BROADBALK PLAN 1926-1967

Broadbalk Wilderness, started 1882
divided into three 1957
Wooded       Grazed       Stubbed

Strip

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Section IA 1955-67, continuous wheat, last fallow 1951

Section IB 1955-67, fallow one year in five from 1956

Section II 1926-1954
Fallow one year in five from 1931

Section III 1955-67
Fallow one year in five from 1935

Section IV 1955-67
Fallow one year in five from 1934

Section VA 1955-67
Fallow one year in five from 1958, no herbicides

Section VA 1955-67
Fallow one year in five from 1958

Section VB 1955-67
Continuous wheat since 1959; limed 1955

Drainage ditch
Fertilizer, organic manure and herbicide treatments 1926-1967

Strip  Treatments applied each year (since 1852 unless shown otherwise)
2A  FYM since 1885
2B  FYM
3  No fertilizer or manure
5  PKNaMg
6  N1 PKNaMg
7  N2 PKNaMg
8  N3 PKNaMg
9  N1* PKNaMg since 1894; 9A and 9B received different treatments 1852-93
10  N2
11  N2 P
12  N2 P Na*
13  N2 PK
14  N2 P Mg*
15  N2 PKNaMg (timing of N application different to other plots, see below)
16  N4 PKNaMg 1852-64; unmanured 1865-83; N2*PKNaMg since 1884
Plots 17 and 18 treatments alternate each year:
17  N2 applied in even years; PKNaMg applied in odd years
18  N2 applied in odd years; PKNaMg applied in even years
19  Rape cake and N1.5 P 1852-78: rape cake 1879-1940; castor bean meal since 1941
20  N2 KNaMg since 1906, previously no manure or fertilizer

Annual treatment per hectare:
FYM: Farmyard manure at 35t
C: Rape cake 1926-1940, supplying approx. 96kgN (N2).
    Castor bean meal 1941-1967, supplying approx. 96 kgN (N2)
P:  35 kgP as superphosphate
K:  90 kgK as potassium sulphate
Na: 16 kgNa as sodium sulphate
Na*: 57 kgNa as sodium sulphate
Mg:  11 kgMg as magnesium sulphate
Mg*: 31 kgMg as magnesium sulphate

Nitrogen: Annual treatment per hectare
N1:  48 kgN as ammonium sulphate
N1.5  72 kgN as ammonium sulphate
N2:  96 kgN as ammonium sulphate
N3: 144 kgN as ammonium sulphate
N4: 192 kgN as ammonium sulphate
N1*: 48 kgN as sodium nitrate
N2*:  96 kgN as sodium nitrate

Timing of Nitrogen applications:
Ammonium sulphate:
1852-72  All applied in autumn
1873-77  All applied in autumn, except plot 15 in spring
1878-83  All applied in spring, except plot 15 in autumn
1884-1967 24 kgN applied in autumn, remainder in spring (except plot 15 all in autumn)
Sodium nitrate:
1867-1967 All applied in spring, as one application 1867-98, as two equal
    amounts since 1899, applied from six days to six weeks apart

Herbicides applied:
Section 1A 1957 onwards; Section VB 1963 onwards; all other sections except VA have
received herbicides since 1964

Lime:
Section VB received a single application of lime in autumn 1954.
Lime has been applied intermittently since the 1950s as required.

Sources of data:
Lawes Agricultural Trust, Harpenden, UK.
Please contact the e-RA Curators for further information