

Treatment Sequence

1. Sugar Beet - There were no differences due to treatment in 1972 but in 1973 the FYM and FW Lime plots produced better top growth although there was little effect on yield. In 1974 the germination was slow and there were differences in plant populations with better establishment on both FYM and FW Lime plots and this advantage followed through to yield.
2. Winter Wheat - There was slightly heavier straw growth on the FW Lime plots in 1973 and this resulted in early lodging and loss of yield. In 1974 there was no lodging and the crop appeared to respond to the FYM treatment. The 1974/75 winter was wet and the wheat on the FW Lime plots grew best, possibly through better root development, and gave the best yields in a dry summer.
3. Spring Barley - In each year there was an advantage for FW Lime in growth and yield and in each year the untreated arable plots gave the lowest yields.

Test Sequence

1. Sugar Beet - Skylark damage to emerging seedlings severely reduced the plant population on the 3 year ley areas (territorial problem?) in 1975 this adversely affected yield on this treatment. FW Lime/1 year ley plots generally the best, but variable. More bird damage in 1976 caused redrilling on all plots, followed by dry weather and problems with high pH and Boron deficiency on the FW Lime plots. Pale foliage on FW Lime treatment seen in 1977, not affected by N level.
2. Spring Barley - Dry spring/summer reduced yields in 1976, but in 1977 there were good yields and all soil condition treatments were better than the controls. There was a good response to N on all treatments in 1977. Moderate growth/yields in 1978 with less response to N on FYM/leys treatments than FW Lime or control.
3. Potatoes - In 1977 FW Lime and untreated controls gave poorest yields, FW Lime plots had pale haulm colour. No obvious haulm differences were seen in 1978 but again there was some suggestion of poor yields where FW Lime had been applied.