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Newsletter

July 2023 Issue 148

General News

National Organic Conference 2023



We want to thank all who attended the National Organic Conference 2023 and for sharing your energy and your knowledge.

The event was a great success with more than 200 people coming to the Lea family's Green Acres Farm in Shropshire for a full day of talks, a good lunch and the NOC farm walk.

We hope everybody who came also enjoyed the day, the feedback we've been getting has been tremendous.

With a very full day's programme of presentations, a good serving of local organic food and many opportunities for networking there was so much to see, hear and talk about.

This year we covered topics including where organic fits in with the climate and nature crises; we looked in detail at options for online retail marketplaces and how organic

farmers can directly connect with shoppers.

We also looked at seed breeding and seed laws in relation to soil health and plant and soil relationships.

And we ate a delicious array of wonderful food prepared by a local family business with local and organic ingredients. Our thanks to all the team at CSONS.

We are drawing up plans for next year. NOC24 will again be hosted on a working organic farm and we hope we will see you there, in early July 2024. Details will be announced later this year.

NOC23 on OF&G flickr -

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ofg/albums/72177720309707575>

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On the day before NOC23 Harper Adams University very kindly took NOC delegates on a guided tour of the crop variety plots, including naked barley and intercropping trials for CROPDIVA plus a visit to the Hands Free Hectare strip cropping trials.

It was great for us to be able to invite people who were coming to our conference to also take advantage of this opportunity.

More images of the crop plots at HAU from Ed Dickin via this twitter page -

https://twitter.com/naked_barley/status/1679116894471696384



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Groundswell

The OF&G team were involved with this year's Groundswell Agriculture show that took place in Hertfordshire 28-29 June.

Groundswell has grown from being a 'no-till' conference and has instead become a festival for all those interested in finding their way to less reliance on chemical farming, having more consideration for soil and crop health and a much greater understanding of the role farming and food have in caring for the environment.

A large number of people came to the OF&G stand over the two days of the show - licensees and organic colleagues from around the country and some from further afield.

Many organic farmers attended and took part in the many discussions and workshops that were held across the site at Weston in Hertfordshire.

OF&G's Steven Jacobs was part of a session on the Thursday in the 'Big Top':

'Doing the Time: working toward the decriminalisation of our seeds'

Members of UK Grain Lab took to the stage to talk about the heterogeneous plant variety project mentioned in the NOC23 report earlier in this newsletter.

This session was among many that were recorded and are available to watch on YouTube -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdPumOgC2uY>

Alongside Steven were Josiah Meldrum, Fred Price, Dr. Ed Dickin, Rosy Benson, Charlotte Bickler & John Turner.

'It's increasingly well understood that crop diversity holds the answer to many of the pressing problems we face, from resilient food production in the face of climate change to chronic diet-related ill health. But one of the most potent tools at our disposal is currently illegal: the trade in genetically diverse cereal seeds. By their very

nature these seeds don't meet the requirements of DUS and VCU, but it's those variable qualities that confer disease resistance, vigour, and adaptive capacity in the face of a turbulent climate.'

Over the past few months this group working with DEFRA and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) submitted their proposal for a change in UK legislation.

NEWSFLASH - We can now report that a Statutory Instrument was laid in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and on 14 July the 'SI 2023 No. 676 The Seed Marketing (Heterogeneous Material) (Temporary Experiment) (England) Regulations 2023' entered the legislature for England: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2023/676/made>

The UKGL have developed a tool to log varieties and to track movements of the population cereal varieties registered under the new permissions. UKGL will be launching that tool and will be progressing with this project to build genetic diversity back into our cereals from this autumn.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Steven Jacobs at the OF&G office.



Defra SFI update and manual signals a clear direction of travel

Defra has launched the SFI 2023 Manual which provides detail of the 2023 SFI standards, with information on the CS options that are also available to farmers in England.

This represents concrete progress and is a significant step forward. It provides much needed clarity on the SFI standards and how these can work together with the CS options. It is good that the manual is downloadable, making it easier to use. However, this is a living document so be aware that updates and changes will be published.

Defra has also published an accompanying short leaflet on [Payments for Organic Farmers](#). This is a welcome recognition of the opportunity that organic farming offers to help achieve the environmental targets in the Environment Improvement Plan and the Environment Act. This organic leaflet accompanies others on Uplands, Arable & Horticulture, Grassland and Livestock.

Organic offers an immediate and accessible pathway towards achieving greater sustainability in farming. However, there are some anomalies in the payment rates available to organic and non-organic farmers for the same

options, whilst we also question why some SFI standards and CS options are mutually exclusive. We hope these issues will be resolved before the application window opens in August.

A webinar, jointly organised by the Defra Farming and Countryside Programme and the English Organic Forum will provide an organic perspective on the offer in the new schemes, how they will work and deal with queries that farmers may have. Look out for further details about this webinar, which will be held in late September. We will keep you posted.

SFI 2023 Manual - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfi-handbook-for-the-sfi-2023-offer>

Payments for Organic Farmers - <https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/246/2023/06/Defra-SFI-Organics-Leaflet-June-2023-1.pdf>

Update on GM/GE

The new Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Act 2023 received royal assent in March. We are now in a process of consultative workshops with DEFRA and separately with the Food Standards Agency.

Currently the situation is uncertain with both DEFRA and the FSA as to exactly how businesses across food and farming will operate under the new act. There are critically important sections in the legislation that are not sufficiently clear nor well defined and could be open to interpretation, which could lead to severely negative economic and ecological outcomes across the industry.

We are especially concerned that a thorough coexistence regime is made mandatory, with product labelling and traceability as top priorities.

