

AAB CONFERENCE CALENDAR

2013

- 6 March **Farming System Design – UK Workshop**
Devonshire Building, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (CATE Group/ NiRES)
- 14-15 March **Dust emissions from seed drills - Workshop**
Julius-Kühn-Institut (JKI), Berlin-Dahlem, Germany (Pesticide Application Group/JKI)
- 25-26 March **Crop Resource Use Efficiency and Field Phenotyping**
Belton Woods Golf & Country Club, Grantham, Lincs (PP&CI Group)
- 23-25 April **Environmental Management on Farmland**
Forest Pines Hotel, nr Brigg, North Lincolnshire (CATE Group)
- 16 May **A Diet for Sustainability - Eat, Drink, Be Ready**
Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, Herts (Food Group)
- w/b 17 September
2 days **Crop Ethnography: Lessons for current and future challenges**
National Institute of Agricultural Botany, Cambridge (CATE Group/NIAB)
- 15 October **Biopesticides**
Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, Lincs (Biological Control & IPM Group)
- 16 October **Advances in Biological Control**
Olde Barn Hotel, Marston, Lincs (Biological Control & IPM Group)
- 6-7 November **Fruits and Roots: A Celebration and Forward Look**
East Malling Research, Kent (East Malling Research/AAB)
- 2-3 December **Positive plant microbial interactions: their role in maintaining sustainable agricultural and natural ecosystems**
Forest Pines Hotel, nr Brigg, North Lincolnshire (AM&B Group)
- 10 December **Advances in Nematology - Nematode Control**
Linnean Society of London, Piccadilly, UK (Nematology Group)
- 18-19 December **Rethinking Agricultural Systems in the UK**
St Catherine's College, Oxford (BES Agricultural Ecology, Forest Ecology & Computation Ecology Groups/AAB)

2014

- 10-12 January **International Advances in Pesticide Application**
Oxford Spire Hotel, Oxford, UK (Pesticide Application Group)

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ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED BIOLOGISTS

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

in conjunction with

The British Ecological Society Agricultural Ecology Group

A 3 day conference

at Forest Pines Hotel, nr Brigg, North Lincs

on 23-25 April 2013

PROGRAMME AND
BOOKING FORM

Environmental management
on farmland



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Environmental management on farmland

in conjunction with
the British Ecological Society Agricultural Ecology Group

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

on 23-25 April 2013

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

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

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME (BASIS points have been applied for)

Tuesday 23 April 2013

Session 1: *Setting the scene*

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

11:00 **INTRODUCTION**

NIGEL BOATMAN (Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

11:05 *Invited speaker*

Lessons for the design of future agri-environment schemes

GEOFF RADLEY (formerly Natural England)

11:35	Meeting the EU’s environmental challenges through the CAP – how do the reforms measure up? BEN ALLEN & KALEY HART (Institute for European Environment Policy (IEEP), London)
12:05	DISCUSSION
12:15	LUNCH
<i>Session 2:</i>	<i>Design of schemes and monitoring programmes</i> Session Organiser: JON MARSHALL (Jon Marshall Agroecology Ltd, Winscombe, Somerset)
13:15	The credit point system: a innovative approach to enhance biodiversity on farmland M JENNY, J ZELLWGER-FISCHER (Swiss Ornithological Institute, Sempach, Switzerland), O BALMER (FiBL, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Frick, Switzerland), S BIRRER (Swiss Ornithological Institute, Sempach, Switzerland) & L PFIFFNER (FiBL, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Frick, Switzerland)
13:35	An integrated ecological, social and physical approach to monitoring environmental change and land management effects: the Wales Axis II Monitoring and Evaluation Programme BRIDGETT EMMETT (The Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Environment Centre Wales, Bangor) and the Wales AXIS II MEP team
13:55	Monitoring of farmland biodiversity indicators in Northern Ireland M FLEXEN, D O’MAHONY and J H MCADAM (Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, Belfast)
14:15	DISCUSSION
14:30	TEA
<i>Session 3:</i>	<i>Scheme monitoring and evaluation</i> Session Organiser: BARBARA SMITH (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge)
15:00	How has Environmental Stewardship affected English farmland bird populations? Results and lessons from a national assessment DAVID J BAKER* (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford), PHIL V GRICE (Natural England, Peterborough) & GAVIN M SIRIWARDENA (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford) *current address: (School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Durham University)
15:20	Higher Level Stewardship (HLS), the quality of agreements and evidence of progress: Results of a national survey in England J O MOUNTFORD (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford), A I COOKE (Natural England, Telford) S R AMY (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford), A BAKER (Natural England, Worcester), P D CAREY (Bodsey Ecology Ltd, Huntingdon), H J DEAN (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford), V G KIRBY (Kirby-Barton Consultants, Stroud), A NISBET (Natural England, Exeter), J M PEYTON, R F PYWELL, J W REDHEAD (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford) & S M SMART (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Lancaster)
15:40	Habitat associations of farmland birds in South Devon WILL PEACH, S R WOTTON, A J STANBURY & M DAVIES (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Sandy, Bedfordshire)

