

## **Local research farm offers free organic breakfast to celebrate ‘Wake up to Organic’**

Friends, neighbours and all those with an interest in or curiosity about organic farming and food, are invited to visit the Organic Research Centre at Hamstead Marshall near Newbury on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June for a free organic breakfast and guided tours around the charity’s organic research farm. The event forms part of the wider national initiative called ‘Wake up to Organic’.

The Organic Research Centre, is a renowned independent research charity that was formed nearly 40 years ago to further knowledge on organic farming techniques for the benefit of food production, wildlife conservation, environmental protection and food security.

Recent research shows that there is an increasing consumer demand for organic products. In the past two years, the market has shown a 13 per cent growth in organic food and drink sales in the UK as consumers become more aware of the health, environmental and animal welfare benefits of organic food production.

The event on 13<sup>th</sup> June, aims to showcase some of the fascinating research that is carried out on the charity’s farm at Hamstead Marshall, which aims to develop ways to help organic farmers become more resilient and profitable whilst reducing their environmental impact. Researchers will be on hand to offer expert hints and tips on how to manage an organic veg plot as well as providing information on new research such as growing trees with crops, improving soil fertility, growing wildlife-friendly crops and the problems of dealing with pests and diseases in an organic crop rotation.

Rob Chappell, from the Organic Research Centre said, “We are delighted to host this event on our farm as part of ‘Wake up to Organic’. There is a growing interest in organic food production, and so this is a fantastic opportunity to offer our hospitality to all those who are curious about what we do and how we do it. We will be offering guided tours of our farm trail, including the hedgerows and agroforestry systems as well as offering a delicious free organic breakfast. We hope it will provide visitors with lots of useful information as well as inspiration to learn more about organics.”

The Wake up To Organic event is on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at the Organic Research Centre, Elm Farm, Hamstead Marshall, Newbury, Berkshire RG20 0HR and will run from 9.00am to 12.00 noon. There is no need to book a place. But do call Rob Chappell on 01488 658298 ext 532 for further details.

END

**For more information on this press release, please contact: Morag Walker on 07736 124097 or email: [morag@moragwalkerpr.co.uk](mailto:morag@moragwalkerpr.co.uk)**

**Notes to editors:**

**The Organic Research Centre (ORC):** established in 1980, is the UK’s leading independent organic research charity. It works both nationally and internationally, to:

- Research and develop practical, sustainable land management and food production systems based on organic and agro-ecological principles



**Director:** Prof. Nicolas Lampkin  
**Council of Management:** M. Turnbull (Chairman), V. Agrawal (Treasurer), A. Astor, T. Bennett, A. Blackshaw, D. Peck, A. Stewart, M. Wagner, C. Watson, N. Westaway  
**Patrons:** C.A. Bielenberg, The Duchess of Richmond and Gordon, Peter Kindersley, Juliet Kindersley, Yvonne Pye, Jan Sundt

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- Foster knowledge exchange with and between current and future producers, food businesses and related professionals
- Influence policy and public debates on the future of food and farming based on sound evidence.

[www.organicresearchcentre.com](http://www.organicresearchcentre.com)



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