We know that the FSA want to make sure the public interest is fully protected, they will not want any activity to lead to further increases in food fraud, which is especially concerning currently with cost of living issues and the need to protect food system security.

The impacts of these new tools on our food systems will need to be responsibly monitored and evaluated. None of us want any mistakes or misadventures to go undetected.

At OF&G we have commented publicly a number of times with regard to genetic engineering and specifically with regard to this piece of legislation.

<https://ofgorganic.org/news/letter-to-defra-the-genetic-technology-precision-breeding-bill-2022>

<https://ofgorganic.org/news/of-g-briefing-note-the-genetic-technology-precision-breeding-bill-2022>

<https://ofgorganic.org/news/genetic-technology-bill-will-cost-us-dearly>

If you have any other comments or queries please contact Steven Jacobs at the OF&G office.

Down to Earth North



As reported in OF&G Newsletter Issue 147, OF&G licensees Mark and Jenny Lee were hosting the Down to Earth North event on 6 July.

Mark and Jenny Lee, welcomed visitors to **Park House Farm, Torpenhow, Cumbria**, to showcase their OF&G licensed organic unit. Their farm consists of 175 milking crossbred cows, certified 100% pasture fed by Pasture for Life and mob-grazed on a 30-40 day rotation using 2.5km of grazing tracks.

Run by the RABDF, the Down to Earth events are tailored specifically for livestock farmers interested in understanding the principles behind the regenerative farming approach.

Staff from OF&G attended and we had a really useful day talking to organic farmers and had some very good conversations with farmers who are thinking of converting and wanted to ask us some questions and look at what their options could be.

Mark and Jenny were great hosts and we want to congratulate them for providing a really good event and giving us the opportunity to come to Cumbria and talk about OF&G and organics.

https://www.instagram.com/p/Cucesg6MGNp/?img_index=1

Full details: <https://projectdowntoearth.co.uk/>



Contact The Farming Community Network to speak in confidence with a sympathetic person who **understands** farming life.

Our volunteers in England and Wales **help hundreds of farmers and farming families each year** with a wide range of issues.

We've been described as a **lifeline** and a **trusted friend**.

FCN THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

Call 03000 111 999 or email help@fcn.org.uk
(Helpline open 7am-11pm, 365 days of the year)

OF&G and Organics in the News

Leader in the Limelight - John Pawsey

<https://ahdb.org.uk/news/leader-in-the-limelight-john-pawsey>



John is highlighted in one of the AHDB AgriLeader features where they profile leaders from across our industry. We'll ask them some probing questions to find out what makes them tick and how they've become the leader they are today.

Apparently John is 'best in the morning' and goes to sleep to the sound of the Archers podcast.

On Your Farm - Gelato in the Lake District - BBC Sounds

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001np27>

Mark and Jenny Lee, who hosted the Down to Earth event North for the RABDF, mentioned earlier in this

newsletter, appear in the BBC radio programme 'On your farm'.

'Caz Graham meets Mark and Jenny on their farm in Torpenhow on the northern edge of the Lake District. They're the third generation to farm the land, and wanted to do so more sustainably. So they cut the herd numbers, changed the breed of cows, stopped using chemicals and committed to regenerative grazing – growing native grasses and plants to feed their cattle outside year-round. They wanted to add value to the organic milk, so they decided to make cheese.'

Championing organic in action

In early July our CEO Roger Kerr was interviewed for the Agronomist and Arable Farmer magazine.

The National Organic Conference presents some of the latest thinking around the organic farming approach. Roger Kerr details the aims behind the conference.

In the article (on page 13) Roger highlights an inescapable truth that we must find a way of marrying our needs to feed a growing population while protecting and enhancing

the environment. If we do not take heed, then our ability to feed future generations will be severely compromised.

https://indd.adobe.com/view/publication/b30edb84-f863-4ed8-8348-279c0ed1d6f3/1/publication-web-resources/pdf/MASTER_AAF_0723.pdf



If you are involved in an event please let Steven know and we can add it to our list to share via the newsletter and online at ofgorganic.org
steven@ofgorganic.org

New grants to fund improved calf housing

The Farming Engagement Team, Defra recently published [guidance](#) (1) on new calf housing grants, which will be open for applications later this summer.

Cattle keepers will be able to access grants of between £15,000 and £500,000 to co-fund new and upgraded calf housing. In time, Defra will extend the offer to include grants for adult cattle, pig and poultry housing.

Initially the grant will be available for cattle keepers to co-fund calf housing that improves social contact and the ambient environment. This grant offers great welfare outcomes for the animals, but also means farmers will see a benefit to their bottom line through increased productivity.

This is also a timely opportunity to adapt calf housing and ensure it's ready to meet the demands of extreme weather conditions and a changing climate. Through this grant, farmers will be able to access funding for roof-top solar panels, a great source of thermal insulation and low-cost energy for calf housing.

This expands the range of grants already on offer through the Farming Transformation Fund, which currently includes support for improvements to slurry, water management and productivity.

In March this year, Defra launched the first round of the [Animal Health and Welfare Equipment and Technology Grant](#) (2), which will help farmers to purchase items that are proven to improve the health and welfare of

their livestock. Defra will be awarding almost £20 million through this grant, which will benefit over 3,000 farms.

Read our new [Farming blog post](#) (3) to find out more about the new infrastructure grant and who can apply.

