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Institution of Agricultural Engineers

Landwards Conference 2017

Decarbonising UK Agriculture – Perspectives and Policy for Change

Date: Wednesday 11 October 2017

Location: Rothamsted Centre for Research and Enterprise, Harpenden



Decarbonising! Across industry and society there has been much progress in introducing innovative solutions to reduce the carbon footprint. Where next? The carbon footprint of agriculture is complex. At one end, tractors and mechanisation systems are big energy users whilst natural resources such as forests and the soil can be managed to capture carbon. Decarbonising UK Agriculture is about finding the symbiosis needed to make this successful.

This conference will explore a broad range of perspectives with a view to helping those responsible for policy and practice choose the right approaches and develop the technologies and practices required if reliance on carbon is to be reduced.

This conference is for engineers, scientists and technologists, farmers, growers, producers, and movers and shakers working in policy and sustainable development.

Key benefits of attending

- Gain an oversight of technological developments emerging in modern agriculture
- Focus on the challenges of decarbonisation and the emerging reduction strategies
- Learn cutting edge insights on the carbon agenda from acknowledged technical specialists
- Find out what you need to consider as you carbon proof your business
- Meet likeminded people and forge future business relationships
- Develop ideas and initiate new approaches alongside industry leaders

When, where, how much, where to book?

When: Wednesday 11th October 2017

Where: Rothamsted Centre for Research & Enterprise, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ

Cost: Early Bird £100 + vat, Delegate £120 + vat, Retired £75 + vat, Student £40 + vat

Booking: www.iagre.org/eventbookpay/iagre2016



Part 1 – The Technical Challenges

0930 - 1000	Arrival, Registration and Networking
1000	Introductory Remarks - 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?
	Dr Robert Merrall – President IAgrE
1015	Agriculture and the Low-carbon Economy - 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
	Dr Jonathan Scurlock, Chief Adviser, Renewable Energy and Climate Change, National Farmers Union
1045	The Energy Independent Farm - 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.
	Carlo Lambro, President New Holland Agriculture
1115	Short Coffee Refreshment Break
1130	Transport Free Supply Chains – 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?
	Jonathon Lodge, City Farm Systems
1200	Soil! Our Natural Capital - 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
	Professor Jane Rickson – Cranfield University
1230	Energy Crops and Carbon Reduction - will discuss the latest research and how that fits with the BBSRC Strategic Programme on "Cropping Carbon".
	Dr Ian Shield, Agronomist – Rothamsted Research
1300 - 1345	Lunch & Networking

See overleaf for the afternoon programme



Part 2 – The Rothamsted Perspective

1345	What we do at Rothamsted
	Professor Achim Dobermann - Director and Chief Executive, Rothamsted Research
1400	Insight into the Work at Rothamsted
	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.
	Groups will be shown round the following areas:
	Energy Crops – Miscanthus & Willow
	Bee Radar & Suction Traps
	Field Phenotyping Platform
	Greenhouses & Growth Houses inc Heat & Energy Exchanger
	Rothamsted Archive – 175 years of plant and soil samples
	Hosted by Dr Chris Watts, Dr Ian Shield, Dr Jason Lim and others
1550 - 1600	Closing Remarks, Refreshments – End of Conference

Serviced by excellent transport links, Rothamsted is just 10 minutes from London Luton International Airport and 25 minutes from London St Pancras International.

Car: Harpenden is about 7 miles north of the M25 London Orbital Motorway and close to Junctions 9/10 of the M1. From Junction 9 follow the signage to Redbourn, then Harpenden. From Junction 10, take the A1081 to Harpenden. Free car parking is available for users of the Rothamsted Conference Centre and for all RoCRE tenants.

Train: Harpenden has frequent trains from central London (St Pancras International). The journey time is about 30 minutes and the station is a ten minute walk away from Rothamsted.

Air: The closest international airports are Luton, Heathrow and Stansted. From Luton, take the coach to Luton Airport Parkway train station and take the rail line direct to Harpenden. From Heathrow take a Piccadilly line underground train towards Cockfosters to St Pancras International and take the rail line direct to Harpenden. From Stansted, travel by train into London and then onto St Pancras International. Alternatively, take the coach from Stansted to Luton Airport, take the bus to Luton Airport Parkway train station, then take the train to Harpenden.

