

Default Question Block

Co-producing research priorities for in-field agroforestry in the UK

Recently, there has been a lot of interest in agroforestry across the UK due to its potential to benefit biodiversity, the environment, and production. This survey is the first part of a larger project which aims to identify the most important topics for agroforestry research in the UK.

In this survey, we are asking you for your research ideas. This is open to anyone working in industries relevant to agroforestry (e.g. farmers, tree nurseries, policy makers, researchers, foresters, NGOs) – if you have research ideas that you think are important, we want to hear them!

The results of this survey will be presented to a group of experts (including farmers, researchers, and other businesses), who will create a list of “research priorities”. Our findings will be published in a scientific journal and made publicly available to direct researchers and funders to the most important agroforestry research questions.

This project is funded by UKRI’s [Future of UK Treescapes Programme](#) and led by Dr Amelia Hood, University of Reading: a.s.hood@reading.ac.uk

Data handling

Participation is voluntary. If you provide your email address at the end of this survey, you can withdraw your data without reason at any time before the data are aggregated (Dec 2023) by emailing: a.s.hood@reading.ac.uk. If you do not provide your email address, you will not be identifiable, and your data cannot be withdrawn. Your data will be stored on a secure drive only accessible to the University of Reading (Dr Amelia Hood) and will not be passed on to third parties. Data will be published alongside the scientific publication in an anonymised manner that does not allow for individual identification, either by retracting answers to specific questions or aggregating values of others. Your personal data (if provided) will be deleted following project completion (Dec 2024). By participating, you consent to these data use terms, which have been approved by the University of Reading's Ethics Committee.

Under the Data protection law, you have the right to:

- Withdraw your consent
- Access your personal data or ask for a copy
- Rectify inaccuracies in personal data that we hold about you
- Be forgotten, i.e. remove your details from our systems
- Restrict or object to uses of your data

Some restrictions apply to the above rights where data is used for research (see <https://ico.org.uk>). Please contact the University Data Protection Officer if you are unhappy with how your data has been handled: imps@reading.ac.uk.

☐ Please tick this box to indicate your acceptance of these conditions

Block 1

You will now submit one to four research questions on in-field agroforestry in the UK. **In-field agroforestry** is defined as **having single or multiple trees, shrubs, or woody perennials** in arable, pastoral, poultry, or mixed systems. This:

- Includes productive (e.g. timber or food) and non-productive trees
- Includes regular (e.g. alley-cropping) and irregular (e.g. shelterbelts) planting arrangements
- Excludes hedgerows and riparian (riverside) strips that do not have crops/livestock in them

Questions can come from any research area – e.g. environment, policy, human livelihoods, knowledge exchange, markets – and will be assessed based on their:

- **Impact** – how important is this for the agricultural industry?
- **Feasibility** – is this a question that can be answered with research?
- **Novelty** – has this research question already been answered?

Specificity

Research questions must have a similar level of specificity (scope) to be comparable. Otherwise, broader questions get rated more

important as they cover more topics. Please aim to suggest questions that could be addressed within a short (e.g. five-year) research project led by a small team (e.g. one-three people). We will adjust the specificity of questions after submission so please continue even if you are not sure about this! Please see examples below.

Example - too general	Example - too specific	Example - optimal
Does silvoarable farming benefit biodiversity compared to arable farming?	Does silvoarable farming benefit earthworms compared to arable farming?	Does silvoarable farming benefit soil health compared to arable farming?
How do trees benefit human health?	Can agroforestry lower farmer heart rate compared to arable or pastoral farming?	Can agroforestry promote farmer wellbeing compared to arable or pastoral farming?

Please submit one to four research question(s):

Q1.

Q2.

Q3.

Q4.

Block 2

Which in-field agroforestry systems have you worked in or studied (you can select multiple)?

- ☐ **Silvoarable:** trees with arable or horticulture fields
- ☐ **Silvopastoral:** trees with livestock/grassland
- ☐ **Silvopoultry:** trees with poultry
- ☐ **Agrisilvopastoral:** trees with arable/horticulture and livestock
- ☐ None of the above

Which in-field agroforestry systems have you established or managed (or helped to establish/manage)?

	Yes	No, but I am considering it	No, and I am not considering it	NA
Silvoarable: trees with arable or horticulture fields	☐	☐	☐	☐
Silvopastoral: trees with livestock/grassland	☐	☐	☐	☐
Silvopoultry: trees with poultry	☐	☐	☐	☐
Agrisilvopastoral: trees with arable/horticulture <u>and</u> livestock	☐	☐	☐	☐

What is your current role (you can select multiple)?

- ☐ Agricultural supplier
- ☐ Environmental NGO

- ☐ Farmer
- ☐ Farm advisor
- ☐ Farmer association
- ☐ Farmer school/educator
- ☐ Policy maker or government advisory body
- ☐ Researcher
- ☐ Timber end-user (incl. designers, manufacturers)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Have you previously role acted in another stakeholder role (you can select multiple)?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, as an agricultural supplier
- ☐ Yes, in an environmental NGO
- ☐ Yes, as a farmer
- ☐ Yes, as a farm advisor
- ☐ Yes, in a farmer association
- ☐ Yes, in a farmer school/educator
- ☐ Yes, as a policy maker or government advisory body
- ☐ Yes, as a researcher
- ☐ Yes, as a timber end-user
- ☐ Yes, other (please specify)

How long have you worked in these roles (current and previous)?

- ☐ <1 Year
- ☐ 1-5 Years
- ☐ 6-10 Years
- ☐ 11-20 Years
- ☐ 21-30 Years
- ☐ >30 Years

What is your gender?

- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary

☐ In another way

☐ Prefer not to disclose

How old are you?

☐ <20 Years

☐ 20-29 Years

☐ 30-39 Years

☐ 40-49 Years

☐ 50-59 Years

☐ 60-69 Years

☐ 70-79 Years

☐ >80 Years

☐ Prefer not to disclose

Please provide your email address if you are interesting in participating in a workshop to prioritise these questions and create a shortlist. Workshop participants will be invited to co-author the resultant publication.

What is your area of research expertise (you can select multiple)?

☐ Architecture or engineering

☐ Agronomy

☐ Biochemistry

☐ Botany

☐ Computational biology

☐ Conservation biology

☐ Ecology

☐ Economist

☐ Evidence-synthesis

☐ Microbiology

☐ Social science

☐ Soil science

☐ Zoology

☐ Yes, other (please specify)