(1) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/calf-housing-for-health-and-welfare-2023>

(2) <https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/07/24/animal-health-and-welfare-equipment-and-technology-grants-help-shape-the-next-round/>

(3) <https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2023/07/26/introducing-animal-health-and-welfare-infrastructure-grants/>

OF&G policy activity - what we have been up to

SJ - Steven Jacobs / CS - Christopher Stopes

NAME	ACTIVITY	DATE	COMMENT
SJ	Sustain Farming Working group	06/06/2023	In-person
SJ	Gene Editing Regulation – Acknowledging Uncertainty	06/06/2023	Online
SJ	NATCEN - Organics sector and the impact of new legislation on Co-Existence and Precision Breeding	14/06/2023	Online
SJ	RPA AESWG (Agri-Environment Stakeholder Working Group) - for the English Organic Forum	15/06/2023	Online
SJ	IFOAM OE - The upcoming EU proposal on "New Genomic Techniques" and its importance for organic	16/06/2023	Online
SJ	West Midlands Grain Network	19/06/2023	In-person
SJ	AgriFood4NetZero Network+ - Crucible	21/06/2023	In-person
SJ	FSA/Precision Breeding Industry Session - Enforcement	23/06/2023	Online
SJ	IFOAM Organics Europe Comms Hub	26/06/2023	Online
SJ	Groundswell Ag	28-29/06/23	In-person
SJ	National Organic Conference	04/07/2023	In-person
SJ	Down to Earth	06/07/2023	In-person
SJ	IFOAM Organics Europe Farmers Group	13/07/2023	Online
SJ	DEFRA Precision Breeding workshop: notification process	17/07/2023	Online
SJ	Institute for Public Policy Research - A Fair Transition for Farming	18/07/2023	In-person
SJ	RPA AESWG (Agri-Environment Stakeholder Working Group) - for the English Organic Forum	19/07/2023	Online
CS	Sustain Farming Working Group	06/06/2023	In person
CS	1922 Defra Agriculture Committee	06/06/2023	In person
CS	WWF Eating for Net Zero report launch	13/06/2023	Online
CS	LWA, PFLA, Sustain & Hodmedod Soy no More report launch	19/06/2023	In person
CS	Defra English Organic Forum Account management	20/06/2023	Online
CS	Defra Farming & Countryside Programm Update	21/06/2023	Online
CS	IFOAM Organics Europe General Assembly	21/06/2023	Online
CS	Defra Farming & Countryside Programme Update	26/06/2023	Online
CS	National Organic Conference	04/07/2023	In person
CS	Defra English Organic Forum Account management	06/07/2023	Online
CS	Defra English Organic Forum Account management	20/07/2023	Online

NOC23



NOC23 on OF&G flickr - <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ofg/albums/72177720309707575>

Market Reports

Grain Prices: Courtesy of Andrew Trump, Organic Arable

Given the time of year a review of the 2022 harvest is appropriate. The season largely influenced by the ongoing Ukrainian war and the impacts it had on the grain and fuel markets. A year of record high prices with milling wheat selling at over £500 and feed wheat achieving values way in excess of where the milling wheat usually sells has made for a good season for many arable growers. For winter drilled crops planted in autumn '21 these values were paid for crops grown using seed and diesel purchased before prices peaked with the inflationary effect really felt for harvesting and post-harvest costs. Yields and quality were generally good and the harvest was reasonably easy for most with a lot of grain not needing drying.

The impacts of the high values however were seen in a significant fall in demand as livestock farmers felt the pressure of high feed costs. We saw several dairy farmers responding to the high prices in spring '22 by planting some grain to reduce their feed bill and others sought relief far more on forage and let milk yields drop as feeding bought-in feed didn't pay. In addition some livestock producers who decertified. The reduction in demand has been estimated at 20%. The most significant challenge has been in the barley market. The changes at Hi Peak reduced the demand for barley significantly and against the backdrop of general reduction in demand this has resulted in barley remaining unsold. It is particularly frustrating as barley has been offered at strong discounts to wheat and yet because of existing contracts or a lack of bin space this cheap barley did not feature in diets where it could have played a role in keeping livestock diet prices down.

Looking ahead to this harvest. Crops look well although some crops have started to lodge in recent storms apparently. There will be good demand for wheat but barley likely to be trickier again. We are working with feed companies to maximise inclusion and so hopefully we can ensure higher inclusion rates in rations. We'd also ask dairy farmers using straights to use barley in preference to wheat or maize. Anticipated values are about £300 ex farm for feed wheat with barley discounted to this by perhaps £25 and feed oats back a further £10.

What has been particularly beneficial this season is the understanding of how varieties perform when grown organically. There are clear differences in wheat and bean varieties starting to emerge and the benefits crop morphology can have on suppressing weeds is becoming clear. It is not as simple as crop height and the benefits of the participatory crop trials we are managing are becoming increasingly apparent as was seen at the recent National Organic Conference event in Green Acres Farm. The continued engagement with breeders and seed companies is very welcome as we better understand the varieties which best suit organic systems.

Good luck with harvest and we look forward to hearing your harvest updates..

see <https://www.organicarable.co.uk/arable> for more information.

Please keep an eye on our blog www.organicarable.co.uk/blog

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Organic Livestock Trends: OLMC

ORGANIC STORE REPORT

The 2023 grazing season in most areas, has so far been much more productive than last year. Some areas, particularly mid and South Wales and the West Country have been dry but even these areas have had rainfall in the last 10 days.

Silage and hay yields, so far, have been good and will ensure adequate forage supplies this winter. Similarly arable crops look in good condition and providing they don't experience rain damage, yields should be good.

The finished price is easing back weekly, albeit from a record-breaking post Christmas high. Although demand for store cattle remains high and prices good, we are seeing a slight drop-off in prices, reflecting the trend in finished prices. Overall cattle numbers are short, particularly in the organic sector and for this reason I do not see a major drop-off in price as we head into the autumn.

