

### **Introduction:**

Welcome to the second issue of the ORC's new E-Bulletin and many thanks for all the positive responses to the first one! The E-Bulletin is circulated monthly free of charge to ORC's Friends, regular supporters and Bulletin subscribers, as well as to individuals who register via the ORC's homepage at [www.organicresearchcentre.com](http://www.organicresearchcentre.com). The aim is to provide regular updates on ORC's activities and related work, with links to more detailed information on the ORC website. Previous E-Bulletins can be found in the Bulletin [archive](#). Comments on any items are very welcome by e-mail to [comment@organicresearchcentre.com](mailto:comment@organicresearchcentre.com) and may be published in future E-Bulletins and on our website (unless marked not for publication).

### **Bulletin 106 (Autumn 2011) published:**

Catching up on our delayed quarterly production schedule for this year, the autumn issue of ORC's printed Bulletin has been published. If you are not already receiving the ORC Bulletin, you can subscribe by using the [2011 Appeal form](#). Previous issues can be found in the [ORC Bulletin archive](#). Bulletin 105 (Summer 2011) has been uploaded to the archive or can be posted on request.

### **ORC 2010 Annual Report published:**

ORC's annual report for 2010 has now been published and provides an overview of the wide range of research and other activities with which ORC is now engaged. The printed version is available on request, free of charge, or can be downloaded [here](#).

### **2012 ORC Organic Producers' Conference outline programme and registration form:**

ORC's 6th annual conference, to be held 18-19 January 2012 at Aston University, Birmingham, will continue the tradition of bringing innovative organic producers and other businesses together with consultants and researchers to explore the latest ideas for improving the technical, business and environmental performance of organic systems. [More...](#)

### **Non-inversion tillage participatory research event to be held on 27 October:**

The Organic Research Centre's Participatory Research & Demonstration Network, launched at Abbey Home Farm on the 21st July, will be holding its first participatory research event Duchy Home Farm near Cirencester. [More...](#)

### **Welsh Organic Conference 'Organic Better Business' to be held on 27 October:**

Organic Centre Wales' annual conference will be held at Llanelwedd, Powys. The theme is improving business performance by looking at economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainability, as well as food security and business cooperation. [More...](#)

### **Feeding non-ruminants organically – new project started at ORC:**

On 1 October 2011, a new project "Improved contribution of local feed to support 100% organic feed supply to pigs and poultry" started at ORC. [More...](#)

### **CAP Reform legislative proposals include specific measures for organic farming:**

The European Commission proposals published on 12 October include the automatic eligibility of organic farmers for the new Greening element of the Single Farm Payment and a dedicated measure for organic farming in the Rural Development Programme. [More...](#) (but please look for updates in the near future)

### **EU Court of Auditors back organic as agri-environment scheme:**

In a report critical of many Member State agri-environment schemes, the European Court of Auditors has backed organic farming recognising its environmental benefits. [More...](#)

### **UK workshop on certification issues held at ORC:**

On 17 October, ORC hosted a workshop on the results of the EU-funded Certcost project, which has been investigating the costs and benefits for European organic certification systems. [More...](#)

### **International organic seed regulation workshop held at ORC:**

ORC hosted the annual meeting of the European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding meeting on organic seed regulations and availability in September. [More...](#)

### **Does nature know best? New ORC research paper published:**

In an article published in the on-line journal Sustainability on 17 October 2011, researchers at the Organic Research Centre review the advantages and disadvantages of evolutionary plant breeding. [More...](#)

### **New window for 2012 Welsh Organic Farming Conversion Scheme opens:**

Information is now available about the new window for Welsh OFCS applicants. [More...](#)

### **Lower prevalence of antibiotic resistance on recently converted organic farms:**

A study published in Environmental Health Perspectives has found lower antibiotic resistance on newly organic farms compared to conventional farms in the US. [More...](#)

### **ORC now on Twitter:**

If you would like to get your news and event updates from ORC even quicker, we are now tweeting them as they happen. You can follow us via [#OrgResCent](#) or follow the link from our home page.

### **Organic Research Centre seeks new Chair of Council of Management:**

The present Chair, who has been in place since the foundation of the Centre, now wishes to stand down. Applications are therefore invited for his successor. [More...](#)