

ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS FORWARD CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

2013

- 6 March **Farming System Design – UK Workshop**
Darlington Building, University of Newcastle upon Tyne (CATE Group)
- 14-15 March **Dust emissions from seed drills - Workshop**
Julius-Kühn Institute (JKI), Berlin-Dahlem, Germany
(Pesticide Application Group)
- 25-26 March **Crop Resource Use Efficiency and Field Phenotyping**
Belton Woods Golf & Country Club, Grantham, Lincs (PP&CI Group)
- 23-25 April **Environmental Management on Farmland**
Forest Pines Hotel, nr Brigg, N Lincolnshire (CATE Group)
- 16 May **A Diet for Sustainability - Eat, Drink, Be Ready**
Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Herts (Food Group)
- September (tbc) 2 days **Crop Ethnography: Lessons for current and future challenges**
National Institute of Agricultural Botany, Cambridge (CATE Group)
- 15 October **Biopesticides**
Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, Lincs (Biological Control Group)
- 16 October **Advances in Biological Control**
Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, Lincs (Biological Control Group)
- 6-7 November **Fruits and Roots: A Celebration and Forward Look**
East Malling Research, Kent (East Malling Research/AAB)
- November (tbc) 2 days **Positive plant microbial interactions: their role in maintaining sustainable agricultural and natural ecosystems**
Forest Pines Hotel, nr Brigg, N Lincolnshire (AM&B Group)
- 10 December **Advances in Nematology - Nematode Control**
Linnean Society of London, Piccadilly, UK (Nematology Group)
- 18-19 December **Rethinking Agricultural Systems in the UK**
St Catherine's College, Oxford (BES Agricultural Ecology, Forest Ecology & Computation Ecology Groups/AAB)

2014

- 8-10 January **International Advances in Pesticide Application**
Oxford Spire Hotel, Oxford, UK (Pesticide Application Group)

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ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

President: Professor Peter Shewry BA, BSc, PhD, DSc

in conjunction with

The British Ecological Society Agricultural Ecology Group

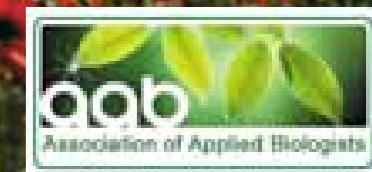
A 3 day conference

at Forest Pines Hotel, nr Brigg, North Lincs

on 23-25 April 2013

PROGRAMME

Environmental management
on farmland



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Environmental management on farmland

in conjunction with
the British Ecological Society Agricultural Ecology Group

to be held at Forest Pines Hotel, near Brigg, North Lincs, UK

on 23-25 April 2013

Agricultural land is under pressure as never before. Increasing concerns about food security, driven by the need to feed a growing population, are balanced by the need to conserve our environment and maintain the ecosystem services it provides. These issues are recognised by policy makers, and two of the key ambitions presented in the recent Natural Environment White Paper produced by the UK Government were “protecting and improving our natural environment” and “growing a green economy”. Proposals for maintaining environmental management on farmland put forward for the forthcoming Common Agricultural Policy reform revolve around the ‘greening’ of the CAP. This would involve the attachment of additional environmental conditions to farm subsidies, including the provision of ‘Ecological Focus Areas’ covering up to 7% of the farmed area. To date, the main vehicle for environmental conservation on farmland has been agri-environment schemes underpinned by cross-compliance, but voluntary approaches such as the ‘Campaign for the Farmed Environment’ have also played a part. As we approach the next phase of the CAP and a new set of Rural Development Plans, it is timely to review the evidence gathered from research and monitoring programmes, and how this informs the potential roles of existing and novel approaches to environmental management in the agricultural landscape of the future.