We are still a bit early for Producers looking for store lambs but I predict good demand in the next month. Please book your store lambs in as early as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss the best way to sell your cattle and store lambs.

Contact 01829 730580 or:

Peter Jones - 07720 892922

David Bostock - 07734 808050

OLMC FINISHED STOCK

Organic Prime Beef Cattle

The current trade for finished cattle seems to be holding its own. Unfortunately, demand has weakened slightly and most abattoirs report that their books are for the most part full until September. Grass crops that have seen the rain continue to offer feed in front of the cattle, hopefully seeing them through until the autumn.

Average R4L Organic UTM in spec @ 543p/kg deadweight.

Organic Cull Cows

The trade for cull cows has fallen back in the past few weeks. Demand for processing meat has eased off a little and cow numbers entered for slaughter have slightly increased. This is mirrored in the conventional sector also where increase cow numbers seems to be more significant currently.

Average R4L Organic OTM Cow in spec @ 410p/kg deadweight.

Lamb

Initially the new season lambs were slow to come forward, the last few weeks has seen bigger groups coming ready and the price taking its seasonal dip backwards.

Weights have been good and the finishing has been for the most part hitting abattoir specifications.

Average R3L organic OSL in spec @ 630p/kg

Finished Stock Marketing office: 01763 250313 /

olmc@olmc.co.uk

Tim Leigh: 07850 366404

James Doel: 07741 248928

The Sheep Market in 2023

Iain Turner discusses why the Wool Board, the NFU and DEFRA should get together with the government and find a way to help the sheep industry and benefit many hundreds of home-owners

The British Wool Board tells us that they are supporting their members, but there are 40,000 sheep farmers supplying them with wool and most of them would disagree.

At the quality end there is wool that finds a ready market but the vast majority of wool producers are delivering very mixed quality and this year have experienced a price drop when agricultural inflation is around 25%.

We have just experienced a massive hike in energy prices and it seems to be universally agreed that the insulation in many of our buildings is substandard, so why are we not able to take a natural product which is also fire retardant, and widely acknowledged as suitable at around 75% inclusion reducing the wool stocks and enabling farmers to get paid a price that makes it worthwhile shearing their sheep.

We are seeing a trend towards ewes like the Easycare (self-shedding) that leaves the terminal sire with a lot of work to do as the carcass quality is poor.

It is an ideal opportunity for the Wool Board, the NFU and DEFRA to get together with the government and find a way to help the sheep industry and benefit many hundreds of home-owners at a time when they could do with a boost.

Organic Dairy Report: Courtesy of Rob Daykin, Daykin Partnership Ltd.

Conventional milk prices are dropping fast and there's no guarantee that there isn't more pain to come, given the way that dairy commodity prices continue to drop on the European market.

The average non-aligned price for August is now estimated to be just over 35p, which is down from a peak in December of just under 49ppl. It is fair to say that the industry has not seen such a rapid rate of decline in its history.

It isn't so bad for the organic sector, although milk prices have declined, particularly for Arla farmers who have seen their prices drop from a peak of 54.85p to below 40p now. Muller is down from a peak of 56p to 48p, and OMSCO is down from 51p to 49p. That is a very respectable performance from a company that has been through troubled times.

The differential between the average organic price, and the DEFRA price is now just under 8p and on a percentage basis just over 20%. Back in December the differential was just 2.4p, and less than 5%. But this is still a very long way from the long-term average organic premium of 28% over conventional. Despite relative stability there are still significant profitability challenges in the organic sector, and the conversion from organic back to conventional production continues. The latest production figures say all that needs to be said in this regard - organic volumes for the last 50 days are down over 16% compared with last year, while conventional milk volumes are pretty much identical, give or take 0.5 to 1%. Compared to two years ago organic volumes are now down over 25%!

Other countries are having it tough too. Over the last three months (April to June) we are fifth in the table of nine countries who produce significant quantities of organic milk, and where prices are available. We are below the average. Spain, Italy and Austria are ahead of us, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, and France are below.

This is the reality of the situation on the ground now. The ride is a rough one for all parties, and there are new challenges coming on the scene such as regenerative farming practices that may blur the line between conventional and organic even more. Consumers are confused as it is about organic!

First Milk's decision to brand itself "the regenerative co-op" and to partner with Yeo Valley to create the "Naturally Better Dairy Group" is also one to watch. This will see First Milk establish a new conventional regenerative milk pool in the Southwest of England for about 50m litres of milk, which it will sell to Yeo Valley. The pool will be founded on the principles of nature-positive farming, say the firms. It is a very interesting development, but it might not help organic.

The long-term future, according to some, is bright, though. Some "expert researchers" say that the global growth rate for organic dairy will be 6.7% from 2021 to 2026; while the UK market is predicted to grow at 3.6% a year from 2022 to 2032. Currently those figures look optimistic to me, and I'm not sure where they get their data from, on which they make their projections.

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Technical Newsletter

Plus Updated Approved Inputs



July 2023 **Issue 148**

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Producers

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact your Certification Officer

Reminder re Revised Record Sheets

In the March and May Technical Newsletter, we made licensees aware of revisions to the process and information required when applying for approval where Defra is required to provide the final approval. These include:

- Bringing into the herd or flock non-organic replacements over the standard percentages allowed (10% cattle and 20% sheep, goats, pigs) up to a maximum of 40%;
- Bringing in non-organic poultry (layers and table birds);
- Use of non-organic feed in catastrophic circumstances;
- Use of synthetic vitamins A, D or E in the diet of ruminants;
- Beak trimming of birds;
- Retroactive (backdated) land conversion.

