

Newsletter

ofgorganic.org

May 2023 Issue 147



General News

National Organic Conference 2023 Line Up Announced



The longest running organic conference in the UK will take place in Shropshire on Tuesday 4 July 2023.

This year's conference will bring together some of the most experienced practitioners, educators and scientists in food and farming.

The morning presentations will be chaired by the respected journalist and publisher, Ben Briggs. Ben will be known to many as the long-time editor of the Farmers Guardian and who is now the Group publisher and editorin-chief at the publisher Agriconnect, with titles including the Farmers Guardian, Arable Farming and Dairy Farmer.

Our host this year is an organic farmer who has been organically certified for more than twenty years.

Mark Lea has developed a suite of

innovative enterprises on his family farm in Shropshire.

These include a flock of New Zealand Romney sheep, oats for Organic Arable and oat miller White's, and peas for Hodmedods who are a small but growing independent business founded in 2012 to source and supply beans and other products solely from British farms.

Mark has around two dozen different cereal varieties for visitors to look at. These include some of the oldest wheats recorded in Britain, but also some very recent varieties, and cereal populations working with the old and the new.

NOC23 will look at the entire farming experience from seed to shelf.

Joel Williams is also a friend of our conference having spoken to NOC

Contents

- 3. Genetic diverity for better plant breeding
- 3. MPs investigate fairness in food prices and supply
- 4. OF&G/Organics in the News
- 4. OF&G responds to effects of pesticides and herbicides on bird species
- 5. ECOBREED
- 5. Harper Adams presentation
- 6. Compassion in World Farming Conference
- 6. SFI & CS progress on organic
- 6. Fruit & Veg Alliance news
- 7. Pesticide report/event
- 8. Market Reports
- 10. Events / Classifieds Technical News / Approved Inputs

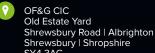


audiences previously. Joel will be coming from his home in Canada, where he runs the independent consultancy Integrated Soils (https:// integratedsoils.com). Joel will talk in great detail about the science and practice of soil management as an integral part of a biological, whole system approach to farming.

Garethe Hughes will be taking us

https://ofgorganic.org/news/national-organic-conference-2023















ofgorganic.org



through the Open Food Network's open source software designed for food producers and community food hubs.

An experienced organic vegetable grower, Garethe is based in Derbyshire. Bringing 15 years of IT development experience with Open Food Network, Garethe is the technical lead for the Food Data Collaboration Project, liaising with the Data Food Consortium in France and other technical partners in the UK.

Stephen Briggs from Innovation for Agriculture and Abacus Agriculture will present the work being done in the UK with the Climate Farm Demo. A network of 130 Climate Demo Farms will be established in the UK, coordinated by IfA in collaboration with ADAS and Abacus.

The Climate Farm Demo project creates a unique pan-European Network of Pilot Demo Farms to enable peer-to-peer learning and implementation of Climate Smart Farming solutions to adapt agricultural production to climate change and move towards a carbon neutral EU agricultural sector.

Bringing genetic diversity and seed breeding back into the hands of farmers and growers the UK, Grain Lab will present the latest work on genetically diverse cereal varieties and the potential for new legislative protection for heterogeneous plant varieties. On the panel from the UKGL collective will be Dr Charlotte Bickler

from the Organic Research Centre; John Turner who farms organically in Lincolnshire with his brother Guy; Josiah Meldrum, co-director of Hodmedods; Dr Edward Dickin; crop lecturer at Harper Adams University and a keen plant breeder; and OF&G's business development manager Steven Jacobs.

THE FARM WALK

On the farm walk taking place in the afternoon we will take visitors around the newest plantation of agroforestry at Green Acres Farm with the Woodland Trust's Outreach Adviser, Jack Starbuck.

It's great to welcome back Dr Julia Cooper who has recently been appointed Principal Researcher at the Organic Research Centre. Julia will be joined by ORC colleagues Henny Lowth and Dr Charlotte Bickler. A topic very close to the hearts of all organic growers, weed control as part of a biological approach to food production will feature on the farm walk with the Oper8 project run by the ORC in conjunction with ADAS.

Organic Arable's Dominic Amos will present the results of crop trials, including LiveWheat legacy and the LiveOat. And Henny Lowth will be looking in detail at the Living Mulch trial.

OF&G Certification Officers will be on the farm all day which gives you the opportunity to have a chat. For some of you, and for some of the team, it will mean being able to meet in person for the first time.

Organic Arable will be hosting a moisture meter calibration service and helping us with presenting details on the farm walk.

On Monday 3 July we have the opportunity to visit the nearby Harper Adams University and be given a guided tour of the crop variety plots, including naked barley and intercropping trials for CROPDIVA, as well as a demonstration of field strip intercropping using the Hands Free Hectare autonomous vehicle. If you wish to join us that day please make it clear on your booking form.

The Shropshire-based family owned restaurant, CSONS will be serving a light breakfast to all delegates on arrival and a superb two-course lunch prepared with some of the finest British organic ingredients, even sourcing part of the meal from our host farm.

This event, now in its sixteenth year, is shaping up to be a very useful day out. Visitors will get a lot of detailed information while also having plenty of time to meet old friends and make new acquaintances.

BOOKING NOW OPEN on Eventbrite

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ national-organic-conference-2023tickets-630119954747



























Website and Social Media

http://ofgorganic.org https://www.facebook.com/organicfarmers https://twitter.com/ofgorganic https://www.instagram.com/ofgorganic



Genetic diversity for better plant breeding

This is a topic that we will also be looking at in great detail at the National Organic Conference on 4 July.

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 Distinct Uniform and Stable (DUS) and Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU), but it's those variable qualities that confer disease resistance, vigour, and adaptive capacity in the face of a turbulent climate. Hear how a group of millers, bakers, farmers, traders and plant scientists have come together to change the law and put seeds back in our hands.

Our business development manager Steven Jacobs has been working for several years helping to build an understanding of heterogeneous plant material and to advocate for official recognition and legal protection for the breeding and commercial exchange of crop varieties that work well in organic systems but are not on the Recommended List and do not necessarily conform to the seed rules

However, these are varieties that are very much required by growers and increasingly by other people in food supply networks, from millers to bakers and chefs. These varieties can display great vigour in the field, good protein content and high in nutrition and are attractive to shoppers for their colours and flavours.

