



ELM FARM E-Bulletin No. 55, March 2017

The Organic Producers' Conference proceedings are online

The 11th Organic Producers' Conference **Rising to the challenge: Practical organic farming solutions for an uncertain future** was held on Wednesday 1st February and Thursday 2nd February 2017 at Conference Aston, Aston University, Birmingham, B4 7ET. Videos, presentations and abstracts are now online. [More...](#)

News

Multi-agency GM potato objection:

ORC joins with others to express concerns over GM potato trial [More...](#)

Countryside Stewardship opens for 2017:

The third year of the Countryside Stewardship scheme is open for applications [More...](#)

Consultation on breeding techniques:

IFOAM seeks comments on position paper [More...](#)

UK organic market tops £2 billion:

Soil Association's 2017 Organic Market Report is out [More...](#)

Challenges of organic arable farming:

Call for applications for online course [More...](#)

The future of UK organic support:

Defra minister announces continued support post-Brexit [More...](#)

The 2017 Organic Farm Management Handbook is published:

The Organic Farm Management Handbook is the only source of up-to-date information on the costs and performance of organic farming. [More...](#)

From Agronomy

The latest news and features from [Agronomy](#) includes:

Tillage & undersowing effects on organic wheat yield components & yield

Findings from trials at RAU into the effects of different forms of tillage and undersowing on the performance of organic winter and spring wheat. [More...](#)

Red clover varietal response to cutting

RAU trials into different responses of six varieties of red clover (*Trifolium pratense*, L.) to cutting [More...](#)

Cover crop crossroads

Phil Jarvis of the Allerton Project blogs on the challenges of integrating cover crops into an arable and livestock business. [More...](#)

Companion crops are a farmer's friend

Blog by Ian Wilkinson of Cotswold Seeds. [More...](#)

Agroforestry - it's just trees on farms!

Stuart Holm of the Woodland Trust demystifies agroforestry. [More...](#)

Rearing beef cattle

Richard Smith vlogs about the beef cattle at Daylesford, giving a few pointers on feeding regimes and calving management. [More...](#)

Farmer profile: Christine Page

Smiling Tree Farm in South Shropshire is a 70 acre pastoral farm that focuses on regenerating soil health through the use of mob-grazed ruminants raised exclusively on diverse permanent pastures, wildflower meadows, special fields of herbs, and browsing trees. [More...](#)

Upcoming events

22 June 2017: [Agroforestry 2017](#)

Improving productivity for farmers and foresters

23 June 2017: [Practical Agroforestry in the British Isles](#)

Farm Woodland Forum annual meeting

6 July 2017: [National Organic Combinable Crops \(NOCC\) 2017](#)

ORC are active partners in OF&G's flagship event, which will be held in Hampshire.

[Innovative Farmers Field labs and Webinars](#)

Photo albums

David Rose Agroforestry

David Rose's agroforestry system in Nottinghamshire, UK. We are collecting data from the farm for modelling agroforestry systems in the SustainFARM project. [Photos...](#)

Tim Downes agroforestry

We visited Tim Downes in March - interviewing him for iSAGE and Transitioning to Agroecology projects - and seeing his agroforestry and calf-feeding systems. [Photos...](#)

Buckwheat/couch field lab

First meeting of the OGA/LWA Innovative Farmers field lab on using buckwheat for couch control, was held on Friday 24th February at Abbey Home Farm, near Cirencester. [Photos...](#)

Planting new agroforestry system at Eastbrook Farm

On Monday 27th February, ORC staff helped out Ben Raskin in planting trees in a field at Eastbrook Farm, nr Swindon. [Photos...](#)

More about us

Join the Organic Research Centre's Farmer and Business Supporters' Group

As a farmer and/or business operator, we hope you will have benefited, directly or indirectly, from the work we have undertaken, including our work to help ensure fair support payments for organic producers. To help us be more effective we would like to invite you to join our newly established [Farmer and Business Supporters' Group](#). In return for a commitment to a regular donation to support our work, the new Group provides an opportunity for us to say thank you for your support and to give you something back, including an opportunity to have a say in, and get involved with, our future activities [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...](#)

2017 Organic Farm Management Handbook

This is a 'must have' publication for everyone interested in the business of organic farming and growing. [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).

We depend on voluntary donations to cover the costs of compiling and distributing the e-bulletin. If

you value what we do, please



If you do not wish to continue to receive these e-mails from ORC, you can unsubscribe at any time, either by replying to this e-mail with the word 'unsubscribe' in the subject line or by visiting [our website to deregister](#).

Follow us on Facebook



and Twitter



If you would like to get your news and event updates from ORC even quicker, we are now tweeting them as they happen. You can follow us via [#OrgResCent](#) or follow the link from our home page.

**The Organic Research Centre, Elm Farm
"for organic principles and best practice"
Hamstead Marshall, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 0HR
T: +44(0)1488 658298 F: +44(0)1488 658503**

www.organicresearchcentre.com