As a result of these updates OF&G revised its Record Sheets to ensure the correct information is supplied at the time of application. These revised Record Sheets can be downloaded from the OF&G website or can be requested from your Certification Officer. The Certification Officers have

found that some approval requests are still being supplied using the old forms. It is extremely important that, when applying for any of the above approvals you use the most up-to-date version of the forms. Revisions may be made for a number of reasons, in this case specific information is required by Defra before a final decision on the application can be made. Using out-of-date record sheets could lead to delays in the process and in the worst case the approval not being granted.

Specific Pullet Approvals

Following discussions with Defra regarding the process for specific approvals under the exceptional production rules and the amendments to the record sheets, there has now been a further discussion on the application process where non-organic (part-organic) pullets are being introduced into a laying farm at 16-18 weeks of age.

Whilst there had been no set time for a farmer to make these applications, provided approval was obtained before the birds arrived, all applications received by OF&G have been in the weeks just prior to the birds arriving on farm. It has been agreed that applications for brought

in pullets should be made at the time of ordering the pullets and not the point the pullets will be delivered. This will allow for the correct information to be supplied to Defra as part of the process.

When sending in an application to OF&G you must provide the following information:

- A completed copy of the most recent Record Sheet 21A
- Organisations/registered operators you have contacted to supply organic pullets and/or
- The recognised on-line marketplace where you have advertised the need for organic pullets to be supplied
- Declaration from the supplier that the birds have been managed to the organic feed and veterinary standards

It is important to take note that applications must now be made at the point of ordering the pullets from your supplier and this must be done using Record Sheet 21A. ensuring that this is completed in full. If you have any questions please speak to your Certification Officer.

Processors

COI Implementation from 1/1/2024

In July 2022 Defra announced an extension to the easement that allows organic products to be imported into Great Britain without the need for a Certificate of Inspection (COI), provided these are coming from the European Union and imported in line with the requirements of the Trade Co-operation Agreement (TCA). At the time

the extension was published it was noted that COIs for organic goods from the EU would now be required from 31 December 2023. As we move closer to the end date OF&G has, with other UK control bodies, been discussing the implications and impact on the organic sector. Whilst we have no specific details from Defra at this stage

they have informed us that a decision on whether the current situation will be extended further or a different outcome will be published very soon. As soon as we are made aware by Defra we will inform those impacted in order that sufficient time is given to make any changes.

Labels for Third Countries export to UK

We have been informed by Defra that any product being labelled for import to the UK from third countries does not require the addition of the UK Agricultural statement. They will be updating their web pages to reflect this information shortly.

Exporting products to Northern Ireland, issuing the COI

In order to ensure the smooth export of organic products to Northern Ireland (NI) and that any issues with

the process and paperwork are ironed out quickly, Defra has been undertaking regular meetings with the port authorities at the designated Border Control Posts (BCP). Due to the high volume of shipments to NI the port authorities can find it difficult to ensure organic shipments are checked and the COI completed prior to it leaving the BCP.

If goods are not checked and the relevant COI endorsed by the port authority the shipment may lose its organic status.

To help the port authority ensure the shipment is checked correctly and the

COI endorsed they require the vehicle registration number and/or trailer number in 'Box 17' of the COI within TRACES NT to be detailed.

Ideally this will be completed at the time the COI is put together, at least 24 hours prior to the shipment moving to NI. However, if this information is not provided within four hours of the prior notification in 'Box 20' the port authority will contact OF&G requesting this be provided. If you are unable to provide the vehicle registration number and/or the trailer details the COI may not be endorsed and the organic status compromised.

Approved Inputs

A full list of approved inputs appears on our website <https://ofgorganic.org/useful-info/approved-suppliers>

Updated approved inputs

SUPPLIER	WEBSITE / EMAIL	CATEGORY
GS Agri Systems Ltd	http://gs-agrisystems.com	Animal Feed Supplements
Agrigrub Ltd	https://www.agrigrub.co.uk/	Fertilisers
Koppert UK Ltd	https://www.koppert.co.uk	Bio-Fungicide
Microbial Distribution Ltd	https://microbialdistribution.com	Plant Health Product
Nutri Biotech Services Ltd	http://www.nutribiotechmalta.com	Animal Feed Supplements
DryMatter Ltd	https://www.drymatter.co.uk/	Bedding Material
Northern Agricultural Merchant Ltd	http://www.czplus.co.uk/	Animal Health Product
Dorset Seaweeds	https://www.dorsetseaweeds.co.uk/	Plant Health Product
Alpha BioPesticides Limited	https://www.alphabiocontrol.com/	Insect Control
UPL Europe Ltd	https://www.upl-ltd.com/uk	Fungicide, Plant Health Product, Fertilisers, Insect Control, Plant Disease Control
Action Pin	https://www.action-pin.fr	Fungicide
Greenfence Ltd t/a plantNatural	https://www.slugless.com/ & https://www.easymulch.co.uk/	Pest Control, Soil Conditioners
Eutrema Ltd	https://www.eutrema.co.uk	Bio-Fungicide, Plant Health Product, Fertilisers
Enva Wood Recycling	https://www.hadfield.co.uk/	Bedding Material
Pan Agriculture Ltd	https://www.sovereignsulphur.co.uk/	Fertilisers
Fertiliser Limited	https://www.orgamino-n13.co.uk	Fertilisers
Tricet UK Ltd	https://www.tricetuk.com/	Foliar Treatment, Soil Conditioner
Corteva Agriscience UK Ltd	https://www.corteva.co.uk/	Plant Health Product
Bioline Agrosciences Ltd	https://www.biolineagrosciences.com/	Plant Health Product, Pest Control
Swiss Medicare Ltd	http://www.swissmedicareltd.com/	Fertilisers, Plant Health Product, Plant Disease Control, Compost Additive, Bio-Fungicide
Pasion Ag Ltd	https://www.passionag.com/	Silage Additive, Plant Health Product
EVERYSPROUT	https://www.everysprout.co.uk/	Plant Health Product

Recently awarded approved inputs

SUPPLIER	WEBSITE / EMAIL	CATEGORY
GoudenKorrel S.A.	https://goudenkorrel.eu/	Fertilisers
Oceanic Organic Ltd	http://oceanicorganic.co.uk/	Fertilisers



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Classified Advertisements



July 2023 **Issue 148**

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Items for sale

Note: Purchasers should always check the current certificate and the status with the vendor. OF&G cannot take responsibility for any stock, items or services sold through this service. Advertisements are accepted at OF&G's discretion.