Here is a summary of that work, by the Gaia Foundation's

Sinead Fortune -

- Over the past several years, the Seed Sovereignty Programme has worked with collaborators UK Grain Lab, OF&G (Organic Farmers and Growers), the Organic Research Centre, Scotland the Bread, Hodmedods and more to advocate the importance of diverse grain and cereal production within food and farming systems, and for such production to be supported through appropriate legislation. This includes recognising the value of seeds adapted to local farming systems and the contribution that diverse seed populations make towards building resilient food chains and adapting to climate change.
- EU seed legislation, through its temporary experiment on cereal populations, and the new provisions on organic heterogeneous material, has enabled the successful development of commercial supply chains that are adapted to deal with non-uniform cereals, pulses, and other grains. British growers and other stakeholders that are working to develop such supply chains no longer have the benefit of this provision and are disadvantaged until suitable provision is made within UK legislation. These developments should be mirrored in applicable UK legislation, and further enable stakeholders working to develop such supply chains and production models.

ADVOCACY PAPER - Recognising the Importance of Heterogeneous Grain & Cereal Production in the UK Seed Legislation

https://ofgorganic.org/docs/gaia-ukgl-advocacy-papercereal-seed-legislation.pdf

MPs to investigate fairness in food prices and supply

https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/52/environment-food-and-rural-affairs-committee/news/195195/mps-to-investigate-fairness-in-food-prices-and-supply/

The cross-party Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee is to investigate how profitability and risk are shared through the food supply chain and the existing government system of monitoring and regulation. The impact of external factors on the supply chain, such as imported food and global commodity prices, will also be examined.

With households facing the highest levels of food price inflation since the 1970s, the parliamentary committee will look at issues throughout the food supply chain from 'farm to fork'. It will take evidence from farmers, manufacturers, retailers, consumers and the Government.

This inquiry follows the Committee's ongoing Food Security inquiry; access to healthy and affordable food, especially for low-income households, is of continuing importance for the Committee. This focus will also include how households can access facilities such as allotments to grow their own food and how achievable this is given the pressures of modern living.

After taking oral evidence in parliamentary evidence sessions, as well as written evidence, the Committee will issue a report with its recommendations for change where appropriate.

The Committee is inviting written submissions to the inquiry from people in the various parts of the supply chain as well as experts, academics and other people with experience in the area.

The deadline for written submissions is 28 July. For advice on how to submit your evidence, and how we then use that information, please **click here**.



OF&G and Organics in the News

Countryside Alliance Awards are held to celebrate rural businesses that go the extra mile - National Champion!

https://www.gazegillorganics.co.uk/blogs/were-the-national-champion-

"We've only gone and done it! We have been crowned the National Champion for the best 'local' food/ drink business in the Countryside Alliance's Rural Oscar Awards!"

Emma & Ian from Gazegill Organics attended a ceremony at the House of Lords this week, where they were presented the award by Thérèse Coffey MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The panel of six judges said the decision was unanimous, owing to Emma & lan's extraordinary dedication to taking care of their land and their animals, and ensuring they educate generations to come. There were some other incredible businesses there that would've also been deserving winners, so this is a true honour for us.

We owe this award to our fantastic team of staff, as well as all of our amazing customers and followers. Whether you visit the farm in person, order off our website, or just follow us online, we are truly grateful for your support.

There were 15,000 businesses nominated for the awards in total, so to be one of five national winners is a true testament to what we do here at Gazeqill.

Advice on hosting vet students on your dairy farm - Farmers Weekly

https://www.fwi.co.uk/livestock/ advice-on-hosting-vet-students-onyour-dairy-farm

A great article in the Farmers Weekly in April featured OF&G licensees Sophie and Tom Gregory, who hosted vet students at their Home Farm in Somerset last year. They're already fully booked with student placements for 2023.

EVENTS

Here are some events OF&G will be participating in:

22 - 25 June, Royal Highland Show

On the SOPA stand next to Ingliston House - Stand H 110(A)

28 - 29 June, Groundswell Agriculture, Hertfordshire

The Groundswell Festival provides a forum for farmers, growers, or anyone interested in food production and the environment to learn about the theory and practical applications of regenerative farming systems.

OF&G will be on site for the whole event, Stand No PF D1

https://ofgorganic.org/events/ groundswell-agriculture

4 July, National Organic Conference, Shropshire

OF&G's National Organic Conference is an annual event built to service the stakeholder community in and around

the organic sector.

This one-day event is always held on a successful organic farm business with the aim of discussing the practical challenges and opportunities faced by UK organic farmers and the wider UK organic sector.

The event is open to all farmers who have an interest in exploring regenerative and organic techniques

https://ofgorganic.org/news/ national-organic-conference-2023

6 July, Down To Earth Regenerative Livestock Event North.

Park House Farm, Torpenhow, Cumbria

Mark and Jenny Lee will 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.

OF&G are taking part so look out for Senior Certification Officer, Roy Lawford & Business Development Manager, Steven Jacobs.

Tickets from Eventbrite https://www. eventbrite.co.uk/e/down-to-earthnorth-tickets-539219308467?aff=eb dssbdestsearch

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

OF&G responds to study into effects of pesticides and fertilisers on bird species

OF&G have released a statement in response to a new collaborative study published in the Journal PNAS.

"It is a critical time for the survival of the UK's rural ecology. Agricultural intensification and continued reliance on harmful pesticides and fertilisers has been devastating for bird populations.

To address this massive decline within the wider context of biodiversity loss, OF&G advocates a joined up and transformative approach in our farming systems that effectively supports and enhances the natural world. Organic is scientifically proven to deliver benefits by prohibiting the use of synthetic agrochemicals and on average, organic farms host 34% more biodiversity than non-organic farms[1].

In a Defra funded Test & Trial the Cholderton Estate showed its organically managed land has at least five

times the indicative biodiversity asset value on each hectare compared to the neighbouring non-organic estate, including 137 wild bird species being identified[2].

Organic provides a clear and verified solution to delivering against environmental ambitions alongside food production. As such the contribution of UK organic farming must be explicitly recognised within agricultural policy and Government's Land Use Framework."

