

## Can you help us fund a Solar PV installation at Elm Farm?

We are looking to raise £75k to pay for a 66kWp Solar PV installation on the new livestock building at ORC, to be built/installed during 2014. This will allow us to complete the energy cycle, with our own renewable electricity powering the heat pumps that make the ground-sourced heating system work, as well as generating funds for our work. We are still working out the details, but at this stage we are inviting preliminary expressions of interest from supporters willing to invest for terms of 5-10 years – capital to be repaid with (modest) interest. If you are potentially interested, please contact [Nic Lampkin](#). Although there is no closing date yet, quick responses would be very helpful to allow us to gauge interest.

## Managing hedges for woodfuel

Places are still available for this practical workshop looking at all aspects of managing hedgerows for woodfuel aimed at farmers, landowners, woodland workers and advisors. Held at ORC, Elm Farm 27th March 2014, 10am – 4pm [More](#)

## Soil management seminar

Places are still available for our soil management seminar for growers and gardeners, those working on land, students and apprentices, to be held at Tolhurst Organic on 31 March 2014, 10am – 4pm [More](#).

## News

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### 26 organisations call for Defra to back agroforestry

In a letter to Owen Paterson MP, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Organic Research Centre joins with 22 other organisations and individuals to call for Defra to recognise the potential of agroforestry and to reverse its decision not to adopt measures to support agroforestry under the next English Rural Development Programme. Further organisations have added their support since the letter was sent. [More...](#)

### Organic Farm Management Handbook

The 2014 edition has been published. Make sure you get yours! See [press release](#)

### New wheat and barley breeding project (WHEALBI)

ORC will lead a task in this European FP7 project to identify wheat and barley ideotypes with enhanced performance under organic husbandry.. [More...](#)

### UK organic market returns to growth:

Soil Association 2014 Organic Market Report [More...](#)

### Democracy and diversity can mend broken food systems:

Final report to UN Human Rights Council [More...](#)

### **New OF&G chief executive**

Roger Kerr has been announced as the new chief executive of Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd (OF&G) [More...](#)

### **Field Lab: Woodchip Compost:**

Finding alternatives to peat. Report and pics from the field lab at Tolhurst Organic [More...](#)

### **ORC at BioFach 2014:**

This February ORC attended BioFach, the world's leading trade fair for organic products, held in Nuremberg, Germany. [More...](#)

### **Agroforestry: How trees can work on your farm:**

Report from workshop held at Elm Farm [More...](#)

### **MEPs reject draft seed regulation:**

The Commission's draft text was rejected by 650 votes to 15. [More...](#)

### **Consultation on the National Pollinator Strategy:**

Defra consultation opens [More...](#)

### **Regenerative Agriculture Courses:**

Holistic Management Farming & Grazing / Fertility Farming [More...](#)

### **Sustainable biogas production:**

A handbook for organic farmers [More...](#)

## **Upcoming events**

**26 March 2014:** [Looking to the Future:](#)

**We are sorry to announce this event has been cancelled**

**27 March 2014:** [Managing Hedges for Woodfuel](#)

Practical workshop at Elm Farm

**31 March 2014:** [Soil Management Seminar](#)

Workshop for growers and gardeners, those working on land, students and apprentices

**3 April 2014:** [Fertility Building legume ley mixtures](#)

A farmer-led DOFF Field Lab

**5 April 2014:** [Farm walk at Elm Farm](#)

Looking at hedgerows and their management

**7 April 2014:** [Field Lab: Woodchip Compost](#)

Part 2: Using woodchip compost for propagation

**19 June 2014:** [ORC Wakelyns Agroforestry Open Day](#)

Seeds to trees – the value of diversity. Save the date!

**7 July 2014:** [SOLIBAM final congress](#)

Diversity strategies for organic and low input agricultures and their food systems

**13 October 2014:** [IFOAM World Congress 2014](#)

Building Organic Bridges

For more Field Lab events and Soil Association farm walks click [here](#)

## Photo sets

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Hedge-planting at Elm Farm [Photos](#)

Wakelyns Agroforestry - Feb 14 [Photos](#)

AGROFORESTRY: How Trees Can Work on Your Farm [Photos](#)

Woodchip compost field lab [Photos](#)

## More about us

### Participatory research network – join in!

We are developing a network of producers and other businesses to get producer/business-led, participatory research projects off the ground. You can join the network and receive the Handbook and Bulletin as part of the package. [More...](#)

### Subscribe to the ORC printed Bulletin

The quarterly ORC printed Bulletin is available on subscription in printed form, with back issues also on-line. [More...](#)

### Other publications available

A wide range of our research and other publications can be accessed via our website, and some printed versions are available to order. [More...](#)

### About the ORC E-Bulletin

The E-Bulletin is circulated monthly free of charge to ORC's Friends, regular supporters and Bulletin subscribers, as well as to individuals who register via the ORC's homepage at [www.organicresearchcentre.com](http://www.organicresearchcentre.com). The aim is to provide regular updates on ORC's activities and related work, with links to more detailed information on the ORC website. Previous E-Bulletins can be found in the Bulletin [archive](#). Comments on any items are very welcome by e-mail to [comment@organicresearchcentre.com](mailto:comment@organicresearchcentre.com) and may be published in future E-Bulletins and on our website (unless marked not for publication).

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