FEEDSTUFFS AND FORAGE FOR SALE				
Barley/Peas	30ac Barley/Peas for combining/crimping or wholecrop North Devon	Tim Budden	07968 131030	Burrington, Devon
2023 Hay for Sale	2023 hay for sale. Made from well managed, traditional pastures. Baled in 120x90 high density bales weighing approx 650kgs/bale. £115/t. Can store the bales until you require them if needed.	Simon Best	07816 386945	Tetbury, Glos
Organic hay for sale	Just over 10 acres of species rich organic meadow hay for sale. Expecting to cut in mid July so can bale to whatever size bale you choose. MK17 area. Can help load.	Farokh Khoroshi	07798 822524	Milton Keynes, Bucks
120 haylage round bales	120 organic round haylage bales	Llewellyn Statton	07917 458286	Liskeard, Cornwall
150 Organic round haylage bales	150 Organic round haylage bales for sale with potential for more. Midlands based, POA	Ian Sharman	07748 637852	Nottingham, Notts
Spring barley	20-30t organic spring barley. Available now. Worcestershire	Chris Grainger	07710 508558	Bewdley, Worcs
Organic hay	Roughly 200 hay bales for sale, not yet cut. Can either mow and bale yourself or we will do it within the next two weeks.	Christian squire	07535 620936	Cirencester, Glos
Organic certified Square Bale double wrapped Haylage	200 + Bales Wrapped in pale green plastic	Jim Gould	07802 173214	Chester, Wrexham
Organic Straw	13 acres worth of organic straw, to be sold off the land ideally but will consider p/bale sale. Located in Street, Somerset	James	07835 568651	Street, Somerset

DAIRY CATTLE FOR SALE				
180 Cows Organic Dairy Herd	Spring calving dairy herd for sale. On a low cost grazing system, herd average around 6,000l at 4.4% butterfat and 3.45 protein. Mainly British Friesian but a few Crossbreds Cattle.	Philip Hopper	07917 633955	Bude, Cornwall
Dairy in calf heifers	14 organic friesian and crossbred dairy heifers for sale. Due to calve in late October and November. All in calf to easy calving AI Hereford. TB tested, vaccinated for leptos and blackleg. Monitoring BVD and Johnes. Pembrokeshire.	Hywel James	07855 931882	Cardigan, Pembro
Pedigree Ayrshire bull breed for low maintenance and longevity .	Bigginvale Bandit. Been used over heifers and our milk herd, extremely quiet and well handled. Dam a 9 lactation cow that never had foot trimmer, average of 7650liters on a predominantly grazing system. Please contact for further information	Joanna Billings	07855 814291	Ashbourne, Derbys
26 Organic dairy cows for sale	26 organic dairy cows for sale. Friesian and crossbred, all in calf to Aberdeen Angus AI, due to calve in November. Various ages from 1st through to 6th lactation. High fertility herd; 90% 6 weeks in calf rate. Herd health status; SCC around 120; zero antibiotics; vaccinated for leptos, blackleg and huskvac; Johnes and BVD monitored; TB tested.	Hywel James	07855 931882	Cardigan, Pembro
14 x Friesian x Jersey 10 month old heifers	Born end of August - mid September 2022. Friesian x Jersey 10 month old heifers, all have had huskvac. Sired by LIC bulls Sierra, Slipstream & Critical. Average liveweight was 211kg (22/10/23). We aim for 310kg at Bulling (PSM 23/11/23). Cows are vaccinated for BVD, Lepto & IBR. Currently TB clear, most recent test 20/06/23 so are within their movement window.	Chris North	07811 565605	Newnham on Severn, Glos
45 organic dairy cows	Herd for sale, Ayr calving, loose housed, herringbone parlour. Zero antibiotic. Huskvac treated, monitored for other.	Richard Cooper	07738 121908	Congleton, Cheshire

