

Meadow Management and Hand Hay Making

Dyfed
Permaculture
Farm
Trust



Dyfed Permaculture Farm Trust

The 24 acre farm straddles the hamlets of Cwmpengraig and Penboyr in West Wales. It has been owned and managed by the Trust since 1995.

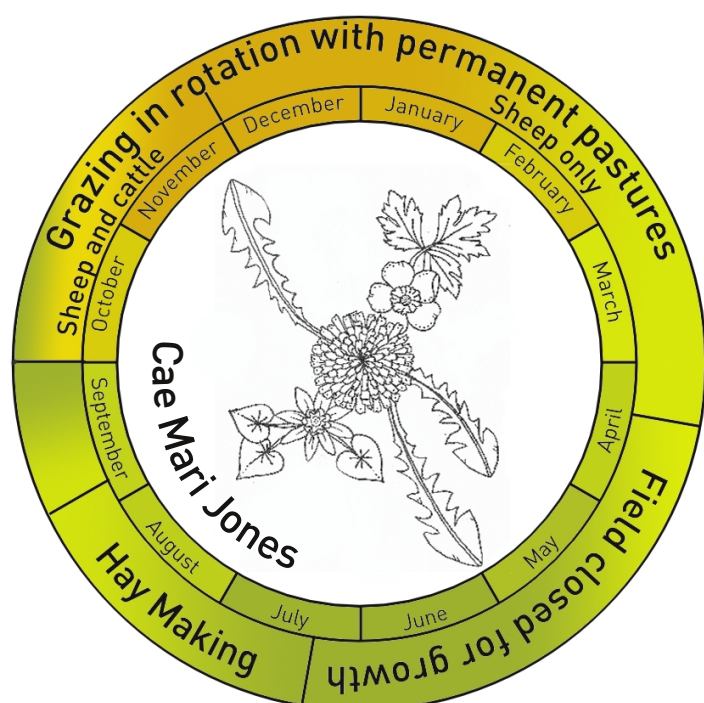
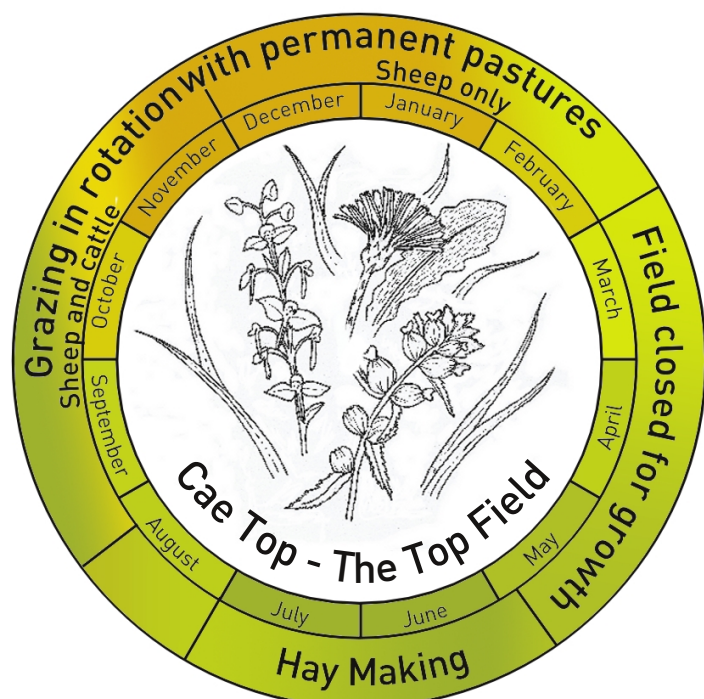
The farm comprises wildflower meadows and mixed grazing pasture bordered by mature hedgerows (particularly laburnum), a spring, 3 acres of woodland, gardens and allotments, cattle, sheep and bees.

There is a multi-purpose wooden pole barn, a roundhouse, camping areas, rainwater catchment and storage systems, solar and wind powered off-grid electrical systems, compost toilets and solar showers.

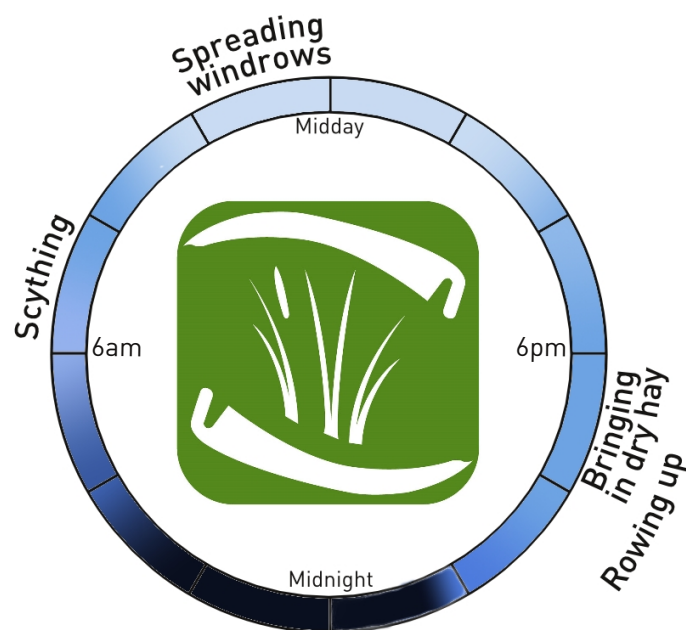
We host a variety of volunteer days, events and workshops over the year. For more information visit:

www.dyfedpermaculturefarmtrust.org.uk

The Wildflower Meadow Year



The Hand Hay Making Day



Progressive Hay Making

The hay crop is cut gradually over a long season. We start cutting our early meadow (Cae Top) towards the end of May, before moving onto our late meadow (Cae Mari Jones) in mid July

This "little and often" style of hay making spreads the workload, so it is particularly suitable for hand hay making. Scythes can selectively mow around desirable plants such as orchids, which is useful during earlier cuts.

At Dyfed Permaculture Farm cutting over a long season:

1. Allows the harvesting of some early, high quality hay as well as late cut, bulkier but lower quality hay.
2. Prolongs the flowering season across the two meadows
3. Creates a mosaic of vegetation heights that is available to wildlife at any one time
4. Promotes a greater diversity of flowering plants across the site

Further Information



An overview of Hay Making at Dyfed Permaculture Farm
www.scythecymru.co.uk/hand-hay-making/



Progressive Hay Making
www.scythecymru.co.uk/2017/05/29/hay-making-begins-giving-meadow-chelsea-chop/



How to build a Hay Rack
www.scythecymru.co.uk/2013/08/09/using-racks-part-3-building-a-rack/

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