

Conference programme published!

This year for the first time we are bringing together two popular organic events to allow more people to participate in both. The Soil Association's [National Soils Symposium](#) (25th November) will be focusing on resilience. The ORC [Organic Producers' Conference](#) has producer-focused technical, business and policy workshops on the first day (26th November), and a more specific focus on current research and innovation activities on the second day (27th November), with the aim of bringing producers, researchers, advisers and students together to make change happen! We have published the provisional programme [here](#). More on the conference [here](#)

We're appealing!

Can you help us raise £50,000 by October? Click [here](#) for further details of our appeal or



now!

News

New staff at ORC

We have recently welcomed [Meg Chambers](#), [Mary Crossland](#), [Kenny Crawley](#) and [Janie Caldbeck](#), who have joined the staff of ORC.

SOLIBAM recommendations on seed laws:

Policy recommendations for legal aspects of seed certification and protection of Plant Breeders' Rights and Farmers' Rights [More...](#)

Derogations on young poultry and protein feed to continue:

Derogations to allow non-organic pullets and 5% non-organic feed extended to 31 December 2017 [More...](#)

Soil nitrogen increased through greater plant biodiversity:

Increased plant biodiversity improves grassland soil quality by boosting its nitrogen levels, even in the absence of nitrogen-fixing plants [More...](#)

EU must support the development of the organic sector:

Key EU policy-makers agree: Organic is a key sector to develop in Europe [More...](#)

No-till: limited potential for climate change mitigation:

The role of no-till agriculture in climate change mitigation may be over-stated [More...](#)

The energy efficiency of organic agriculture:

ORC-led review confirms that most organic crop and livestock systems are more energy-efficient than conventional [More...](#)

Organic farm incomes in England and Wales 2012/13:

Most organic farm types slightly greater or similar profitability to conventional [More...](#)

Smartphone use for agricultural research

Have a smartphone? The survey is still open [More...](#)

Upcoming events

22 September 2014: [Field Lab: Woodchip Compost](#)

Part 3: Discussion of final results. Tolhurst Organic, nr Reading

24 September 2014: [Practical sustainability assessment workshop](#)

Sustainability assessment and carbon footprinting for dairy farmers

25 September 2014: [Non-inversion tillage techniques](#)

Field lab at Yatesbury House Farm, Wiltshire

25 September 2014: [Controlling creeping thistles in crops and grass](#)

Field lab on Sandringham Estate, Norfolk

8 October 2014: [Soil Association Annual Conference 2014](#)

Transforming the way we eat, farm and care for the natural world

13-15 October 2014: [IFOAM World Congress 2014](#)

Building Organic Bridges

16-17 October 2014: [Nourish Conference 2014](#)

Our Common Wealth of Food

25 November 2014: [National Soil Symposium 2014](#)

Soil Association event precedes the ORC Organic Producers' Conference

26-27 November 2014: [ORC Organic Producers' Conference](#)

Our popular producer-focused conference in Solihull

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

Photo sets

New livestock building construction at Elm Farm [Photos](#)

Fertility building leys and green manures field lab: Abbey Home Farm [Photos](#)

Elm Farm trail: work party [Photos](#)

Aerial photos of Elm Farm [Photos](#)

More about us

Farmers' Organic Research Club – join in!

The Participatory Research Network is now the Farmers' Organic Research Club (FORC). FORC provides producers and others with the opportunity to undertake their own farm trials, collaborate with fellow farmers and growers and to engage directly in the organic research programme of ORC..

[More...](#)

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

2014 Organic Farm Management Handbook

This is a 'must have' publication for everyone interested in the business of organic farming and growing. Available now. [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. 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 and may be published in future E-Bulletins and on our website (unless marked not for publication).

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