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming/organic-action-plan_en

[2] https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2021/11/24/tackling-climate-change-and-extinction-the-farm-thats-showing-the-way/

https://ofgorganic.org/news/of-g-respond-to-study-into-effects-of-pesticides-and-fertilisers-on-bird-species



ECOBREED - Increasing the efficiency and competitiveness of organic crop breeding - Field Day and findings to date

The EU's Horizon 2020 Project, Ecobreed, is in its final year. In the UK, Newcastle University & Smales Organic Seeds have been involved in the project. (https://ecobreed.eu/)

Here are some of the tasks completed & findings of the project so far:

- A large number of varieties of wheat, soybean, buckwheat and potato for organic production across multiple environments have been screened. This increased breeding activity should mean that in 5-10 years there should be more and better varieties available to organic farmers – to meet the EU protocol that from 2036 all seed used must be organic.
- Extensive farmer-led trials across Europe with farmers able to contrast and compare their current varieties against the best in Europe in their own environment.
- The potential of cross composite populations have been evaluated and compared as a way of increasing genetic diversity and combating climate change.
- The genetic variation in AMF colonisation has been investigated and has the potential to increase nutrient acquisition in potato and wheat.
- The potential of allelopathy to contribute to sustainable weed control has been investigated.
- The potential of biostimulants to improve seed production has been evaluated.
- There have been extensive training programmes.

As part of Ecobreed, Smales Organic Seeds are hosting a Field Day on **Tuesday 11 July** at Thornton Farm, Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 2LP.

The day will look at:

- Wheat trials, including a number of AHDB varieties and the top european ones that have grown at Thornton over the past 3 years, as well as wheat mixtures and populations.
- Buckwheat Trials, Oat and Bean varietal trials.
- A discussion with Werner Vogt-Kaute from Germany's Naturland Organic Association.
- A discussion about clover leys with William Fleming from Germinal.

Smales Organic Seeds would be delighted to welcome you. Please email **info@lcsmales-son.co.uk** to register.

ECOBREED is a 5-year (2018-2023) project funded by European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme that will improve the availability of varieties and seed suitable for organic and low-input production. Activities will focus on four crop species - wheat, potato, soybean and common buckwheat, all selected for their potential contribution to increasing the competitiveness of the organic sector.

Harper Adams Scholarship Presentation

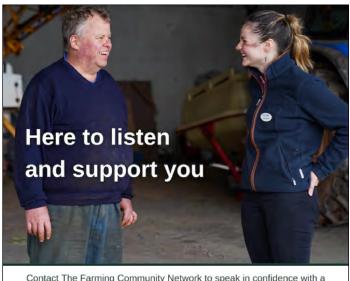
Each year Organic Farmers & Growers provide a postgraduate scholarship dedicated to the memory of late OF&G Director Bill Allen, which supports students on the MSc Agroecology programme.

In 2022 the award went to Daisy Gillman who graduated from the University of Exeter studying BSc Hons Conservation Biology and Ecology with Professional Placement, having completed a placement year in the Wetlands Department at the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT).

Daisy decided to study MSc Agroecology at Harper Adams University as she has an interest in regenerative agriculture and the management of farmland for biodiversity and wildlife conservation. Her ambition is to develop a career in conservation research within the agricultural sector.

On 17 May Roger Kerr attended the Harper Adams Scholarship Presentation event on behalf of OF&G.





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.



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



Extinction or Regeneration Compassion in World Farming Conference

The Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) conference theme this year was Extinction or Regeneration. With some really good speakers and 500 participants the conference examined how we can transform food systems for human, animal and planetary health.

CIWF has their own take on this, centred on animal welfare, but recognising the links between how animals are cared for and the overall farming system. Philip Lymbery, CIWF Global CEO explained why animal welfare is key to solving the climate and nature crisis - a compelling case, but the challenge is that there are many keys that need to be turned to solving the multiple crises we face. The speakers that followed were a great line up of experts looking at topics as diverse as the soil, seas and sentient beings; tackling power and politics and achieving food justice.

There is no doubt that a radical transformation of food systems is required, and bringing together the big thinkers and activists does lots to inspire an audience. But with talk of regenerative farming high up on the agenda, the problem of corporate capture of the regenerative word comes to the fore. With the likes of Pepsico, Unilever and Syngenta all pitching for ownership, it is fair to ask whether there is a risk that regenerative might not be part of the problem.

Since we have rapidly increasing consumption, with a

growing population seeking ever greater levels of wealth - identified in many cases with more intensive meat, never has it been more important to find ways to produce and live that are within planetary boundaries.

Obviously animal welfare is high on the list of the benefits of organic farming, but perhaps more importantly is how the organic farming system has the scope to really transform the way that we farm.

This is the result of the positive things that organic standards require and that organic farmers practice day in and day out - working with nature, encouraging diversity through rotations, caring for soils, and caring for animals with high regard to their welfare. The system redesign that organic delivers and that is truly transformative is as much to do with these positives as it is to the artificial fertilisers, synthetic pesticides and genetic modification that are prohibited.

Organic production is in line with planetary boundaries but it needs the policy push to bring about change. Organic farming is on the agenda but we need to do more to clearly promote that organic is regenerative. With regenerative becoming an increasingly devalued term, this has never been more important. Let's hope that CIWF, who support organic, turn their tacit support into something more vocal at their conference next year.

SFI and CS progress on organic - further guidance to be published

Defra guidance on the SFI explains how the scheme works and lists the various SFI standards and the Countryside Stewardship options available, including the organic options. Defra is working on guidance leaflets appropriate to different farming systems. A leaflet on the Uplands will be produced very soon and others will follow. These will be printed for distribution at the farming and countryside shows around the country. They will be living documents with updates and the latest versions published online.

An organic guidance leaflet is expected to be finalised over the coming months. The leaflet will provide a reference point for what is relevant for organic farmers, detailing the standards, options and payment rates available in the SFI and in Countryside Stewardship. Farmers will need to check for the latest details online in the regularly updated official SFI guidance (the link will be provided in the leaflet). This will explain how the schemes interact and the stackability of options.