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

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

16:40 DISCUSSION

17:00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

17:05 CLOSE

18:00 DINNER

19:00 BUSES TO LINCOLN (Optional Trip)

Wednesday 24 April 2013

Session 4: *Habitat management*

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

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

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

9:50 **A comparison of field margin establishment methods and impact on hymenopteran parasitoid communities**
D Ó HUALLACHÁIN (Teagasc, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland), A ANDERSON,
R FRITCH (University College, Dublin, Ireland), S McCORMACK (Teagasc, Johnstown Castle,
Co. Wexford, Ireland), H SHERIDAN (University College, Dublin, Ireland) & J A FINN
(Teagasc, Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland) &

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

10:30 DISCUSSION

10:40 COFFEE

11:10 **Effects of cultivation and herbicide application regimes on the plant species composition of uncropped arable margins**
M WAGNER, J W REDHEAD (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford),
M NOWAKOWSKI (Wildlife Farming Company, Bicester), C H SHELLSWELL (Plantlife,
Salisbury), J M BULLOCK & R F PYWELL (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology,
Wallingford)

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

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

12:10 **Can short-rotation coppice strips compensate structural deficits in agrarian landscapes?**
M GLEMNITZ, R PLATEN (Center for Agricultural Landscape Research, Müncheberg,
Germany), R KRECHEL (Institute for Vegetation Sciences, Ecology & Regional Planning,
Düsseldorf, Germany) J KONRAD (Center for Agricultural Landscape Research, Müncheberg,
Germany) & F WAGENER (Institute for Applied Material Flow Management, Birkenfeld,
Germany)

12:30 DISCUSSION

12:50 LUNCH

Session 5: *Advice provision*
Session Organiser: **GAVIN SIRIWARDENA** (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford)

14:05 **Farming for food and clean water: The catchment sensitive farming approach and outcomes – 6 years on**
J M GRISCHEFF (Natural England, Taunton), P SMITH (Environment Agency, Preston) &
R MIDDLETON (Natural England, Exeter)

14:25 **Does advice work? Assessing the effectiveness of ETIP**
G D JONES, N B BOATMAN & A CROWE (The Food and Environment Research Agency,
Sand Hutton, York)

14:45 **Development of a bird environmental stewardship tool managing environmental level stewardship options**
JON TIMMIS, ADAM NELLIS (University of York), DAVID BAKER (British Trust for
Ornithology, Thetford), PETER EDWARDS (Syngenta, Jealott's Hill, Berks),
GAVIN SIRIWARDENA (British Trust for Ornithology, Thetford) & JONATHAN MARSDEN
(Natural England, Hope Valley)

15:05 DISCUSSION

15:20 TEA

Session 6: *Poster presentations*

15:50 INTRODUCTION

15:55 5 MINUTE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

15:55 **The use of enhanced stubbles by Light-Bellied Brent geese on land that abuts Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve**
STEVE PULLAN (Natural England, Newcastle upon Tyne), GEORGE DODDS (George Dodds & Co, Wooler, Northumberland) & A CRAGG (Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve, Natural England, Beal, Northumberland)

16:00 **Do legume-rich habitats provide improved farmland biodiversity resources and services in arable farmland?**
T J WOOD (University of East Anglia, Norwich), B M SMITH (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge), B HUGHES (Conservation Grade Farming, Abbotsley, Cambs), J A GILL (University of East Anglia, Norwich) & J M HOLLAND (Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge)

