



Plumpton College

**Plumpton College at Netherfield
Centre for Sustainable Food & Farming
Course Information**

Course Name: Managing a Beef Herd		Tutor: Simon J. Bishop/Angie Wilkins
Venue: Ivyland Farm Netherfield Nr. Battle East Sussex TN33 9QB	1 day course	
	Start Time: 10am	
	Finish time: 4pm	
Designed for: Any one who has attended the ‘Starting a Beef Herd’ course or has some experience with beef production. The course will assume a basic level of knowledge and will go in depth into herd health plans, calving, cow and calf care, herd fertility, nutrition, finishing, finances and target setting		
Aims of the course: To introduce participants to the main points that need to be considered when Maintaining and developing a beef herd.		
Typical number of delegates: 8 -10		Course runs approximately twice a year
Course Timetable		
10.00 am – 10.30 am	Course administration/ tea or coffee/introductions	
10.30am – 12.30pm:	Herd Health Plans: A vital tool in the management of the herd and needed for Farm Assurance Schemes. Calving: Preparation, signs of calving, what to do if help is needed. Care of the cow and calf: Post calving care and attention. Condition scoring of cows: A useful management aid to assist with the fertility of the herd. Nutrition of the native beef cow and fattening animal: what to feed and when. Finances and target setting: Are you making any money?	
12.30pm – 1.30pm:	Lunch	
1.30pm – 3.30pm:	Continuing morning session Cattle handling systems View herd in winter housing or on pasture depending on time of year A Possible visit to the cold store and cutting room depending on availability	
3.30 pm – 4.00 pm	Summary /Questions and Answers Tea / Coffee and Course Evaluations	
What you need to bring:	Hot & cold drinks are provided, but you will need to bring a packed lunch. In the morning the course is classroom based. During the afternoon the course will be held on the farm. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear for both venues. As an ongoing precautionary measure, please ensure that items of clothing and footwear used previously on another farm, have been thoroughly cleaned.	
Course Outcome:	College Certificate (on request)	
Follow on course suggestions:	Selection of Finished Livestock, Forage Analysis & Winter Rationing, Beef Butchery Demonstration	
For dates and further course information please contact Plumpton College at Netherfield		
To book this course, for further information, or in case of an emergency on the day of the course please contact:		
Plumpton College at Netherfield Netherfield Place Farm, Netherfield, Nr. Battle. East Sussex TN33 9PY Telephone: 01424 775615 e-mail info@netherfieldcentre.co.uk		