Fruit and Vegetable Alliance withdraws from Govt. Edible Horticulture Round Table

Steven Jacobs sits on the Fruit and Vegetable Alliance on behalf of OF&G. The Alliance have written to the farming minister Mark Spencer to express disappointment at the decision not to develop a horticulture strategy for England. The group believes that now, more than ever, a joint approach between industry and government is necessary to create a resilient, sustainable and prosperous fresh produce sector that attracts skilled and motivated workers and supplies healthy food.

To support the development of a strategy, over the last six months, the FVA prepared a document, "Cultivating Success: Priorities for increasing sustainable production to meet growing demand." The diverse range of issues it highlights demonstrates why a strategy is necessary; to address the wide range of challenges faced by the sector, from recruitment and training to supply chain fairness.

While the expansion of the seasonal worker visa route and the Farming Investment Fund to support investment are welcome individual actions they alone are not enough.

The UK needs a long term plan that aims to harness the market opportunities of meeting public health requirements while increasing production in a country well suited to horticulture, in the face of growing climate instability elsewhere.

Regrettably, without the ambition to create a horticulture strategy for England, the FVA have been led to question its ongoing participation in the Edible Horticulture Round Table. On the day of the Food Security Summit they decided to withdraw from the EHRG until such point that Defra is prepared to recommit to developing a horticulture strategy, which is an essential element of achieving UK food security.

The FVA are awaiting a response from the minister.

https://www.foodfoundation.org.uk/initiatives/fruit-vegetable-alliance



Pesticide report/event

OF&G are members of the **Pesticide Collaboration**, a group bringing together health and environmental organisations, academics, trade unions, farming networks and consumer groups, working under a shared vision to urgently reduce pesticide-related harms in the UK for a healthy future.

Throughout our work the group aims to tackle the systemic drivers of pesticide reliance and overuse and advocate for the solutions required to tackle them.

The Pesticide Collaboration demands higher standards in delayed government pesticide plan.

The next National Action Plan on the Sustainable Use of Pesticides (NAP) was due to be published in 2018. However, 5 years later, we still do not have a published NAP. The Pesticide Collaboration has now published a document outlining our 'red lines' for the final NAP.

The final NAP should build on the 2020 draft and respond to the submissions from civil society and experts. Our document sets out the minimum standards we expect from the plan that has taken over 5 years to publish.

The Pesticide Collaboration - A summary of NAP Red Lines

https://pesticidecollaboration.org/the-pesticide-collaboration-demands-higher-standards-in-delayed-government-pesticide-plan/

The Pesticide Collaboration - Reduction targets report

https://pesticidecollaboration.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Reduction_targets_report_Jan2023.pdf

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

SJ - Steven Jacobs / CS - Christopher Stopes

NAME	ACTIVITY	DATE	COMMENT
CS	Defra English Organic Forum account management	02/03/2023	Online
CS	Defra Farming & Countryside Programme update	14/03/2023	Online
CS	Defra Organic Unit update	21/03/2023	Online
CS	Organic Trade Board AGM	22/03/2023	In person
CS	FiBL Seeds Router database briefing webinar	23/03/2023	Online
CS	Scaling Up Agroecology Conference: Soil Association and WWF	27/03/2023	In person
CS	Forum for the Future of Agriculture Brussels	28/03/2023	In person
CS	English Organic Forum - Organic Dairy webinar	12/04/2023	Online
CS	Compassion in World Farming - Extinction or Regeneration conference	11/05/2023	In person
CS	Defra Farming & Countryside Programme update	25/05/2023	Online
CS	Defra English Organic Forum account management	26/05/2023	Online
SJ	IFOAM Organics Europe - Comms Hub Meeting	13/04/2023	Online
SJ	Food Standards Agency Precision Breeding Industry Stakeholder Workshop	17/04/2023	Online
SJ	Welsh Govt Agriculture Industry Climate Change Forum (AICCF)	17/04/2023	Online
SJ	Agrifood Net Zero Network+ Conceptual modelling	19/04/2023	In person
SJ	Growing our Future UK Spring Workshop	21/04/2023	In person
SJ	Agrifood Net Zero Network+ Big Tent Event	26-27/04/23	In person
SJ	Organic Research Centre - Crop assessment	02/05/2023	In person
SJ	Living mulches network day	03/05/2023	In person
SJ	Pesticide Collaboration event	04/05/2023	In person
SJ	Welsh Organic Forum	05/05/2023	Online
SJ	GM Freeze board meeting	10/05/2023	In person
SJ	NFU Organic Forum	17/05/2023	In person
SJ	Shropshire Good food Partnership Advisory Group	17/05/2023	Online
SJ	IFOAM Organics Europe - Comms Hub Meeting	24/05/2023	Online
SJ	Defra Farming and Countryside Programme Forum	25/05/2023	Online

Market Reports

Grain Prices: Courtesy of Andrew Trump, Organic Arable

Organic has proven it can withstand short-term economic storms," said Tom Chapman, chief executive officer of the Organic Trade Association. "Despite the fluctuation of any given moment, Americans are still investing in their personal health, and, with increasing interest, in the environment. Organic is the answer." Interesting data from the US market this week with the Organic Trade Board (the US version) publishing data about US organic market sales for 2022 and it makes some pretty impressive reading. They report a 4% increase in sales to \$61.7 billion and indicate that 15% of all fruit and veg sales are organic which is an amazing statistic and one we'd love in the UK. This growth despite the inflationary impact and supply chain shocks are impressive and when one reads of egg sales growing by 11% and yoghurt sales up 12% it is difficult not to be a little envious.