The conference will be of interest to delegates from across Europe, including policy makers, agricultural and landscape ecologists, advisers, agricultural land managers, and all those involved in research, development, implementation and evaluation of environmental management schemes on farmland.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME (BASIS points have been applied for)

Tuesday 23 April 2013

Session 1: *Setting the scene*

Session Organiser: NIGEL BOATMAN (Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

11:00 INTRODUCTION

NIGEL BOATMAN (Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

11:05 *Invited speaker*

Lessons for the design of future agri-environment schemes

GEOFF RADLEY (formerly Natural England)

11:25	Meeting the EU’s environmental challenges through the CAP – how do the reforms measure up? BEN ALLEN & KALEY HART (Institute for European Environment Policy (IEEP), London)
11:55	DISCUSSION
12:05	LUNCH
Session 2: <i>Design of schemes and monitoring programmes</i> Session Organiser: JON MARSHALL (Marshall Agroecology Ltd)	
13:15	How to preserve traditional agricultural landscapes? JANA ŠPULEROVA, MARTA DOBROVODSKÁ, DAGMAR ŠTEFUNKOVÁ, ZITA IZAKOVIČOVÁ (Institute of Landscape Ecology SAS, Bratislava, Slovakia) & FRANTIŠEK PETROVIČ (Constantine The Philosopher University, Nitra, Slovakia)
13:35	The credit point system: a market approach to enhance biodiversity on farmland M JENNY, S BIRRER (Swiss Ornithological Institute, Sempach, Switzerland), O BALMER & L PFIFFNER (FiBL, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Frick, Switzerland)
13:55	An integrated ecological, social and physical approach to monitoring environmental change and land management effects: the Wales Axis II Monitoring and Evaluation Programme BRIDGETT EMMETT (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Bangor), DAVID CHADWICK (University of Bangor), ANGUS GARBUTT (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Bangor), PETER HENRYS (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Lancaster), NEAL HOCKLEY (University of Bangor), LINDSAY MASKELL (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Lancaster), LINDA MAY (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Edinburgh), SELYF MORGAN (University of Cardiff), DAVID ROBINSON (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Bangor), GAVIN SIRIWARDENA (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford), JAMES SKATES (Scientific Evidence & Assessment Branch, Welsh Government, Cardiff), SIMON SMART (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Lancaster), RUTH SWETNAM (Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent) & BRONWEN WILLIAMS (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Bangor)
14:15	DISCUSSION
14:30	TEA
Session 3: <i>Scheme monitoring and evaluation</i> Session Organiser: BARBARA SMITH (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge)	
15:00	How has Environmental Stewardship affected English farmland bird populations? Results and lessons from a national assessment DAVID J BAKER*(British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford), PHIL V GRICE (Natural England, Peterborough) & GAVIN M SIRIWARDENA (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford) *current address: (School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Durham University)
15:20	Higher Level Stewardship, the quality of agreements and evidence of progress: Results of a national survey in England OWEN MOUNTFORD, S R AMY, P D CAREY, A I COOK (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford) & G P RADLEY (Natural England)

15:40 **Environmental stewardship and farmland birds in Devon**
WILL PEACH (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy, Bedfordshire)

16:00 **Shifts in functional plant diversity in ditch banks under agri-environment schemes and nature reserves**
WILLIAM F AVAN DIJK, ANDRÉ P SCHAFFERS, JASPER VAN RUIJVAN,
FRANK BERENDSE & GEERT R DE SNOO (Wageningen University, the Netherlands)

16:20 **Entry Level Stewardship - Changes in attitude of agreement holders over the first five years**
NIGEL BOATMAN, NAOMI JONES, RUTH LAYBOURN, JAMES BLACKBURN &
JULIE BISHOP (Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

16:40 DISCUSSION

17:00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

17:05 CLOSE

18:00 DINNER

19:00 BUSES TO LINCOLN (Optional Trip)

Wednesday 24 April 2013

Session 4: Habitat management

Session Organisers: STEVE PEEL (Natural England) & WILL PEACH (RSPB, Sandy)

9:00 **Farm4Bio project: managing uncropped land for biodiversity**
JOHN HOLLAND (Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge, Hampshire),
JONATHAN STORKEY, PETER LUTMAN (Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Herts),
IAN HENDERSON (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford) & JIM ORSON
(NIAB TAG, Wymondham, Norfolk)

9:30 **Assessing the potential value of riparian buffer strips for biodiversity**
C N R CRITCHLEY (ADAS UK Ltd, Stocksfield), A C MOLE (ADAS UK Ltd, Preston),
A J SHERWOOD (ADAS UK Ltd, Cambridge), J TOWERS (ADAS UK Ltd, Preston) &
A L COLLINS (ADAS UK Ltd, Wolverhampton)

