



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023 WEDNESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY



AT
MEADOW SUITE, PARK HOUSE, WHITEKNIGHTS CAMPUS,
UNIVERSITY OF READING, RG6 6UR

You are invited to our 2023 Annual Maize Conference. It is being held Wednesday on 8th February 2023 from 9:30am—3:20pm. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. We have an enthusiastic and knowledgeable panel of speakers . Thanks to VADERSTAD for supporting the event.

Time	Speaker and Subject
9:30 a.m.	Registration & coffee
9:45 a.m.	Welcome - John Jackson, MGA Chairman
9:50 a.m.	Main sponsors message—Vaderstad
10 a.m.	Dr Heike Molenaar—Maize and beans—“How the Germans do it”
10:30 a.m.	Ben Hunt—The potential of additional available nitrogen to optimise crop nitrogen supply and reduce nitrogen leaching
10:55 a.m.	Coffee break
11:05am	Will Oliver—Why we farm the way we do
11:35 a.m.	Neil Groom, Jon Myhill & John Morgan—Lessons to be learnt from recent MGA research & development
12:05 p.m.	Ellie Sweetman—The importance of ‘proper’ research
12:30 p.m.	EA/ Defra (TBC) - The implementation of environmental legislation
1 p.m.	Lunch
1:44 p.m.	Chris Reynolds—Introduction to centre of dairy research (CEDAR) visit
1:55 p.m.	Site visit to CEDAR
3:20 p.m.	End of Conference

Please book via the Eventbrite link below :

bit.ly/3WgjVvL

Or search Maize Growers Association Conference on Eventbrite

If you have any questions please contact us via:

www.maizegrowersassociation.co.uk

info@maizegrowersassociation.co.uk

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points applied for

Introducing Our Speakers



Dr Heike Molenaar

Heike is the legume specialist for bean breeder Van Waveren. Van Waveren have been instrumental in developing the bean varieties, grown alongside maize that are becoming increasingly popular in Germany for their biodiversity, silage protein enhancement and nitrogen fixation potential. Heike's paper will focus on the agronomy of the maize bean mix as well as future challenges.

Ben Hunt



Ben Hunt is the Catchment Source Manager for Wessex Water. He advises and incentivises farmers to protect and improve raw drinking water quality, in catchments suffering from high levels of nitrates and/or pesticides. By measuring Additionally Available N in soils, Ben has been helping catchment farmers identify opportunities to reduce N rates while maintaining yields and has recently been involved in several reduced N farm trials. Ben is also a 2022 Nuffield Farming Scholar studying how to accelerate the adoption of climate smart agriculture, looking at business models for incentivising this, including soil

Will Oliver



Harper Adams graduate Will Oliver manages a multi enterprise family farming business in Leicestershire. Key focus's include managing growing costs by using home produced organic manures, soil health , soil organic matter and cover crops. Grain maize is a key crop on the 800 ha's of arable cropping being grown alongside Wheat, Beans and Potatoes.

Ellie Sweetman Roberts



Ellie Sweetman Roberts, Forage Crop Specialist at NIAB, responsible for maize (and other forage crops) national and descriptive list and commercial trial programmes, technical advice and project work. A background in livestock/mixed farming, with previous roles in higher education and training, agri-environment and knowledge exchange. Research interests in diverse forage cropping systems, grassland, soils, mixed species swards/herbal leys, biodiversity, optimising milk, meat and health through understanding soil-crop-animal interactions and economic and environmental sustainability of the UK livestock industry

Neil Groom



MGA Council Member and Technical Director for Grainseed Ltd, Neil Groom will review aspects of the MGA research programme. Neil's experience and knowledge gained from his time heading up the maize work at NIAB and subsequently for Grainseed Ltd is considerable and practical and therefore his presentation to conference should be significant.

Jon Myhill



Jon Myhill: Jon is the MGA agronomist and was the project lead for the non-grass undersowing trials run in 2021 & 2022. Jon is going to explore the results of these trials, as well as provide guidance as to his thoughts on the agronomy the 2023 maize crops.

John Morgan



Independent consultant with Creedy Associates, John heads up the MGA office team and, for the last three years, was the project lead for the MGA South West Trial Site in Shepton Mallet. John will talk through the results from the last three years trials at site and highlight the lessons learnt.

TBC—EA/ Defra speaker- How do the regulators regulate

Introducing Our Sponsor

The MGA would like to thank VADERSTAD for kindly sponsoring this conference. It is with their help that super events like this continue to be held.