However analysis behind the headlines shows that the picture may not be as rosy at the farmgate level as cash sales do not necessarily equate to volume growth. For example, Dave Becker from The Jacobsen explains, "if you purchased 100 cartons of organic eggs in 2022 at \$4, you would have spent \$400 on eggs. If you bought 110 cartons of organic eggs in 2021 at \$3.5, your costs would be \$385, and your sales would be recorded as showing an increase of 4% yearly." This is a little as the organic cereal market feels as we review our turnover for our credit insurers. The aggregate value of grain sold is a significant increase on previous years and volume sales have not been good but there are farmers with grain, particularly barley unsold on farm. High prices have reduced demand as dairy farmers

eked out rations and forwent milk yields There has been a strange phenomenon in the organic feed market this season especially in ruminant rations. Despite high grain prices cheaper oats and barley have not been included in rations to reduce feed prices. This is often due to structural challenges within the feed mill sector but shows the need for better communication through the supply chain but resulted in higher feed costs and a lack of movement for arable farmers

The conventional market continues to weaken this week as the International Grains Council increased its forecast showing the largest global crop of cereals. Clearly markets are rebalancing with supply stimulated by the high values seen in 2022 and early 2023. Organic values will reflect this slide and certainly near European markets are reportedly trading old crop wheat below £300 ex farm with one French trader reporting decertification of large French maize producers because of the low market price for the 2023 harvest.

New crop values are likely to be closer to £300 ex farm than would have been anticipated a few months ago but with conventional wheat slipping below £170 it was inevitable organic grain would come under pressure..

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

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

01638 744144 / 07980 955490

@organicarable

Organic Livestock Trends: OLMC

ORGANIC STORE REPORT

Procuring adequate numbers of store cattle continues to be challenging in an environment of reducing numbers of cattle. The numbers of store cattle we are trading is above what we budgeted for and above last year's throughput but we still need more to meet buyers demands. We are still looking for turn out cattle and will be for another 4/5 weeks. We will then start our campaign to find cattle for yarding and finishing in the Autumn / winter. We would like to hear from anyone with cattle this Autumn and it's never too soon to book cattle in.

Although it seems some time away, we are planning the Autumn store lambs supplies. We will be looking again this year for organic store lambs particularly in larger numbers.

If you are contemplating buying in store lambs, we would like to talk to you. We have space for another 4 – 5 producers who can take on roughly 500-1000 lambs each and are able to offer a very attractive (and profitable) store lamb finishers "package". The key to profitable store lamb finishing is planning. We are happy to discuss this in more detail.

Contact 01829 730580 or: Peter Jones - 07720 892922 David Bostock - 07734 808050

OLMC FINISHED STOCK

Organic Prime Beef Cattle

The trade for prime organic cattle remains firm. As we push into the summer, we could see shorter supplies which should help hold or possibly increase current prices.

Generally, the quality of stock going through OLMC has been good, we have seen lighter weights in general, possibly as a result of the challenges of last summer's grazing period.

Average R4L Organic UTM in spec @ 530p/kg deadweight.

Organic Cull Cows

The cow prices have strengthened, numbers remain short and demand is good. The trade has possibly reached the top, but could have a little more to go should cow numbers really drop off.

Average R4L Organic OTM Cow in spec @ 450p/kg deadweight.

Lamb

The last couple of months has been a bit of a roller coaster for lamb prices. When they did eventually improve the price moved forward quickly. It has now stabilised and abattoirs



will start to focus on new season lamb rather than hogget's in the next few weeks.

Average R3L organic OSL in spec @ 660p/kg
Finished Stock Marketing office: 01763 250313 / olmc@

Tim Leigh: 07850 366404 James Doel:07741 248928

The Sheep Market in 2023

lain Turner

With an increase in the UK ewe flock it was widely felt that fat lamb prices would come under severe downward pressure particularly with the constraint on household budgets due to inflation. In reality last year's prolonged dry weather and a shortage of forage has caused a reduction in the lamb crop particularly amongst the early lambers.

Ewe scanners have been reporting that crops are down by about quarter of a lamb per ewe amongst lowland flocks and vets are reporting an increase in the number of very big single lambs.

Both France and Spain have seen a reduction in their lamb crops and although Ireland will make up some of that shortfall there should be increased export opportunities to the FLI

New Zealand's lamb production has been declining over the past few years and although Australia will have an increased crop this year the demand from China and the Far East should see a reduction in the tonnage coming to Europe.

The sharp fall in the price of cereals will benefit lamb finishers and make for more orderly marketing particularly if the weather will assist winter finishers establish productive root crops

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

Organic turnaround will be later rather than sooner, as US farmers get bailout money

On May 19 the US Department of Agriculture introduced a new assistance program for organic dairy producers to help mitigate challenging factors associated with the industry. The Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program is making just over \$100 million available to organic dairy operators to assist with projected marketing costs in 2023.

"Organic dairy producers have faced significant and unique increases in their marketing costs, compounded by increases in feed and transportation costs and the limited availability of organic grain and forage commodities," said a spokesman for the USDA. "Without assistance many organic dairies, particularly small organic dairies, will cease production, which not only impacts the domestic supply and consumption of organic milk but also the well-being of many rural communities across the country. This program

will keep our small organic dairies in operation as they continue to weather a combination of challenges outside of their control."

UK organic operators will recognise the same difficulties in the organic market here. But there will be no such help for us, alas. The sector is on its own and many challenges remain, although those

GB Organic Milk Production ('000 l/day)

1,700
1,600
1,500
1,400
1,200
1,100
1,000
900

3,400
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,000
1,

that were having difficulties in the past (i.e OMSCo) seem to be through the worse and paying a stable price while one that has been flying high (i.e Arla) is clearly finding the going much tougher now. OMSCo, for example, is now paying a milk price of 49p, which is down just 2p from its 51p peak in Q4 last year. Arla's peak was in November and

December at 54.85p, but it is now paying nearly 15p and 30% less at just over 40p. Muller is also at 49p, down 7p and 15% from its peak of 56p.

Even at the higher prices it is difficult for organic farmers to make a profit given high feed and production costs, and there has been a terrible negative impact on both the morale and finances of organic farmers. At 49p farmers can just about make a turn, given current feed costs and a decent clamp of silage. At 40p they most definitely can't. Scores have left to return to conventional production, and it is now estimated that there are probably fewer than 400 dairy farmers producing around 375m litres probably. In 2022 we produced 450m litres. The sector, therefore, is in material and significant decline.

When might the situation change? That is the key question. Well it is hard to see it doing so anytime soon as domestic demand for organic milk has plummeted and export are hampered by the fact that in some Europe countries half the organic milk being collected from farms is being sold into the organic sector - such is the oversupply.

