



# 8<sup>th</sup> Organic Producers' Conference

## 22-23 January 2014

**Aston Business School  
Aston University  
Birmingham B4 7ET**

**Sponsored by:**



## **Intensive Sustainability or Sustainable Intensification - which way forward for organic farming?**

With the recent launches of Defra's CAP consultation and Sustainable Intensification Research Platform, as well as the government's Agri-Tech Strategy, is there any place left for organic farming and similar agro-ecological approaches to sustainable food production?

Are the concept of sustainable intensification and the new strategies broad enough to not only focus on techno-fixes or can we find better ecological and knowledge-based solutions to meeting sustainability challenges?

Is producing ever more food really the priority, or are the climate change, environmental pollution, soil and water degradation and biodiversity loss problems now too great? Should our real focus be on intensifying the sustainability of our food systems, rather than intensifying production with questionable sustainability benefits?

We've restructured our traditional conference format to enable participants to debate these questions and help find real, innovative solutions.

ORC's annual Organic Producers' Conference is the event where organic and other producers interested in ecological approaches to sustainable food production come together with researchers and advisers to share ideas on making agriculture perform better, for their businesses and society. Come and join like-minded people in a process of challenge and discovery!

**The ORC Organic Producers' Conference is organised with the active support of:**



Organic  
Growers  
Alliance



# 2014 Organic Producers' Conference: Outline Programme

Content and times of sessions are subject to change

## Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014

|                                     |   |   |  |   |  |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 09.30-10.30                         | Space for pre-conference meetings if required   |   |  |   |  |                                     |
| 10.00-11.00                         | Registration and refreshments   |   |  |   |  |                                     |
| 11.00-13.00<br>Opening plenary      | Sustainable food systems- the challenges we need to address   |   |  |   |  |                                     |
| 14.00-15.00<br>Workshop session 1   | Achieving sustainability in practice - what steps can we take to address the challenges? Round table, small group debates |   |  |   |  |                                     |
|                                     | <i>Arable</i>   | <i>Horticulture</i>                                     | <i>Livestock</i>                       | <i>Grassland</i>                                      | <i>Other</i>                               |                                     |
| 15.30-17.00<br>Workshop session 2   | Growing oats – fulfilling the potential<br><br>(ORC)  | Building local regionally adapted seed systems<br>(OGA) | Liver fluke control<br><br>(NSA)       | Home-grown forage – closing the feed system<br>(PFLA) | CAP reform – what's in store?<br><br>(ORC) |                                     |
| 17.10-18.10<br>Small group meetings | Organic arable research<br>(HGCA)   | UK market prospects<br>(ORC)                            | Participatory cereal breeding<br>(ORC) | Health concepts for organics<br>(ORC)                 | Farm succession planning<br>(IOTA)         | Community woodfuel heating<br>(ORC) |
| 19:30-24:00                         | Conference dinner and bar   |   |  |   |  |                                     |

## Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014

|                                   |  |   |  |  |   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|                                   | <i>Arable</i>  | <i>Horticulture</i>                             | <i>Livestock</i>   | <i>Grassland</i>                                       | <i>Other</i>  |  |
| 09.00-10.30<br>Workshop session 3 | Reducing the productivity gap - nutrients<br>(Nafferton EFG) | Making our growing systems truly local<br>(OGA) | Matching demand with supply<br><br>(OCW)                     | Maintaining grassland productivity long term<br>(IOTA) | Addressing the skills gap – knowledge & innovation<br>(ORC) |  |
| 11.00-12.30<br>Workshop session 4 | Controlling grass weeds in arable crops<br>(Organic Arable)  | Innovative local marketing<br>(OGA)             | Reducing antibiotic use in agriculture<br>(Soil Association) | Perennial weed control in grassland<br>(Nafferton EFG) | Agroforestry – forest gardens to landscape scale<br>(ORC)   |  |
| 14.00-15.00<br>Closing plenary    | Making it all happen!  |   |  |  |   |  |

### STOP PRESS: BURSARIES AGAIN AVAILABLE

Bursaries for apprentices and students are available again this year thanks to sponsorship from Abbey Home Farm, Cirencester, and the Organic Growers Alliance. If you are interested, please indicate this under 'other requirements' on the form on page 4 and do not submit payment at this stage.



Organic Growers Alliance



## 2014 Conference costs – to book, please complete and return this form and the form overleaf

Bursaries available for students and apprentices – see foot of page 2 for details

