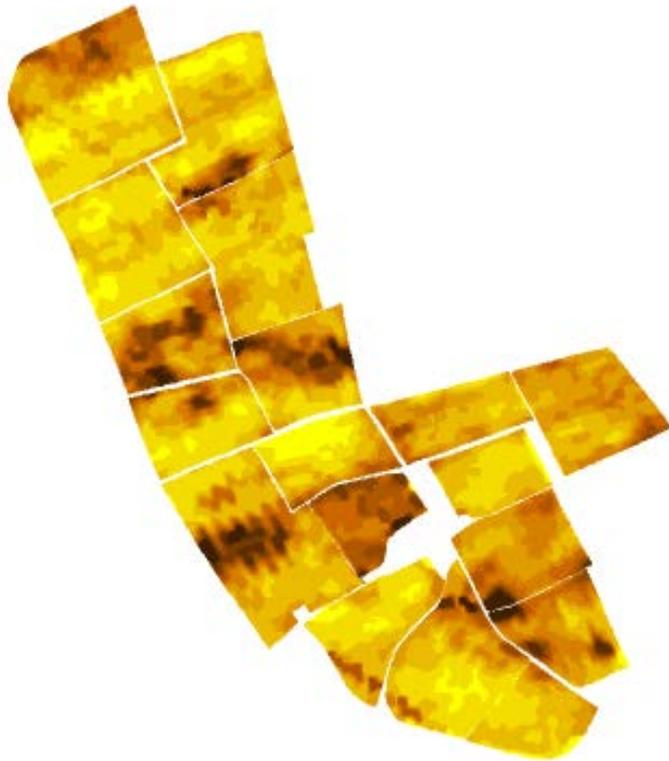
Estimate of Plant Establishment





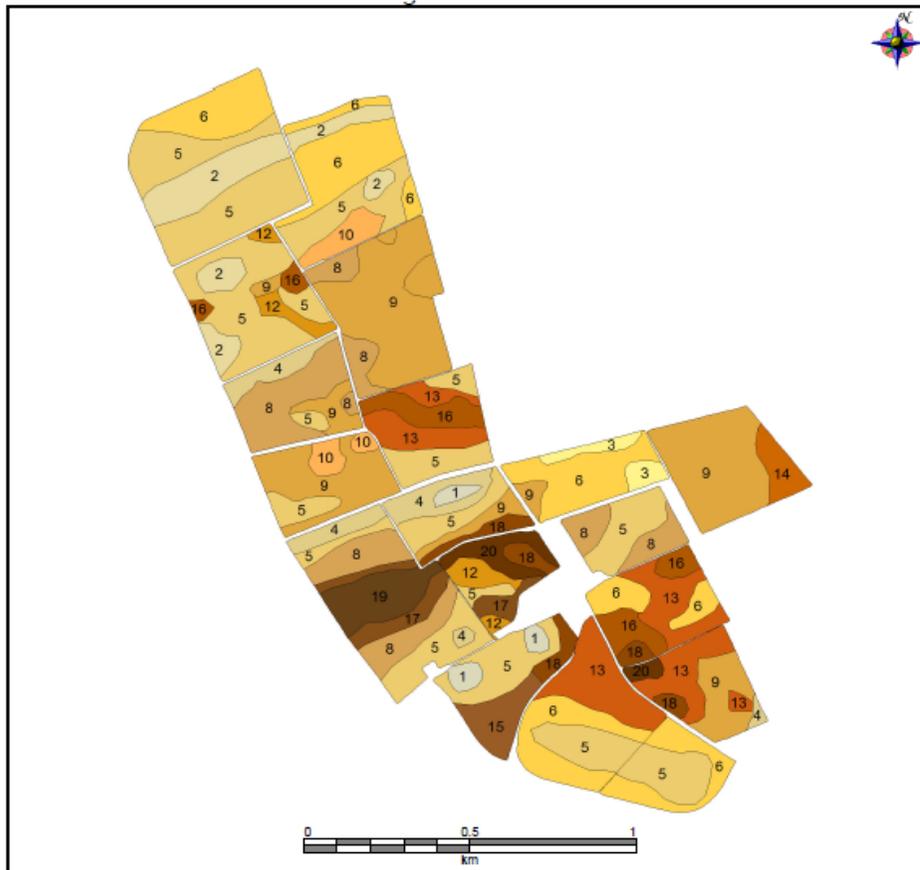
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Coldstream Mains – Conductivity Map





Coldstream Mains – Soil Texture



- 20 heavy loamy
- 19 heavy loamy & stoney
- 18 med/heavy loamy
- 17 med/heavy loamy & stoney
- 16 med/heavy sandy
- 15 med/heavy sandy & stoney
- 14 medium & stoneless
- 13 medium & slightly stoney
- 12 medium & stoney
- 11 light/med silty
- 10 light/med & stoneless
- 9 light/med & slightly stoney
- 8 light/med & stoney
- 7 light & stoneless
- 6 light & slightly stoney
- 5 light & stoney
- 4 light & very stoney
- 3 very light & slightly stoney
- 2 very light & stoney
- 1 very light & very stoney



