



MAIZE GROWERS ASSOCIATION MAIZE CONFERENCE 2013



Wednesday 27th February 2013

At

The Boutflour Hall, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. GL7 6JS

OPTIONAL FARM TOUR BEFORE CONFERENCE

- 8.00 a.m. **MEET AT KEMBLE FARMS, GL7 6BW FOR A TOUR OF BIOGAS PLANT BY KEMBLE FARMS HERD MANAGER.**
- 10.00 a.m. **REGISTRATION & COFFEE.**
- 10.30 a.m. **EUROPEAN MAIZE MEETING REVIEW - HUGH McCLYMONT, MGA CHAIRMAN.**
- 10.50 a.m. **INDEPENDENT MAIZE VARIETY TESTING AND BREEDING PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE.
*Brendan Paul – (Grass and Forage specialist with Agrii).***
- 11.25 a.m. **FARMING COWS AND MANAGING PEOPLE ON THE GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL SITE.
*Michael & Neil Christensen – (Steanbow Farms).***
- 11.50 a.m. **COFFEE BREAK.**
- 12.10 p.m. **LESSONS TO BE LEARNT FROM MAIZE BASED DAIRY DIETS FROM AROUND THE WORLD
*Diana Allen – (Quality Nutrition Management)***
- 12.40 p.m. **CROP FED BIOGAS PRODUCTION AT SEVERN TRENT 2 YEARS ON
*John Jackson – (Farms Manager for Severn Trent Water).***
- 1.00 p.m. **LUNCH.**
- 2.00 p.m. **MGA RESEARCH RESULTS 2012 – DETAILED REPORTING OF THE RESULTS FROM THE 2012 MGA AGRONOMY RESEARCH PROGRAMME. TRIALS TO BE REPORTED ON INCLUDE –PRE & POST EMERGENCE HERBICIDE OPTIONS, DEFRA 2 SITE CULTIVATIONS, BIODIVERSITY & SOIL CHALLENGES TRIAL. SULPHUR REQUIREMENTS FOR MAIZE AND EYESPOT FUNGICIDE TRIAL.
*Simon Draper – (MGA Agronomist) & Neil Groom – (MGA Council).***
- 2.45 p.m. **“SHORT & SWEET”
A FUN AND ENTERTAINING CHANCE TO CATCH UP ON ALL THAT IS CURRENT IN THE UK MAIZE SECTOR VIA A QUICK FIRE FIVE MINUTE PRESENTATION BY MEMBERS OF THE TRADE.**

Please complete and send, together with payment, to the MGA Office, Town Barton Farm, Sandford, Crediton, Devon. EX17 4LS. Tel 01363 775040 fax 01363 776938

Member price £45 + VAT, non-member price £60 + VAT. Please note that tickets are non-refundable.

I would like to book _____ member place/s (£54.00) and _____ non-member places (£72.00)

Name: _____ Address: _____

_____ Post code _____ Tel No _____

I enclose a cheque payment of _____

If you prefer to pay by Credit card please contact the MGA Office Tel 01363 775040

MAIZE CONFERENCE

The speakers for the maize conference will be:

BRENDAN PAUL

INDEPENDENT MAIZE VARIETY TESTING AND BREEDING PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE.

Brendan who is the Grass and Forage specialist with Agrii is a respected and key member of the NIAB maize variety panel, having chaired the groups maize variety selection meeting for several years. In this role he has the unenviable task of managing the four way discussions between the variety breeders, MGA representatives, Independent panellists and NIAB team. Brendan has developed a detailed knowledge of the UK maize seed sector and is therefore ideally placed to talk about, not only the national maize variety testing programme, but also future developments and priorities in UK maize variety breeding.

MICHAEL & NEIL CHRISTENSEN

FARMING COWS AND MANAGING PEOPLE ON THE GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL SITE.

MGA council member Michael and his brother Neil farm nr Pilton, Somerset on amongst other land, 50% of the Glastonbury Festival Site. Their 500, all year around calving and housed cows, produce in the region of 10,000 litres/yr of milk from a mix of maize and grass silage, plus concentrate supplementation. Such high technical performance has been recognised nationally via them being finalists in both the 2012 Farmers Weekly Dairy Farmer of the Year and Gold Cup competitions. Michael plans to talk about the growing and use of maize on this truly unique farm.

DIANA ALLEN

LESSONS TO BE LEARNT FROM MAIZE BASED DAIRY DIETS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

Diana is an independent nutritionist, who having worked for Genus/Promar set up Quality Nutrition Management in 2006, following the completion of her Nuffield Farming Scholarship in order to provide top quality nutrition advice to predominantly dairy farms around the UK. Diana has kindly agreed to talk about comparing maize based diets and cow performance from different countries. Diana will also inevitably talk about the challenges of feeding 2012 maize and lessons to be learnt for the future.

JOHN JACKSON

CROP FED BIOGAS PRODUCTION AT SEVERN TRENT 2 YEARS ON

John is Farms Manager for Seven Trent Water having devised and overseen the development of the 2 MWe production, biogas plant at Stoke Bardolph nr Nottingham. Having hosted an MGA visit to the site in 2010 and spoken at conference in the past John has kindly agreed to return and to talk about maize fed biogas production at the plant two years on. John's experiences of producing biogas from maize in the UK including the sourcing of feedstock and management of the digestate are quite simply second to none and his paper should prove to be a really useful source of information for those considering, developing or producing crop derived biogas in the UK.

SIMON DRAPER

SIMON'S TOP TIPS FROM 2012 PLUS MGA HERBICIDE R & D

Simon Draper is known to most members as the independent MGA agronomist who oversees the MGA Research and Development Programme. Simons experience gained from visiting maize crops over many years is second to none and his paper is focused on reporting on the results of recent MGA research and the lessons to be learnt from 2012 will no doubt yet again provide agronomic gems, the use of which will result in lower cost, better quality maize being grown by members.

NEIL GROOM –

MGA RESEARCH PROGRAMME REVIEW

MGA Council Member and Technical Director for Grainseed Ltd, Neil Groom will talk alongside Simon Draper to 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 as a consequence his presentation to conference should be significant. Neil will be reviewing MGA research into applying sulphur to maize crops and using fungicides to control maize eyespot.

BASIS & NROSO POINTS HAVE BEEN APPLIED FOR