| Options  |   | Reduced rate for producers*, IOTA/<br>PRN members, ORC Friends**<br>and students |        |   |        | Full rate for<br>all other participants          |        |   |        | Total<br>cost |
|--|---|--|--------|---|--------|--|--------|---|--------|---------------|
|  |   | Early Bird<br>Rate #<br>Book by 20th<br>December                                 | Number | Standard<br>Rate<br>From 21st<br>December | Number | Early Bird<br>Rate #<br>Book by 20th<br>December | Number | Standard<br>Rate<br>From 21st<br>December | Number |               |
| <b>Full participant<br/>(single)</b>                   | Conference admittance for <b>both days</b> with lunches, conference dinner and B&B (single occupancy)   | <b>£228</b><br>(£190 + VAT)  |        | <b>£276</b><br>(£230 + VAT)               |        | <b>£276</b><br>(£230 + VAT)                      |        | <b>£324</b><br>(£270 + VAT)               |        |               |
| <b>Full participant<br/>(sharing)<br/>(per person)</b> | Conference admittance for <b>both days</b> with lunches, conference dinner and B&B (double occupancy)   | <b>£198</b><br>(£165 + VAT)  |        | <b>£240</b><br>(£200 + VAT)               |        | <b>£240</b><br>(£200 + VAT)                      |        | <b>£282</b><br>(£235 + VAT)               |        |               |
| <b>Non-<br/>participating<br/>guests</b>               | Can be accommodated at a supplement to the single participant fee (includes breakfast but no other meals)   | <b>£36</b><br>(£30 + VAT)  |        | <b>£36</b><br>(£30 + VAT)                 |        | <b>£36</b><br>(£30 + VAT)                        |        | <b>£36</b><br>(£30 + VAT)                 |        |               |
| <b>Day participant</b>                                 | <b>Wednesday 22nd January 2014</b><br>(including lunch)   | <b>£66</b><br>(£55 + VAT)  |        | <b>£78</b><br>(£65 + VAT)                 |        | <b>£78</b><br>(£65 + VAT)                        |        | <b>£90</b><br>(£75 + VAT)                 |        |               |
| <b>Day participant</b>                                 | <b>Thursday 23rd January 2014</b><br>(including lunch)  | <b>£66</b><br>(£55 + VAT)  |        | <b>£78</b><br>(£65 + VAT)                 |        | <b>£78</b><br>(£65 + VAT)                        |        | <b>£90</b><br>(£75 + VAT)                 |        |               |
| <b>Conference<br/>dinner</b>                           | Additional option for day participants and non-participating guests   | <b>£42</b><br>(£35 + VAT)  |        | <b>£48</b><br>(£40 + VAT)                 |        | <b>£48</b><br>(£40 + VAT)                        |        | <b>£54</b><br>(£45 + VAT)                 |        |               |
| <b>Sponsorship</b>                                     | Can you make an additional donation to help sponsor a participant, speaker, session or the overall event? Enter amount:<br>If you would like to discuss sponsorship options first, please get in touch. |  |        |   |        |  |        |   |        |               |

\* For Producer Rate a  **Holding Number**  must be provided on the form overleaf

\*\* ORC Friends are registered, regular donors

# For  **Early Bird discount** , booking forms  **AND**  payment must arrive by  **13.00 on Friday 20th December 2013** .

**TOTAL COST £**

**CAR PARKING** is available on campus at a reduced rate. **Please book direct with Conference Aston** using the form that will be provided when you register

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return this form and the form overleaf

## PARTICIPANT DETAILS:

Please complete a separate form for EACH participant attending:

|   |                                  |   |  |                                |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Title:</b>   | <b>First Name:</b>               | <b>Last Name:</b>                                     |  |                                |
| <b>Organisation:</b>  |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>Details for Name Badge:</b>  |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>Address:</b>   |                                  |   |  |                                |
|   |                                  | <b>Postcode:</b>                                      |  |                                |
| <b>Email:</b>   |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>Telephone:</b>   |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>Producer Holding Number</b> (required to qualify for reduced producer rate):   |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>IOTA or PRN Member</b> (please tick) <input type="checkbox"/>  |                                  | <b>Student</b> (please tick) <input type="checkbox"/> |  |                                |
| <b>Friend of ORC</b> (please tick) <input type="checkbox"/>   |                                  | <b>Speaker</b> (please tick) <input type="checkbox"/> |  |                                |
| <b>Areas of interest</b> (please tick):   |                                  |   |  |                                |
| Grower <input type="checkbox"/>   | Poultry <input type="checkbox"/> | Arable <input type="checkbox"/>                       | Dairy <input type="checkbox"/>         |                                |
| Sheep <input type="checkbox"/>  | Pigs <input type="checkbox"/>    | Adviser/consultant <input type="checkbox"/>           | Beef <input type="checkbox"/>          |                                |
| Research <input type="checkbox"/>   | Policy <input type="checkbox"/>  | Food Industry <input type="checkbox"/>                | Certification <input type="checkbox"/> |                                |
| Other (please state) <input type="checkbox"/>   |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>Trade stands are available</b> –send me details (please tick): <input type="checkbox"/>                                    |                                  |   |  |                                |
| <b>Special dietary requirements</b> (please tick):  |                                  | Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/>                   | Vegan <input type="checkbox"/>         | Other <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Any other special requirements</b> (e.g. shared or ground floor accommodation, wheel chair access, bursary requests, etc.) |                                  |   |  |                                |

## Payment options:

- By Cheque: payable to Organic Research Centre, enclosed with this form,
- By Credit card: please use our on-line Paypal/Credit card facility at [www.organicresearchcentre.com](http://www.organicresearchcentre.com) and submit this form by e-mail or fax. This is our preferred option for receiving payments from outside the UK.
- BACS transfers are also possible – please submit form by e-mail or fax requesting account details. If making non Sterling (GBP) payments, please consider credit card option.

For Early Bird discounts, booking forms and payment must arrive by **13:00 on 20 December 2013**.  
**Registrations are not valid until payment is received.**

## Cancellations:

Refund of payments due to cancellation by you will only be possible if notice of cancellation is received by **13.00 on Friday 20 December 2013**. Such cancellations will incur an administration charge of 20%. No monies can be refunded for cancellations after this date. We regret that there will be no refunds if delegates are unable to get to the conference because of bad weather.

## Send form to, or for further information contact, Gillian Woodward by:

**Post:** Organic Research Centre, Elm Farm, Hamstead Marshall, Newbury, RG20 0HR.  
**E-mail:** [gillian.w@organicresearchcentre.com](mailto:gillian.w@organicresearchcentre.com)  
**Tel:** 01488 658298 ext. 554  
**Fax:** 01488 658503