For now Arla's farmers in particular are going to have to batten down the hatches and weather the current storm

until things get better. Their co-op is confident that it will though, and that this is just part of the cycle that markets go through periodically. It is definitely not giving in nor up on the sector, still believes in what it has to offer, and is promising to do its upmost to turn around the fortunes of its farmers as soon as market conditions allow. We all want that to be sooner rather than later, but with

food inflation being very high still it looks as if it will be later rather than sooner, I'm afraid.

01327 264962 / 07815 741547 rob@daykinpartnership.co.uk

Down to Earth - RABDF

Down to Earth is tailored specifically for livestock farmers interested in understanding the principles behind the regenerative farming approach.

Each of the events this year promises to have something for everyone! Whether you're new to this topic and just curious, or a farmer looking for practical take-home strategies to implement and enhance what you are already doing on your farm, through to those who want to follow a full regenerative journey, then Down to Earth North and South are for you.

On **Wednesday 21 June**, dairy farmer Neil Baker will open his gates at Haselbury Plucknett, Somerset, for visitors to see his high-yielding indoor herd of 1,800 predominately Holstein cows in action. Neil is one of Arla's regenerative pilot farms, so will outline some of the projects he is working on.

Then, on **Thursday 6 July**, Mark and Jenny Lee, Park House Farm, Torpenhow, Cumbria, will 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.

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



Groundswell provides a forum for farmers, growers and anyone interested in food production and the environment to learn about the theory and practical applications of regenerative farming systems.

OF&G will be on site for the whole event.

Come and say hello we will be at stand number: PF D1 for both days. At 11am on Thursday 29th June Steven Jacobs will be part of the panel at a session called 'Doing the Time: working toward the decriminalisation of our seeds' about the heterogeneous plant variety project mentioned in the NOC23 preview earlier in this newsletter.

https://groundswellag.com/exhibitor/ofg/





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					
Organic Oat Straw	Approx 200 round bales of Oat straw. Baled in good weather, fine for eating.	Philip Wadsworth	07974 387663	Thirsk, N Yorks	
Organic Oats	About 15t Oats for sale. Could deliver locally.	Philip Wadsworth	07974 387663	Thirsk, N Yorks	
Organic Oats, Wheat & Barley	Organic Oats, Wheat & Barley for sale.	Linda Gravells	07789 098498	Louth, Lincs	
Cleaned & Bagged Wheat, Barley, Oats & Beans Feed Grains - perfect for small holders	We have organic grain cleaned and bagged into 500kg bags and are able to deliver nationwide. Are you a small holder or a farmer not needing a full truck of feed? If so, this is the perfect solution. High quality straights. Packed in 500kg bags. Minimum order 1 x 500kg. Delivery Nationwide. Please call or email for a delivered price.	Gemma Clarke	07792 600310	Ancaster, Lincs	
Organic Ground Feed Barley	Good Quality Organic Feed Barley available. Large or small quantities for collection / haulier. Very competitive pricing. Samples by post or in person.	H A Edmunds - Cholderton Estate	01980 629203	Salisbury, Wiltshire	

OTHER LIVESTOCK FOR SALE				
Manure	Approximately fifteen tonnes of organic poultry muck. Limited access.	P J Barrell	07816 490125	Weobley, Herefordshire
Organic well grown weaned pigs	12 well grown British Lop x Berkshire pigs born 20.2.23	Karen Philippson	01832 720288	Oundle, Northamptonshire



	T	1	1	
Aberdeen Angus cross store cattle	Aberdeen Angus cross store cattle, tb4 area. Please phone for further details	Ray Calvert	01748 886412	Richmond, N Yorks
10 Organic pedigree Devon cows in calf	10 Organic pedigree Devon cows in calf. Please phone for more details.	Nigel Floyd	01598 741201	Lynton, Devon
17 Yearling Organic Stores.	10 British Blue cross, 7 Aberdeen Angus cross. Out of good solid Feckvei x British Fresian x Shorthorn cows.	Rowan Wood	07813 010947	Lampeter, Ceredigion
Aberdeen Angus calves for sale	Out of british friesian cows	Philip Holgate	07554 581581	Belper, Derbyshire
Bulls	Beef Shorthorn bulls approx 2 years. Various colours, sizes/weights suitable for cows and heifers.	Martin Reynolds	07966 371558	Barry, Vale of Glamorgan
Certified organic 25 Devon steers	25 Devon steers for sale tb tested ready to go. Ring for details	Tom Floyd	07515 465914 / 01598 741201	Lynton, Devon
Angus and Hereford x cows with calves at foot	4 Angus cross (3rd calvers) and 1 Hereford cross cow (4th calver) with polled Murray Grey calves at foot (4 steers, 1 heifer). Calves born 24th March to 10th April 2023, calves BVD tag & tested negative. Pasture based system, no concentrates. All cows held to 1st service Al last season. Murray Grey sired calves born 2021 finished at 19.3 months of age from forage only diet. Please email or phone for more details.	Rachel Horler	07765 021578	Highbridge, Somerset
Aberdeen Angus X Cattle 12 - 15 Months old	AAX heifers and steers 12 - 15 months old, grazing since March. Named sires. TB tested and ready to go.	Jaci Dale	01694 781480	Church Stretton, Shropshire
Certified organic 23 pedigree Devon steers	23 pedigree Devon steers to tested ready to go only been on grass, never had cake, born and bred top of Exmoor.	Tom Floyd	01598 741201	Lynton, Devon
Beef Shorthorn Bulling Heifers	Beef shorthorn bulling heifers for sale. 2 year old. Free of the bull. TB4 area.	Tim Oliver	07885 203066	Corbridge, Northumberland

DAIRY CATTLE FOR SALE					
Dairy cows for sale	30 Surplus Organic Dairy cows/heifers for sale. Freshly calved and In-calf. BF & xbreds. High fertility. High solids herd. Bvd, Lepto and IBR vaccinated. Very healthy cows in great condition.	Rhodri Ellis	07900 937262	Denbigh, Denbighshire	
Organic Dairy Heifers	50 Autumn 2022 born Kiwi cross heifers for sale. Newquay Cornwall. From 6000 litre autumn calving grass based herd. LIC and CRV breeding.	Adam Atkinosn	07766 733224	Newquay, Cornwall	
50 friesian x jersey dairy cows	50 organic dairy cows for sale. Due to calve in May/June to an easy calving dairy bull. 60% are 1st or 2nd calvers. Performed well on a grass-based system and a genuine reason for sale. Vaccinated for IBR, Leptospirosis and Salmonella. Herd free of BVD and cows are Johnes free.	Tom Harris	07970 280393	Whitland, Carmarthenshire	

