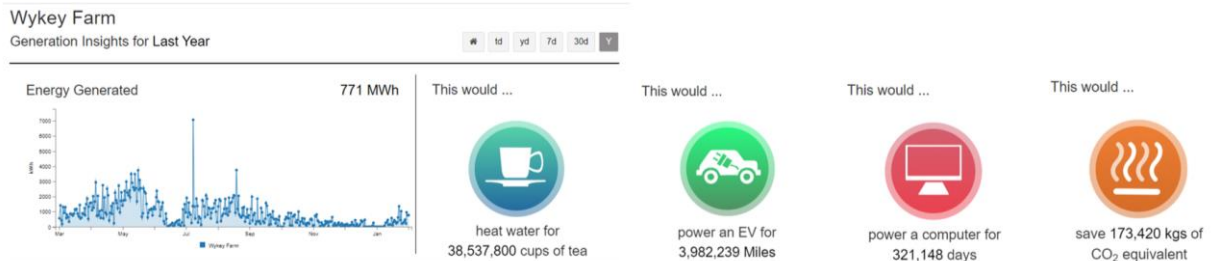


Sam's Blog

After being asked to take the reins this month, I thought I would firstly summarise the last 12 months as the end of March marks our end of year.

Apart from being tremendously wet, and an almost impossible year for many, some things have managed to go just ok. Summarised below is the production for the past year on our solar site. Interestingly enough, is how far it can power an electric vehicle. Nearly 4 million miles which is the equivalent of driving around the equator 160 times! And for the coffee/tea loving amongst us, plenty of hot brews to go around!



The AD has performed well over the last 12 months also hitting 95% of its total production value. This includes downtime from 3 major engine overhauls, and all other feed related problems that come with the job.

The drying floors have also been kept busy with drying recycled woodchip that gets shredded down after being dried to make sawdust for cattle bedding. They are currently turned off ready to start on the forage rye whenever the weather decides to give us a break.

The past month has seen us trying to get what field work possible done. Picking the drier fields for spreading and attempting marginal fields that are desperate for nutrition and chemical have been the priority.



Steven has started on the T0's where possible, as well as doing some lucerne herbicide and nutrition.

The Agrifac has come into its own in this year's field conditions due to the large footprint put down by the large radius 710's.

The digestate team has been out where possible too, on crop in some places and on stubbles ready for maize and beet when the weather has been against them too.

We have taken delivery of a new John Deere 6R250 this month with the new Gen 5 screen in. It is all setup and configured how we want it now, after having half a day installing dash cam, wheel nut indicators and doing screen configurations. With that we have also had a new Storth Megamix to aid in removing all contents of the lagoons and create or more consistent and beneficial product to be spread on the fields.

Since writing the first three quarters, we have finally had a break in the weather! This has enabled us to get digestate on crop, using a local contractor and an 18m dribble bar enabling us to split the tramlines and apply product without making a mess! More liquid fert has been achieved with the sprayer and we have finally got some ground turned over with the ploughs ready for more cultivations before beet drilling.

We have also managed to get the first lot of forage rye mown. This will be dried on the drying floors where it will be turned daily, and then stationary baled. Two weeks later than last year!



Let's hope this nice weather continues!