SHEEP FOR SALE				
North of England Mules	Organic North of England ewe lambs for sale. Please phone for further details	Ray Calvert	01747 886412	Richmond, N Yorks
Swaledale Ewe Lambs	Organic Swaledale ewe lambs for sale. Please phone for further details	Ray Calvert	01748 886412	Richmond, N Yorks
Clun Forest ewes and lambs for sale	The Cow Hall flock of pedigree organic Clun Forest sheep is for sale. First registered in 1956 and the oldest flock remaining in the uplands of Clun Forest, Shropshire, hardy sheep living at over 1,000 feet, organic since 1997. We are selling the whole flock due to change in farm policy focusing on Traditional Hereford Cattle. 60 ewes for sale as couples with pedigree Clun and Kerry cross lambs.	Chris Parker	07375 031406	Knighton, Powys
Kerry Hill ewes and lambs for sale	The Cow Hall flock of pedigree Kerry Hill sheep is for sale. Hardy sheep living at over 1,000 feet in the Clun Forest, Shropshire, organic since 1997. We are selling the whole flock due to change in farm policy focusing on Traditional Hereford Cattle. 12 ewes for sale as couples with pedigree Kerry lambs.	Chris Parker	07375 031406	Knighton, Shropshire
Flock Dispersal	250 Pure Bred Lleyn Ewes, flock ages est 1990. closed flock, good lambing percentage and health status. Genuine reason for sale.	Tim Budden	07968 131030	Burrington, Devon
Organic North of England Mule Ewe Lambs for sale	400 Organic North of England Mule Ewe lambs for sale born 2023. Well grown, will breed this year. Ready for collection August.	Mark Jenkinson	07970 325502	Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria
Organic aberfield type x improved Welsh	55 organic aberfield type (texelxblueface) x improved Welsh yearlings. Just been sheared. Well bred and will make smart ewes. Ready for collection now. Only for sale due to change of circumstance. Please contact Rhys for further details.	Rhys Hopkins	07879 773363	Lydney, Glos
600 store lambs	600 organic store lambs, lleyn type, ready to wean July. Will split into smaller lots	A Smith	07960 738791	Launceston, Cornwall
White Dorper sheep for sale	Approx 70 dorper sheep for sale some have been running with a ram. In very good condition. Very good nature. Whatsapp to place order.	Tyler Wayne	07537 133714	Norwich, Norfolk
NZ Romney Ewe Lambs	Breeding ewe lambs ready for weaning July. Home bred from from a robust outdoor system. Up to 400 available - can be broken into smaller lots.	Alice Pawsey	07802 244798	Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
Organic Lleyn sheep for sale	Organic Pedigree Lleyn breeding sheep ready form August onwards - 15 ewe lambs, 15 Shearlings and 10 2019 & 2020 born ewes. Will split. Breeding sheep sold annually. Please call Rob or email.	Rob Burrough	07967 343731	Chippenham, Wilts
Organic easy care yearling ewes	14 organic easy care yearling ewes for sale, born April 2022. Good stock, low maintenance breed, high maternal instincts, lamb outside, wool sheds well. On Heptavac P programme.	Robert Jeynes	07805 417231	Worcester
6 Organic Shropshire shearlings	6 April 2022 born Organic pedigree Shropshire shearlings. Grazed in plum orchard with young and old trees.	David Pealing	07860 762290	Ledbury, Herefordshire
60 Organic North of England Mule Shearlings	D.O.B April 2022, just been sheared, regular worm counts taken, In Heptavac-P programme. For more information/photos please call or email	Kevin Birch	07795 682828	Leyburn, N Yorks
organic store lambs for sale	texel x, aberfield, primera x. good lambs.	Martin Harding	07711 859202	Machynlleth, Powys
Organic Shropshire Shearling Rams	2 Organic Shropshire Association Registered Rams. Born March 2022. Collection from Street, Somerset	James	07835 568651	Street, Somerset
Organic Shropshire Ram	Shropshire Association Registered, OFnG Organic Ram. Born April 2019 out of Hodghurst Hercules 2501	James	07835 568651	Street, Somerset
Organic Ewe Flock For Sale	A rare opportunity to acquire a long-established Organic Flock of Lleyn Ewes has arisen. The flock is based in Southern Scotland and is ideal for outdoor lambing. The flock is only being sold due to the retirement of present owner. 150 Lleyn gimmers, 100 Lleyn ewes 1 crop, 90 Lleyn ewes 2 crop, 90 Lleyn ewes 3 crop, 80 Lleyn ewes 4 crop. Photos to follow For more information please call David Marshall	David Marshall - Farm Stock (Scotland) Ltd	07808 329719	Earlston, Scottish Borders
500 store lambs	500 lambs average 30kg out of llynn cross ewes	A Smith	07960 738791	Launceston, Cornwall
OTHER LIVESTOCK FOR SALE				
Organic pedigree saddleback weaners	Saddleback weaners born end of May. 8 weeks and ready to go end of July. Born and reared outside. Used to electric fence. All growing wel. Ivy x Carl lines. Will be birth notified. 20 available but happy to split.	Madeleine Crawley	07711 687831	Slindon, West Sussex

LAND AND GRAZING FOR SALE				
Share Farming Opportunity	Established veg CSA at Swillington Organic Farm is looking for an experienced grower to take the business forward, minimum capital required. further details please email Jo.	Jo Cartwright	07975 935842	Swillington, Nr Leeds

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE				
Manure	Approximately fifteen tonnes of organic poultry muck. Limited access, sa	P J Barrell	07816 490125	Weobley, Herefordshire
Small cider brewery business for sale	Small established cider business for sale (to be relocated). Logo/branding, goodwill/customer base. Full range of picking, pressing, bottling and packing equipment. Approx 7,000 litres matured cider plus containers. Chance to buy traditional cider apples from 900 tree organic orchard. Please call rather than email for further details.	07963 414468	07963 414468	North Shropshire