SHEEP FOR SALE					
Organic Dorset Ewes	Poll Dorset, 45 pedigree registered mixed age ewes, 40 Autumn born ewe lambs. Dorset Horn, 10 pedigree registered mixed age ewes, 10 Autumn born ewe lambs. All Maedi Visna accredited.	Joe Dufosee	07525 208053	Warmister, Wilts	
Swaledale Gimmer Hogs	Organic Swaledale gimmer hogs for sale. Please phone for further details	Ray Calvert	01748 886412	Richmond, N Yorks	
Swaledale Ewes in-lamb	Organic Swaledale ewes in lamb to Blue Faced Leicester. Scanned, due April. Please phone for further details.	Ray Calvert	01748 886412	Richmond, N Yorks	
Swaledale ewes with lambs at foot	Organic Swaledale ewes with lambs at foot. Please phone for further details.	Ray Calvert	01748 886412	Richmond, N Yorks	
Organic breeding ewes for sale	Approx 20 Lleyns born 2019. Approx 40 Poll Dorsets born 2021. All reared lambs 2023. Available June.	Giles Maddever	07971 572111	Looe, Cornwall	
OFG Approved Mineral Blocks	We have 9 unopened Tithebarn Phos Rich 20kg blocks which we bought in error for cattle, not realising that they do not contain copper. Price negotiable. Also some part used ones, free for collection. We are between Lincoln and Gainsborough.	Terry Organ	01427 788629	Gainsborough, Lincs	
Contract Ewe Lamb Rearing	Contract ewe lamb rearing available. Year round grazing with all labour for inputs supplied and daily checking etc. Room for 400 lambs that would ideally come on farm September/October and stay to the following year when the next group are ready to arrive. All options considered.	John Moffat	07789 352330	Hexham/Morpeth, Northumberland	

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
Lincoln Red Heifers or similar native Heifers	Lincoln Red bulling heifers wanted or similar native types. TB4 preferred, TB1 areas may be considered. Reasonably high health status preferred	Jack Seigneury	07415 009378	Louth, Lincs
Spring barley	tonne bags if possible	Jeremy Helme	07974 701140	Llanwarne, Herefordshire
Organic Breeding Ewe / Ewe lambs	Jacobs 2 horned. Dutch spotted. Herdwicks. Gotland. Icelandic.	Joanna Gore	07745 899462	Battle, East Sussex

POULTRY WAN	TED			
Organic POL pullets required	Wanted 4080 organic Isa Warren POL pullets required w/c 3/7/2023.	Mrs M Cooper	07941 126153	Sevenoaks
Organic Pullets wanted -16 weeks	Seeking 16700 fully organic pullets. Not part organic but must be fully organic from day old.	Gill Kingston	07766 572160	Framlingham
Organic Pullets	We need someone to rear 23,250 fully organic pullets to 16 weeks of age for delivery on 26 June 2023	David Bell	07778 927341	Horncastle
Thistleyhaugh Farm looking for day old poultry	We are looking for 1500 bronze turkey poults as day olds to rear from mid June. We also are after 500 day old table bird chicks preferably of the Sasso variety also for mid June. Thank you	Zoe Nelless	07779 250674	Morpeth
Organic Pullets required	Organic pullets required, 3 x 3000 16 week old Shaver for week commencing 05/06/20	Roger Gill	07533 338398	Penrith
Organic Pullets	10200 organic pullets wanted. 16 weeks old Lohmann Brown Classic, w/c 30th July 2023.	Ross Learmonth	07872 461568	Peterhead
Day Old Turkeys	Day Old Organic Turkeys wanted - as follows: HW23 - w/c 5/6/2023 990 BBB Stags, 700 RP Bronze Hens, 700 Wr Bronze Hens. HW24 - w/c 12/6/2023 2900 BBB Stags.	Judith Pitman	01959 532506	Cudham, Sevenoaks
Organic pullets	12,000 organic pullets wanted. Lohmann Brown Classic, hatch in June 2023	Angela Maclean	07801 234251	Berwick Upon Tweed
Organic Pullets	30,000 pullets wanted. Lohmann Brown Classic, hatch in December 2023	Angela MacLean	07801 234251	Berwick Upon Tweed
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
Organic Pullets	24,000 organic pullets wanted. Lohmann Brown Classic, hatch in April 2024	Angela Maclean	07801 234251	Berwick Upon Tweed
12,000 Fully Organic Pullets Required	12,000 fully organic pullets required for 7/7/2023 at 16 weeks. Must be H & N, full vaccination schedule required. Short delivery distance preferred.	C L Bainbridge	07792 981283	Morpeth
Organic Pullets required	Organic pullets required 4 x 3000, must be Shaver Brown, 16 weeks 05/06/23	Roger Gill	07533 338398	Penrith
Organic turkey poults	We are looking for a supplier of 18,000 Devon Bronze Turkey poults to hatch mid-June to mid-July. Capestone Organic Poultry	Capestone	01437 781247	Haverfordwest
Day Old Turkeys	3700 Day Old Organic turkeys required during HW 25	Judith Pitman	01959 532506	Sevenoaks
4600 Organic Day Old BBT chicks	Needed 4600 Organic Day old chicks, must be British Black Tails, sourced from Joice and Hill to be delivered to Cornwall on the 5th June 2023 and 1st November 2023. Must be approved by Stonegate.	John Ridout	07970 880831	Liskeard
Day Old Organic BBT Chicks Wanted	4400 Day Old Organic British Black Tail chicks wanted for week commencing 14 August 2023	Shane Brettell	01939 210382	Shrewsbury
5000 Organic bronze turkey poults	Seeking 5000 single source bronze hens to produce a finished live weight of 7.5kg by week 48.	Jon Gooderham	07967 837168	Maidenhead
14,000 ORG BBT Poultry	Require 14,000 ORG BBT for POL November 2023.	Stacia McCallum	01526 378 666	Lincoln
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



Technical Newsletter

Plus Updated Approved Inputs



May 2023 Issue **147**

ofgorganic.org

Producers

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

Organic Wool

British Wool and Ulster Wool have contacted OF&G to say that they will be paying a premium on your Organic wool again this year. The premium will be included with your wool payment and is equivalent to an additional 70p per kg on most core grades.

