AHDB Launches Groundbreaking Environmental Baseline Study for UK Farms

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A pioneering project to measure the environmental impact of UK farms is set to commence this month. The initiative, led by AHDB, will involve 170 farms across England, Scotland, and Wales.

Using advanced LiDAR technology, specialists from Bluesky will scan the farms to estimate above-ground carbon stocks and assess potential runoff. This data, combined with soil carbon and nutrient testing, will provide a comprehensive environmental baseline for each farm.

The project aims to establish a standardized dataset for the beef, lamb, dairy, pork, cereals, and oilseeds sectors. This data will enable more accurate reporting of emissions and environmental impact, helping farmers to make informed decisions and improve their sustainability practices.

"We are thrilled to have selected 170 diverse farms to participate in this groundbreaking project," said Chris Gooderham, AHDB's Environment Director. "By understanding the environmental footprint of our farms, we can work towards a more sustainable future for the agricultural industry."

Sam Ward, a participating farmer from Lincolnshire Pork Co., expressed enthusiasm for the project: "We are keen to quantify our farm's carbon footprint and identify opportunities for reduction. This baseline data will help us on our journey to a more sustainable future."

The project is supported by Quality Meat Scotland and funded by AHDB and QMS. By working together, these organizations aim to drive positive change in the agricultural industry and contribute to a more sustainable future.