16:05 **Including ecosystem sustainability in the economic valuation of biodiversity**
J F ADMIRAAL (Leiden University, the Netherlands), A WOSSINK (University of Manchester), W T DE GROOT & G R DE SNOO (Leiden University, the Netherlands)

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

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

16:20 **Miscanthus as a nesting habitat for lapwings, *Vanellus vanellus***
H E K PRINGLE (Imperial College, London, Silwood Park, Ascot, Berks), S R LEATHER (Harper Adams University, Newport) & R B SAGE (The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge, Hants)

16:25 **Four-species grass-clover mixtures demonstrate transgressive overyielding and weed suppression over 3 years and across 31 sites**
J A FINN (Teagasc Environment Research Centre, Co. Wexford, Ireland), L KIRWAN (Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland), J CONNOLLY (University College, Dublin, Ireland) & A LÜSCHER (Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART, Zurich, Switzerland) & participating sites in COST 852

16:30 **The influence of environmental Stewardship (ES) summer foraging habitat on the breeding distribution of yellowhammer, *Emberiza citrinella***
C G GOODWIN, NIAMH MC HUGH (Imperial College London, Silwood Park, Ascot), J M HOLLAND (Game & Wildlife Conversation Trust, Fordingbridge) & S R LEATHER (Harper Adams University, Newport)

16:35 **Improving pest control and pollination services in cider apple orchards by means of 'multi-functional' flowering strips**
ALASTAIR J CAMPBELL (Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, Lancaster), PETER SUTTON (Syngenta UK, Bracknell), ANDREW WILBY & FELIX L WÄCKERS, (Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, Lancaster)

16:40 **Testing the benefits of new agri-environment options for pollinator insects**
J PEYTON, M S HEARD & R F PYWELL (NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford)

16:45 **Yellowhammer breeding distribution in relation to field boundary habitat and summer foraging resources**
N M MC HUGH (Imperial College London, Silwood Park, Ascot, Berks), S HUGHES (Bournemouth University, Poole, Dorset), S LEATHER (Harper Adams University, Newport), R STILMAN (Bournemouth University, Poole, Dorset) & J M HOLLAND (The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fordingbridge)

16:50 ***Weissia squarrosa*, a Biodiversity Action Plan bryophyte, its status and its conservation in the arable environment**
S T CONYERS, S R LAYBOURN & C M CONYERS (The Food & Environment Research Agency, York)

16:55 **Springing into action? Collembola in agroecosystems**
F B SCONCE, S R LEATHER & I G GROVE (Harper Adams University, Newport, Shropshire)

17:00 **Filling the seed and nectar hungry gaps for birds and bees: lessons from personal experience of agri-environment schemes since 1992**
J BINGHAM (Dereham, Norfolk)

17:15 POSTERS AND WINE RECEPTION

18:10 END OF DAY

19:30 CONFERENCE DINNER

Thursday 25 April 2013

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

9:00 *Invited speaker*
Farmer engagement: an essential policy tool for delivering environmental management on farmland
T PIKE (Defra, Nobel House, London)

9:30 **The Campaign for the Farmed Environment: a partnership initiative led by the agricultural industry to replace the benefit of set-aside**
E J P MARSHALL (Marshall Agroecology Ltd, Barton Winscombe, Somerset), JIM EGAN (The Allerton Project, Loddington, Leics), VICTORIA HICKS (National Farmers Union, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire), CHARLOTTE LAY (Country Land & Business Association (CLA), London), LINDSEY CLOTHIER (Defra Observatory Team, York) & A C GRAHAM (National Farmers Union, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire)

9:50 **Monitoring the implementation of voluntary environmental management measures under the Campaign for the Farmed Environment**
N D JONES & N D BOATMAN (The Food and Environment Research Agency, York)

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

10:30 DISCUSSION

10:45 COFFEE

11:15 **A stakeholders' view on indicators of farmers' biodiversity performance**
J F ADMIRAAL, P POST, C J M MUSTERS & G R DE SNOO (Leiden University, the Netherlands)

11:35 **Biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes: Farmer effects on biodiversity gains from agri-environment schemes**
G A A WOSSINK (University of Manchester)

11.55 DISCUSSION

Session 8: General Discussion

12:05 GENERAL DISCUSSION

12:30 CLOSING REMARKS

12:40 LUNCH

13:45 BUSES FOR FIELD TRIP (Optional trip)