The premium is possible due to the additional value achieved for Organic Certified wool through the auction. The demand for Organic certified wool has held up well over recent months and British Wool is achieving additional value on almost all types of Organic certified wool.

For the first time this year we have also achieved a premium on Organic Welsh Mountain wool. We will be paying an additional 20p per kg on Organic Welsh Mountain wool - this is the first time we have been able to pay a premium on this type.

For most core grades of organic wool we are paying around £1 per kg and for organic Welsh Mountain wool we are paying an average of 35p per kg this year. Your individual wool value for the 2022 clip will be communicated to you next week.

The demand for Organic wool comes from GOTS (Global Organic Testing Standards) certified manufacturers in the clothing, bedding and soft furnishings markets. These manufacturers value the Organic Certification that British Wool can provide and that they are able to purchase the wool in commercial weights of a consistent quality thanks to British Wool's unique grading system.

British Wool and Ulster Wool are registered as accredited handling agents under GOTS and are subject to an annual audit as part of that scheme. The audit rules are stringent

and it is only by meeting these requirements that we are able to deliver additional value for you, our members. As a reminder we can only grade our members' wool as Organic if they comply with the following requirements:

- Members must provide a copy of their organic certificate when they deliver their wool. This certificate must be valid on the delivery date and can be from any certifying body.
- Members must deliver their wool in green wool sheets. These are available on request from any of our depots.
- Members must also adhere to the guidelines for dipping their sheep pre shearing. Organic wool is randomly tested for dip residue and if contaminants are found within a lot we are unable to sell the wool as Organic. This does not only jeopordise the value of the wool that had been contaminated but also the value of any other wool within the lot provided by members that had adhered to the guidance.

If you have any questions, please contact your local depot or the Member Services team on 01274 688666 or email: memberservices@britishwool.org.uk or memberservices@ulsterwool.org.uk

Alternatively visit our websites https://www.britishwool.org.uk/organic-wool or http://ulsterwool.com/organic-wool

If you do not currently have Organic wool listed on your certificate please contact your Certification Officer for details on the specific rules that must be followed before a certificate detailing Organic wool can be issued.

Reminder re Revised Record Sheets

In the March Technical Newsletter we made licensees aware of revisions to the process and information required when applying for approval where Defra has to give 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;
- Retrospective (backdated) land conversion.

As a result of these changes OF&G revised its Record Sheets to ensure the correct information is supplied with the application. These revised Record Sheets can be downloaded from the OF&G website or can be requested from your Certification Officer. Please ensure when applying for approvals under the exceptional production rules, that you use the updated version of the Record Sheet.

Please note we are in the process of making further revisions to the process for applying to introduce pullets that have been managed to the organic feed and veterinary standards and will provide more details in due course.



Processors

Northern Ireland Border Control Points

We have been notified by Defra that, unfortunately, a consignment of organic goods recently lost its organic status due to entering Northern Ireland through a point other than a designated Border Control Point.

It is extremely important that when

shipping organic goods to Northern Ireland they only enter through one of the Border Control Points designated by the relevant Competent Authority.

At the time of publishing this newsletter the designated Border Control Points in Northern Ireland are:

- · Belfast Port
- · Foyle Port
- Larne Port
- Warrenpoint Port

Any organic products entering Northern Ireland through a port other than those listed above may result in the removal of its organic status.

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
FGS Organics Ltd	http://www.fgsagri.co.uk/	Bedding Material
ICL UK Sales	https://polysulphate.com	Fertilisers
Devenish Nutrition	https://www.devenishnutrition.com/	Vitamins, minerals and trace elements
Orion Future Technology Ltd	http://www.orionft.com/	Fertilisers
Divine Imports Ltd	andreaatwell369@gmail.com	Soil Conditioner, Plant Health Product, Foliar Treatment
Kelvin Cave Ltd	https://kelvincave.com/	Silage Additive
Cargill Animal Nutrition T/A Provimi Ltd	https://www.provimi.co.uk/gb-gb/Home. html	Animal Feed Additives
The Woodhorn Group	http://www.woodhorngroup.co.uk/	Compost
Envirosystems (UK) Ltd	https://www.envirosystems.co.uk/	Silage Additive, Slurry treatment, Bedding Material, Manure treatment, Animal Health Product
Klinge Chemicals Ltd	http://www.losalt.com/uk/	Ingredients
Growing Up International Corp	https://www.growing8.com/	Plant Health Product
Danstar Ferment AG	https://www.lallemandplantcare.com	Fungicide
Genus ABS	http://www.genusbreeding.co.uk/	Silage Additive
Fargro Ltd	https://www.fargro.co.uk/	Fungicide, Bio-insecticide, Pest Control
Anglo American Woodsmith Ltd	https://uk.angloamerican.com	Fertilisers
Salt Express Ltd	http://saltexpress.co.uk/	Ingredients
Nimrod Veterinary Products Ltd	https://www.nimrodvet.com/	Animal Health Product
Interagro (UK) Ltd	https://www.interagro.co.uk/	Fertilisers, Seed treatment
Circum Minerals Limited	http://www.circumminerals.com/	Fertilisers
Jigsaw Marketing & Media Ltd	https://www.richardjacksonsgarden. co.uk/	Fertilisers
Soil Nurture Ltd	https://www.soilnurture.co.uk	Fertilisers, Soil Conditioners
Uniscope (Euro) Ltd	https://www.uniscopeeuro.co.uk/	Vitamins, minerals and trace elements
Material Change Limited	https://www.material-change.com/	Compost, Soil Conditioners
Kilwaughter Minerals Ltd	http://www.kilwaughter.com/	Soil Conditioners
SAN Agrow Holding GmbH	https://bio-ferm.com/en/home/	Pest Control
PlantoSys Biostimulants	https://www.plantosys.com/en/	Fertilisers