CATTLE FOR SALE				
Aberdeen Angus cross store cattle	Aberdeen Angus cross store cattle, tb4 area. Please phone for further details	Ray Calvert	01748 886412	Richmond, N Yorks
Beef Shorthorn Bulls	3 pedigree Beef Shorthorn bulls. Very sensibly priced and very well bred. High health status testing for the 5 major diseases through the SAC health scheme.	Martin Reynolds	07966 371558	Cardiff, Vale of Glamorgan
Certified organic 22 Devon steers and 12 Devon heifers	Organic pedigree Devon steers and heifers tb tested ready to go, only been on grass from top of Exmoor. Ring for more details.	Nigel Floyd	01598 741201	Lynton, Devon
Dairy shorthorn x	8 15 month old dairy shorthorn x. Out wintered. Will go on and do anywhere kept fairly hard. £695	Rob Davie	07801 597703	Crediton, Devon
30 Organic Beef Shorthorn Store Steers	30 Organic Beef Shorthorn Store Steers for sale. Location: Leominster. Ages 11 to 15 months. £1400 per head ono.	Matthew James	07811 004789	Leominster, Herefordshire
6 organic pedigree beef shorthorn 2 year old heifers for sale	6 organic pedigree beef shorthorn 2 year old heifers. Well bred, very quiet. Ran with good shorthorn bull for 6 weeks. Nice examples, great opportunity to start new herd.	James Irving	016973 71217	Wigton, Cumbria
15 Charolais and a few south Devon cross stores all out off proper beef cows	Well grown good shape around 15 months old out off beef cows all tb tested and ready to go. Also 60 charolais suckler calf's available all out off proper beef cows. Ring for more details.	Ian Smith	07779 987580	Launceston, Cornwall

Items wanted

VARIOUS WANTED				
Organic Store Cattle and Store Lambs Wanted	The Organic Livestock Marketing Co-operative (OLMC) are looking for all categories of organic store cattle and store lambs from all over the UK	Peter Jones	07720 892922	Tarporley
Part time on farm butcher wanted	Cliftons Farm, Inglewhite, PR3 2LP. Hours: Currently 30 to 40 weeks per year at 15 hours / week. Organic farm with an on site farm shop + delivery round. For further details, email cliftonsfarm@mail.com	Tom and Iris Parkinson	01995 640564	Preston
Autumn born AAX dairy beef calves.	Wanted organic autumn born AAX dairy calves. 2-3 weeks old - (approx 50kg). TB free, promptly collected/paid, up to 3 hours From Oxford.	Adam	07715 594889	Oxford
6 x Red Poll heifers wanted, M0 type for dairy herd	Looking for bulling age heifers (minimum 18 months), good TB history, Johnes free, no history of Neospora in herd.	Nat Torsch	07377 075049	Stroud
organic wheat and peas	20t load of wheat required, if possible with peas. collection and delivery can be arranged	Liz Findlay	07855 731611	Aberystwyth
Ewe lamb grass keep wanted 1 pound a week	Grass keep for winter for ewe lambs, up to 400. Payment always in advance. Anywhere considered, must be well fenced.	A Smith	07960 738791	Launceston

VARIOUS WANTED

4 Boer goat breeding females wanted	4 Boer (or Boer X with a high percentage of Boer) breeding females wanted. Must be certified organic. I would also be interested in female kids if adult/yearling females are not available.	Richard Cowton	07977 174794	Stourbridge
Organic Shetland Sheep	8 organic Shetland ewes wanted, from ewe lambs to 4/5 years old.	Alice Lindsay	07576 971327	Redditch
Ewes	Looking for some north country mules that have lambed once, around 50-80. East Midlands	Dave	07392 854895	Leicester

POULTRY WANTED

Organic Pullets in 2024	30,000 organic pullets wanted. Lohmann Brown Classic, hatch in February 2024. 30,000 organic pullets wanted. Lohmann Brown Classic, hatch in March 2024. 24,000 organic pullets wanted. Lohmann Brown Classic, hatch in April 2024	Angela Maclean	07801 234251	Berwick Upon Tweed
ORG BBT for POL Sept 23 - Jan 24	Require 7,500 ORG BBT for POL w/c 11 Sept 23. Require 3,830 ORG BBT for POL w/c 11 Sept 23. Require 12,000 ORG BBT for POL w/c 13 Nov 23. Require 2,100 ORG BBT for POL w/c 13 Nov 23. Require 8,000 ORG BBT for POL w/c 22 Jan 24. Require 4,300 ORG BBT for POL w/c 22 Jan 24. Require 12,000 ORG BBT for POL w/c 22 Jan 24.	Sarah Moos	01526 378666	Lincoln
Day Old Turkeys	4000 Day Old Organic Hen Turkey Chicks Required for HW 24	O Surman	07788 441612	Worcester
Fully Organic POL Pullets	Looking for 200 fully organic point of lay pullets. For a commercial unit.	Jess	07535 812859	Surrey
Organic Pullets required	18,000 fully organic 16 week old Warren pullets required - ASAP	John Holt	07391 415219	Alford
Organic Pullets required	27,300 fully organic 16 week old Hyline pullets required - w.c. 04.09.2023	John Holt	07391 415219	Alford
24,000 organic pullets wanted	Needed 16wk old, wk 12th Feb 2024	Andrew Barton	07740 724802	Lewes
Organic Pullets Wanted	15,000 POL Organic Pullets Required mid September	Karen Campbell	01968 675596	Peebles
Organic Pullets Required	Fully Organic 16 week old H&N pullets required. 12000 w/c 11 December 2023. 12000 w/c 18 December 2023.	Vicky Mills	01283 736673	Market Rasen
Northumberland Poultry at Thistleyhaugh Farm looking for day old ducks	Looking for 200 ducks as day old to arrive in September 2023. Preferably white table ducks.	Zoe Nelless	07779 250674	Morpeth
Full Organic Pullet Rearing	Full Organic Pullet Rearing for 30,000 Lohmann Brown. Hatch w/c 22nd May 2023. Delivery w/c 11th September 2023.	Lindsay Haw	07920 543194	Lincoln
Full Organic Pullets	Full Organic Pullets 16 weeks w/c 1st Jan 2024 (Lohmann Brown)	Lindsay Haw	07920 543194	Lincoln

Website and Social Media



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We welcome your views and comments, we're always keen to share good knowledge and experience. Exchanging the insights of hard working organic farmers and food businesses is essential in helping us all continue to build the organic movement.