9:50 **A comparison of field margin establishment methods and impact on hymenopteran parasitoid communities**
DAIRE Ó HULLAGHAIN (Teagasc, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland),
ANNETTE ANDERSON, ROCHELLE FRITCH (University College, Dublin, Ireland),
STEPHEN McCORMACK (Teagasc, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland),
HELEN SHERIDAN (University College, Dublin, Ireland) & JOHN A FINN (Teagasc,
Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland)

10:10 **The enhancement of conservation biological control through targeted landscape management**
MARK RAMSDEN, ROSS MENENDEZ (Lancaster Environment Centre, University of
Lancaster), SIMON LEATHER (Harper Adams University, Newport) & FELIX WACKERS
(Lancaster Environment Centre, University of Lancaster)

10:30 DISCUSSION

10:50 COFFEE

11:10 **Effects of cultivation and herbicide application regimes on the plant species composition of uncropped arable margins**
M WAGNER (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford, Oxfordshire)

11:30 **Multi-taxa benefits of a targeted single-species agri-environment option**
JENNY C DUNN & ANTONY J MORRIS (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy,
Bedfordshire)

11:50 **Effects of sheep and cattle grazing on vegetation, invertebrates and livestock performance on an upland acid grassland**
C N R CRITCHLEY (ADAS UK Ltd, Stocksfield), J B GRIFITHS, A CLARKE &
O D DAVIES (ADAS UK Ltd, Aberystwyth)

12:10 **Can short rotation coppice strips compensate structural deficits in agrarian landscapes?**
MICHAEL GLEMNITZ, RALPH PLATEN, JESSIKA KONRAD (Center for Agricultural
Landscape Research, Müncheberg, Germany) & RALF KRECHEL (Institute for Vegetation
Sciences, Ecology & Regional Planning, Düsseldorf, Germany)

12:30 DISCUSSION

12:50 LUNCH

Session 5: Advice provision

Session Organiser: GAVIN SIRIWARDENA (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford)

14:05 **Farming for Food and Clean Water: The Catchment Sensitive Farming Approach and Outcomes – 6 years on**
JAMES GRISCHEFF (Natural England, Taunton, Devon)

14:25 **Assessing the effectiveness of ETIP advice on targeting Entry Level Scheme agreements to local priorities**
GLYN JONES, ANDREW CROWE & NIGEL BOATMAN (The Food and Environment
Research Agency, Sand Hutton, York)

14:45 **Development of a Bird Environmental Stewardship Tool (BEST) for managing ELS options**
JON TIMMIS (University of York), GAVIN SIRIWARDENA (British Trust for Ornithology,
Thetford), JONATHAN MARSDEN (Natural England, Hope Valley) & PETER EDWARDS
(Syngenta, Jealott's Hill, Berks)

15:05 DISCUSSION

15:20 TEA

Session 6: Poster presentations

15:50 INTRODUCTION

15:55 5 MINUTE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

15:55 **The use of enhanced stubbles by Pale bellied brent goose (*Svalbard* race) (*Branta bernicla hrota*) on farmland that abuts Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve**
STEVE PULLAN (Natural England, Newcastle-upon-Tyne) & GEORGE DODDS (G Dodds & Co, Wooler, Northumberland)

16:00 **Do legume-rich habitats provide improved farmland biodiversity resources and services in arable farmland?**
THOMAS WOOD, BARBARA SMITH (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge), JENNIFER GILL (University of East Anglia, Norwich) & JOHN HOLLAND (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge)

16:05 **Including Ecosystem sustainability in the economic valuation of biodiversity**
JEROEN F ADMIRAAL (Leiden University, the Netherlands, ADA WOSSINK (University of Manchester), WOUTER T DE GROOT & GEERT R DE SNOO (Leiden University, the Netherlands)

16:10 **Invertebrate biodiversity within the grassy and woody elements of farmland hedgerows: snapshots from Lincolnshire**
SOPHIE L BENNETT, PAUL E EADY & D CHARLES DEEMING (University of Lincoln)

16:15 **Evaluating the efficacy of winter seed provision by different Agri-environment scheme options**
DEREK GRUAR (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Knapwell, Cambridgeshire), ANTONY J MORRIS (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy, Bedford) & IAN A DILLON (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Knapwell, Cambridgeshire)