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VARIABLE RATE SEED

- More Even Canopy
- Reduce Lodging & Disease Pressure
- Increase Output from Poorer Performing Areas
- Simpler Management Decisions
- Increased Profitability



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Cover Crops #rootsnotiron

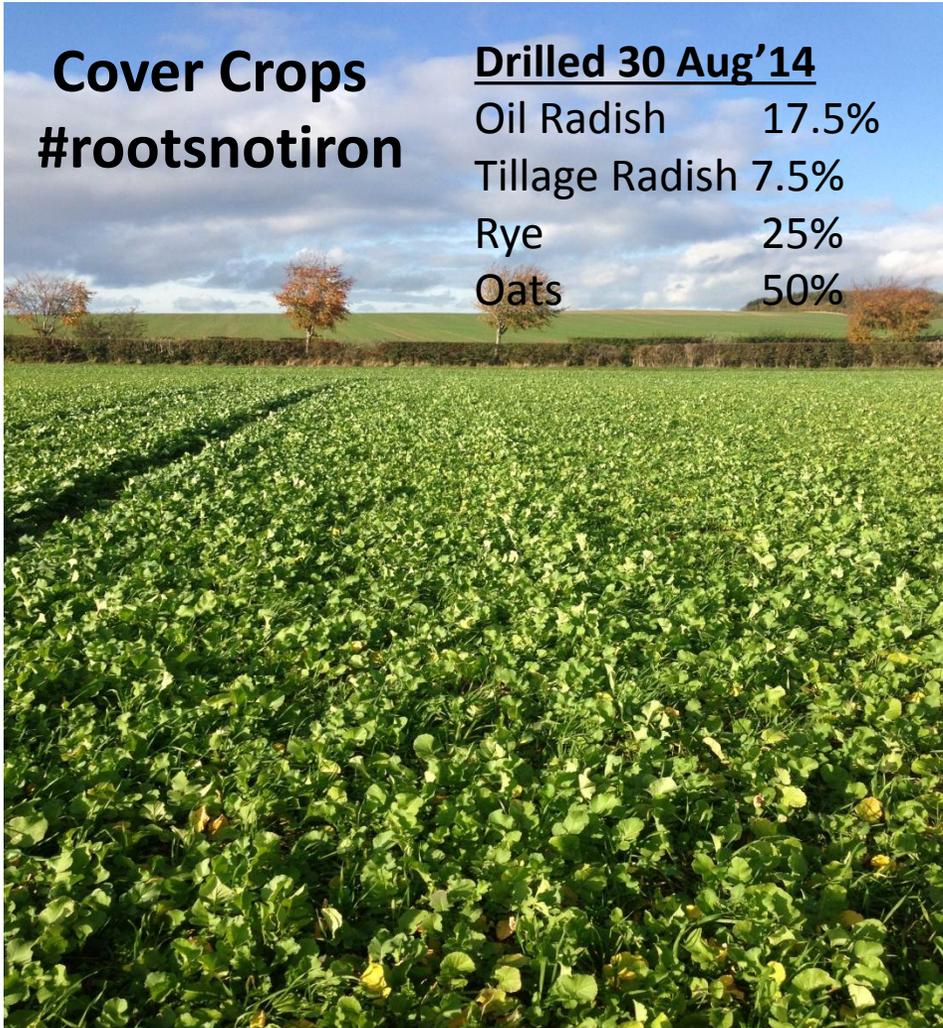
Drilled 30 Aug'14

Oil Radish 17.5%

Tillage Radish 7.5%

Rye 25%

Oats 50%



@ 20 October 2014



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Cover Crops
#rootsnotiron





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Looking Backwards ?!!



Rotational Choices ?





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Agribusiness Managers
01890 882278

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FARM VISITS



FARM HISTORY

Latest News Update

- [Harvest 2010 Results](#)
- [Farm Visits](#)
- [Rainfall Chart](#)

Weather Update



Welcome to McGregor Farms

The McGregor family has farmed successfully in The Scottish Borders & North Northumberland since 1927.

The business has expanded steadily, by referral and recommendation, and in addition to its own farming enterprises McGregor Farms now manages a substantial acreage under various contract agreements.

As a business we pride ourselves as being both progressive and professional. Too many large arable units adopt a broadacre approach to farming which results in poor attention to detail.

Attention to detail is paramount in our business.



RSS News Feed

Latest Feeds

Morning markets: wheat prices gain as supply squeeze tightens

Wheat prices get off to a firm start, as US cold threatens new crop supplies just as importers are in a buying mood. Sowings data help New York cotton

Evening markets: firm dollar keeps pressure on crop futures

US jobs data send the dollar higher, creating a negative backdrop to farm commodity trading. Wheat dips, with soybeans feeling harvest pressure too

Morning markets: dollar releases pressure on crop prices

www.mcgregorfarms.co.uk