



## E-Bulletin No. 27, April 2014

### **The Prince of Wales's Food and Farming Summer School 16-18 July 2014**

The Organic Research Centre is honoured to be asked again to host this prestigious event in 2014, where the real sustainability challenges and solutions facing food and farming will be debated by a diverse group of producers, food businesses, retailers, government policy makers, farming unions, environmental NGOs and many more. [Programme available and booking open now!](#)

### **New date and venue for ORC Organic Producers' Conference: 26-27 November 2014**

The next Organic Producers' Conference will be held immediately following the Soil Association National Soils Symposium (25th November) at St.Johns Hotel, Solihull. The first day (26th November) will be producer-focused and the second day (27th November) will focus more on research, advisory and policy issues. We welcome suggestions for topics, themes, workshops and speakers. Please send to [comment@organicresearchcentre.com](mailto:comment@organicresearchcentre.com) or tweet at #ORC14. [More](#)

## **News**

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### **ORC Bulletin 115 is out now!**

Sneak preview of the Spring Bulletin, which is posting out tomorrow! Winter issue of the ORC Bulletin also now available to download for free. [More...](#)

### **Managing hedges for woodfuel:**

Report, presentations, photos and videos from this practical workshop at Elm Farm in March [More...](#)

### **Tenancy opportunity at Dartington**

Opportunity to take on a pioneering farm on Dartington Hall Estate. [More...](#)

### **Improving resource efficiency in crop and livestock systems:**

Report from NUE-CROPS and LI-BREEDS workshops [More...](#)

### **OSCAR leaflet published:**

ORC is part of OSCAR, a collaborative European research project to develop more sustainable systems of agriculture and increase the diversity of cover crops and living mulches. Project leaflet now available. [More...](#)

### **COBRA in Colombia:**

Henry Creissen reports on the British Council's Researcher Links Initiative [More...](#)

### **Legumes in fertility-building leys:**

Large birdsfoot trefoil, Meadow Pea and White Sweetclover profiled [More...](#)

### **Sustainability of a small-scale organic vegetable supply system**

As part of the SOLIBAM project, a small-scale low-input organic market garden and box scheme was assessed and compared to two modelled organic vegetable and food supply systems embedded in a supermarket distribution system. [More...](#)

### **Homeopathy is back!**

Two new amendments to the implementing legislation of Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 on organic production and labelling of organic products have been published. [More...](#)

### **Groups object to new UK GM trial plan**

GM Freeze is leading a coalition of organisations, including ORC, in outlining the scientific and other reasons why the UK Government should say “No” to growing genetically modified (GM) Camelina in Hertfordshire as early as next month. [More...](#)

### **SOLIBAM final congress**

Diversity strategies for organic and low input agricultures and their food systems: Final congress 7-9 July. Deadline for abstracts 5<sup>th</sup> May [More...](#)

### **EkoSeedForum – report**

European conference on organic seed, organic plant breeding and agro-biodiversity. [More...](#)

### **Towards a new policy framework for organic farming**

IFOAM EU response to new organic regulation proposals. [More...](#)

### **Organics: Commission proposal for 'more and better'**

The European Commission has published new proposals for a new Regulation on organic production and the labelling of organic products. [More...](#)

### **Winter grazing cereals project**

ORC wins funding from Duchy Originals Future Farming Programme. Winter grazing cereals: the effects on crop-weed competition and grain yield. [More...](#)

## **Upcoming events**

#### **13 May 2014: [Agroforestry and Biodiversity](#)**

Farm Woodland Forum annual meeting

#### **21 May 2014: [Hazel dormouse ecology and conservation](#)**

Training day at Elm Farm

#### **29 May 2014: [Soil Association National Livestock Event](#)**

The Soil Association and The Woodland Trust event in Gloucestershire

#### **18 June 2014: [Fertility building leys field lab](#)**

Field lab 2 at Wimpole Hall Farm

#### **19 June 2014: [ORC Wakelyns Agroforestry Open Day](#)**

Seeds to trees – the value of diversity

#### **1 July 2014: [National Organic Cereals 2014](#)**

OF&G's farmer-focused cereals event nr Milton Keynes

**7-9 July 2014:** [SOLIBAM final congress](#)

Diversity strategies for organic and low input agricultures and their food systems

**11 July 2014:** [Participatory plant breeding with diverse wheat](#)

How can diverse cereal populations be used to create locally adapted 'modern landraces'?

**16-18 July 2014:** [The Prince of Wales Food & Farming Summer School](#)

Debating solutions to the challenges facing farming

**16 September 2014:** [Fertility building leys field lab](#)

Field lab 3 at Abbey Home Farm, Cirencester

**22 September 2014:** [Field Lab: Woodchip Compost](#)

Part 3: Discussion of final results. Tolhurst Organic, nr Reading

**13-15 October 2014:** [IFOAM World Congress 2014](#)

Building Organic Bridges

**25 November 2014:** [National Soil Symposium 2014](#)

Soil Association event precedes the ORC Organic Producers' Conference

**26-27 November 2014:** [ORC Organic Producers' Conference](#)

New date, new venue!

For more Field Lab events and Soil Association farm walks click [here](#)

## Photo sets

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Field lab 2 on using woodchip compost for propagation [Photos](#)

Managing hedges for woodfuel event [Photos](#)

Staff hedge-laying day at Elm Farm [Photos](#)

## More about us

### Can you help us fund a Solar PV installation at Elm Farm?

We are looking to raise £75k to pay for a 66kWp Solar PV installation on the new livestock building at ORC, to be built/installed during 2014. This will allow us to complete the energy cycle, with our own renewable electricity powering the heat pumps that make the ground-sourced heating system work, as well as generating funds for our work. We are inviting donations or preliminary expressions of interest from supporters willing to invest for terms of 5-10 years – capital to be repaid with (modest) interest. If you are potentially interested, please contact [Nic Lampkin](#). Early responses would be very helpful.

### Participatory research network – join in!

We are developing a network of producers and other businesses to get producer/business-led,

participatory research projects off the ground. You can join the network and receive the Handbook and Bulletin as part of the package. [More...](#)

### Subscribe to the ORC printed Bulletin

The quarterly ORC printed Bulletin is available on subscription in printed form, with back issues also on-line. [More...](#)

### 2014 Organic Farm Management Handbook

This is a 'must have' publication for everyone interested in the business of organic farming and growing. Available now. [More](#)

### Other publications available

A wide range of our research and other publications can be accessed via our website, and some printed versions are available to order. [More...](#)

### About the ORC E-Bulletin

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).

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