16:20 **The impacts of biomass crops on nesting farmland birds**
HENRIETTA PRINGLE (Imperial College at Silwood Park, Ascot, Berks), RUFUS SAGE (The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge) & SIMON LEATHER (Harper Adams University, Newport)

16:25 **Four-Species Grass-Clover mixtures demonstrate transgressive overyielding and weed suppression over 3 years and across 31 sites**
J A FINN (Teagasc Environment Research Centre, Co. Wexford, Ireland), L KIRWAN (Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland), J CONNOLLY (University College, Dublin, Ireland) & A LÜSCHNER (Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART, Zurich, Switzerland)

16:30 **The influence of environmental Stewardship (ES) summer foraging habitat on the breeding distribution of Yellowhammer, *Emberiza citrinella***
CECILY GOODWIN, NIAMH McHUGH, JOHN HOLLAND (Game & Wildlife Conversation Trust, Fordingbridge) & SIMON LEATHER (Harper Adams University College, Newport)

16:35 **Improving pest control and pollination services in cider apple orchards by means of ‘multi-functional’ flowering strips**
ALASTAIR CAMPBELL (Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, Lancaster)

16:40 **Enhancing pollinator diversity at the farm scale**
JODEY PEYTON (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford, Oxfordshire)

16:45 **Yellowhammer Breeding Distribution in Relation to Field Boundary Vegetation and Chick Food Resources**
NIAHM McHUGH (Imperial College at Silwood Park, Ascot, Berks), SOPHIE HUGHES (The Game & Wildlife Conversation Trust, Fordingbridge), SIMON LEATHER (Harper Adams University, Newport), RICHARD STILLMAN (Bournemouth University, Poole) & JOHN HOLLAND (The Game & Wildlife Conversation Trust, Fordingbridge)

16:50 ***Weissia squarrosa*, a Biodiversity Action Plan moss, its status and its conservation in the arable environment**
SIMON CONYERS & RUTH LAYBOURN (The Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

16:55 **Review of grassland management**
WILL PEACH (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy, Bedfordshire)

17:00 **Springing into action? Collembola in agroecosystems**
FRANCESCA SCONCE (Harper Adams University, Newport, Shropshire)

17:05 **Monitoring of farmland biodiversity indicators in Northern Ireland**
MEL FLEXEN (Applied Plant Science and Biometrics Division Agri-Food and Biometrics Institute, Newforge Lane, Belfast)

17:10 POSTERS AND WINE RECEPTION

18:10 END OF DAY

19:30 CONFERENCE DINNER

Thursday 25 April 2013

Session 7: *Engaging farmers in environmental management*
MIKE GREEN (Natural England) & **KEES MUSTERS** (Leiden University, the Netherlands)

9:00 *Invited speaker*
TBC

9:30 **The Campaign for the Farmed Environment: a partnership initiative led by the agricultural industry to replace set-aside**
E J P MARSHALL (Marshall Agroecology Ltd, Barton Winscombe, Somerset), JIM EGAN (National Farmers Union) & CHARLOTTE LAY (Country Land & Business Assn)

9:50 **Monitoring the implementation of voluntary environmental management measures under the Campaign for the Farmed Environment**
NAOMI JONES, NIGEL BOATMAN & RUTH LAYBOURN (The Food and Environment Research Agency, Sand Hutton, York)

10:10 **Farmer attitudes and evaluation of outcomes to on-farm environmental management**
J MILLS, P GASKELL (University of Gloucestershire), N E JONES & N D BOATMAN (Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

10:30 DISCUSSION

10:45 COFFEE

11:15 **A vision of farmers’ biodiversity performance as preferred by agro-production chain parties**
JEROEN ADMIRAAL, PAULINE POST, KEES MUSTERS & GEERT DE SNOO (Leiden University, the Netherlands)

11:35 **Biodiversity Conservation in Agricultural Landscapes:Farmer Effects on Biodiversity Gains from Agri-Environment Schemes**
ADA WOSSINK (University of Manchester)

11.55 DISCUSSION

Session 8: General Discussion

12:05 GENERAL DISCUSSION

12:30 CLOSING REMARKS

12:40 LUNCH

13:45 BUSES FOR FIELD TRIP (Optional trip)