

# Ravensdown PGP Programme Quarterly Progress Report

Contract reporting period: October - December 2013

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## Public summary

The Ravensdown “Pioneering to Precision” – application of fertiliser to hill country programme was initiated in this quarter, with go-early funding agreed<sup>i</sup>.

Good progress was made this quarter, beginning the intensive sampling programme that will be required to underpin establishing robust relationships between remote sensing technologies and underlying soil fertility.

Activities against the data collection and collation objective commenced with soil and pasture sampling protocols developed for the programme and approved by the science steering group in November 2013. Staff were familiarised with these protocols at a workshop on farm prior to commencing the first sampling event within the programme.

The first sampling event on the first research farm was successfully carried out with 400 individual soil and plant tissue samples collected over the farm with corresponding proximal and remote sensing images taken across the farm.

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<sup>i</sup> Go-early funding can be approved for PGP programmes on the basis that payment for activities carried out is only made once the PGP contract has been signed.