To the Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Farmers,

In 2013 I took part in the Worshipful company of Farmers Challenge of Rural Leadership Course  - a course which  the WCF very kindly funded me to take.

It’s just over 5 years since the course and I thought I would let you know how I am getting on and how the course has helped me.

At the time of the course I was between jobs looking for my next opportunity and I was given the chance to work for a new company supplying a unique silage clamp system to the UK Anaerobic digestion and dairy industry – a daunting role as I was the first employee in a new business in a new and relatively high risk industry with completely new product.

The business grew through hard work and luck and this year the business (now three people) was bought by  myself and my colleagues in a management buyout , this was one of my goals after the course.

I am now committed more than ever to leading the a change in the UK dairy sector through my niche (the design and covering of silage clamps) that I hope will ultimately make the industry more competitive and sustainable.

I am not sure I would have had the tenacity to get this far without the encouragement from the course and the people I met on it who have now become firm friends and in one case a mentor.

So again thank you,  and I hope one day when I am in a better position with my resources I can help someone else like myself attend your course.

Regards,

**William Wilson**

**Business Development Director**

**ARK Agriculture Limited**

**(Formerly Bock UK Limited)**