

Gelli  
Fach



## Multi-species grazing ley established by min-till or ploughing

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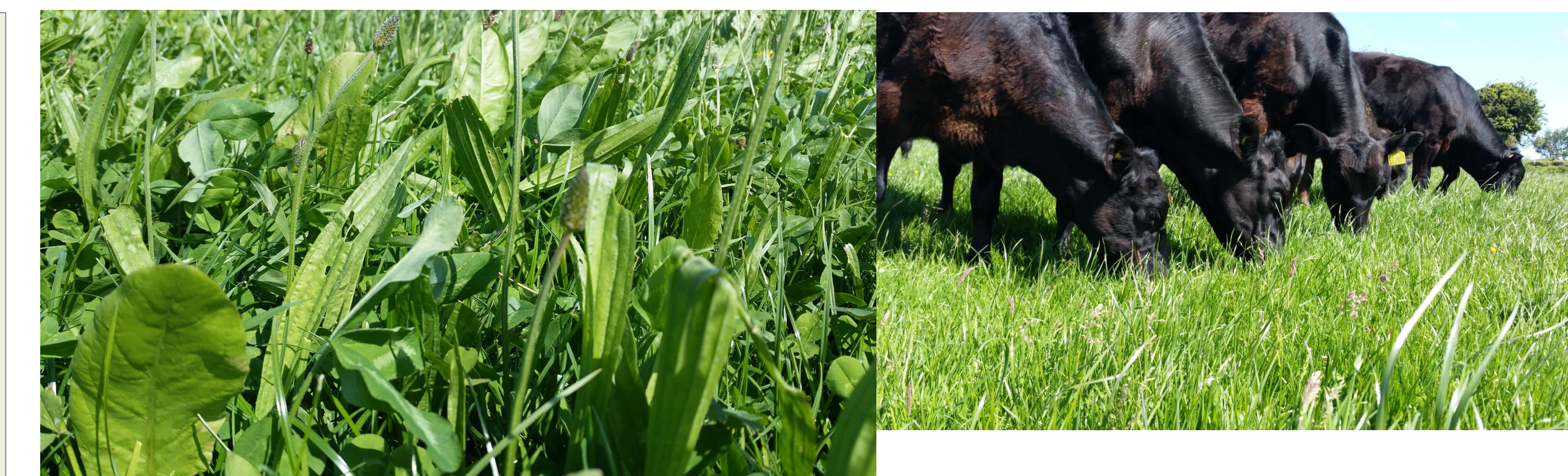
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### Introduction

- The PROSOILplus project is working with farmers to understand the effects of different establishment methods for integrating new multi-species swards into their grazing systems
- Establishing a multi-species ley by minimal tillage was a new practice for Gelli Fach, our beef and sheep farm in Ceredigion, West Wales – this was compared with establishment by ploughing



### Methods

- Ley species were perennial ryegrass, timothy, chicory, plantain, red clover and white clover
- Established by a single pass seeder and roller either oversown into a sward previously sprayed with glyphosate or into ploughed and cultivated plots
- Plant counts were used to measure establishment success



### Results

- A higher density of plantain, clover (both types) and ryegrass was found where the ley was established by min-till ( $P < 0.06$ ;  $P < 0.09$  and  $P < 0.07$ , respectively), compared with the ploughed areas

### Conclusions

- Minimum tillage offered a successful method of establishing a multi species ley resulting in a higher sward density (min-till v ploughed; ( $P < 0.08$ ) was found with establishment by conventional ploughing.

