

# IAgrE Landwards Conference 2017



Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
 Rothamsted Centre for Research and Enterprise, Harpenden

## Decarbonising UK Agriculture Perspectives and Policy for Change

### Conference Programme

#### Part 1 – The Technical Challenges

0930 - 1000	Arrival, Registration and Networking
1000	<p><b>Introductory Remarks</b> - <i>What are the facts and where are we now? What is the carbon impacts of UK Agriculture? What are the pressure points? How will things look if we don't do anything? Can we reach a view of the true carbon footprint of food production – field to plate? What will happen if we do nothing?</i></p> <p><b>Dr Robert Merrall – President IAgrE</b></p>
1015	<p><b>Agriculture and the Low-carbon Economy</b> - <i>Setting the scene, reviewing the future of managing agricultural emissions and including the latest developments in battery energy storage and possible vehicle-to-grid applications for farmers. Challenges facing businesses and policy makers</i></p> <p><b>Dr Jonathan Scurlock, Chief Adviser, Renewable Energy and Climate Change, National Farmers Union</b></p>
1045	<p><b>The Energy Independent Farm</b> - <i>is a new approach, where farmers will be able to generate their own energy to run their farm and agricultural equipment. By using wind systems, solar panels or biomass and biogas processes located right on the farm, the farmer can independently obtain electricity and use it to generate hydrogen to power farm machinery and also to supply electricity.</i></p> <p><b>Sean Lennon, Head of the Tractor Product Line, New Holland Agriculture</b>  <i>NB – Carlo Lambro was called to Brazil on business at short notice so we are very grateful to Sean for stepping in at the eleventh hour</i></p>
1115	Short Coffee Refreshment Break



## Part 1 – The Technical Challenges continued

1130	<p><b>Transport Free Supply Chains</b> – <i>Is there a different way of producing food closer to its market. Up on the roof, down underground. What about harvesting crops just before the point of sale with no transport. Are we on the verge of a new way of farming and what would be the impact of all of this in reducing the carbon footprint?</i></p> <p><b>Jonathon Lodge, City Farm Systems</b></p>
1200	<p><b>Soil! Our Natural Capital</b> - <i>The importance of soil has moved up the agenda and it is recognised that it has a vital role to play as a carbon sink and that good soil management will assist in maintaining its ability to continue to act as a carbon sink</i></p> <p><b>Professor Jane Rickson – Cranfield University</b></p>
1230	<p><b>Energy Crops and Carbon Reduction</b> - <i>will discuss the latest research and how that fits with the BBSRC Strategic Programme on "Cropping Carbon".</i></p> <p><b>Dr Ian Shield, Agronomist – Rothamsted Research</b></p>
1300 - 1345	Lunch & Networking

## Part 2 – The Rothamsted Perspective

1345	<p><b>What we do at Rothamsted</b></p> <p><b>Professor Achim Dobermann - Director and Chief Executive, Rothamsted Research</b></p>
1400	<p><b>Insight into the Work at Rothamsted</b></p> <p><i>Your opportunity to take a look at some of the cutting edge research being carried out at Rothamsted – please be advised this afternoon’s activities involve some walking and we recommend sturdy shoes and clothing appropriate to the weather. For those not wishing to walk far you will be welcome to browse the Archive.</i></p> <p><i>Groups will be shown round the following areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Crops – Miscanthus &amp; Willow</li> <li>• Bee Radar &amp; Suction Traps</li> <li>• Field Phenotyping Platform</li> <li>• Greenhouses &amp; Growth Houses inc Heat &amp; Energy Exchanger</li> <li>• Rothamsted Archive – 175 years of plant and soil samples</li> </ul> <p><b>Hosted by Dr Chris Watts, Dr Ian Shield, Dr Jason Lim and others</b></p>
1550 - 1600	Closing Remarks, Refreshments – End of Conference