

MGA TIMES

Maize Growers Association

September 2019

In this issue: *Trials Breakfast Review - Case Study: Stephen Temple - European Maize Meeting review - Agronomy Note: Forward Planning for Next Years Crop*

Great Gutton Farm
Shobrooke
Credon
Devon
EX17 1DJ
01363 775040
@maizegrowers
Maize Growers Association
info@maizegrowersassociation.co.uk
www.maizegrowersassociation.co.uk



Trials Open Breakfast

Thank you to everyone that came along to our trials open morning last month! We had an excellent turnout of around 50 people in Attleborough to listen to MGA council members Oli, Neil and Simon, along with John Morgan (MGA office) and Ellie Sweetman (NIAB forage crop specialist) talk about the trials. The meeting lasted for around two hours with a bacon roll from the local bakery to start. A summary of the meeting is included in this mailing.



Simon Draper introducing nitrogen curve trial to attendees

BSPB/NIAB Trials Tour

Sarah from the MGA Office attended the first leg of the BSPB/NIAB trials tour which was held in Kingsbridge, South Devon on 17th September. It was interesting to see how popular varieties were doing in the trials this year, as well as National List trial varieties which were new to the scene. It's also excellent to see how the MGA contribution is being used in these independent, reliable trials. Results will be combined with those of previous years and used to produce the recommended list later in the year.

A milk line DM test on some early maturing varieties gave around 30% DM whilst some 'second cut' trials (designed to be harvested around ten days after the first cut varieties) had a DM of about 26/27%. From your dry matter results so far around the country I would suggest we are all around the same ball-park!

The tour continued around sites in Netherstowey (NIAB), Lackham College (Grainseed) and Woolaston, Gloucester (Hunt Agri).



Doing milk line test

European Maize Meeting

On 3rd and 4th of September, 25 people from across seven countries came together to discuss this year's topic of 'Practical Nutrient Management'. There were excellent presentations, and everyone enjoyed an evening game of croquet before heading to Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem, a pub situated in the caves under Nottingham Castle, for a hearty meal and much talk of Brexit!

The final day began with a presentation on the fascinating maize root research that is being done at Nottingham University, followed by an introduction to the dairy research being done, and then a tour of the new dairy unit.

For copies of the presentations/papers given, please contact the office.



Group photo listening to Phil Garnsworthy at the dairy unit



Maize Master

Three fast growing Italians

Lasts two years
Multiple cuts
Soaks up surplus N
Reduces soil erosion

Agrii

Harvest course

A successful morning was had by attendees at the Harper Adams harvest course. Simon talked through the theory behind a successful harvest. This was followed by two willing John Deere representatives who gave a short presentation followed by a walk around a forager explaining best practice for servicing and setting up. We are considering repeating the course earlier in the year in the future for those that were unable to attend this one.



Attendees listening to John Deere speaker and exploring the forager



Dry Matter Testing

Thank you to those of you that have been sending in your dry matter results. I have been updating a spreadsheet and sending it via email and putting it on the website. If you have not been receiving the emails (there were two on Monday and a few last week) please check your spam folder or drop me an email so that I have your correct address. I have posted screenshots of an example email and the spreadsheet so that you know what you are looking for. Phoning and emailing with your dry matters helps to give an idea of dry down rates around the country and where some areas are harvesting.

Dear member,

Hope all is well. I'm sending out another list of dry matters last thing today so send yours over if you have any! Ours is in the air fryer as we speak 🍌🍌

Best wishes,

Sarah

	B	E	F	G	H
Location		Peilworth, Sussex	Halesden, Norfolk	Tidknull, Derbyshire	Narberth, S. Wales
Drilling Date	28-Apr	02-May	28-Apr	10-May	
Variety	Es Ballade	Es Ballade	Es Ballade	Es Pi	
	28.3	25.3	19.9		
28-Aug					
02-Sep					

Request for Help

Reading and Harper Adams Unis are looking for dairy farms across UK to participate in project to reduce phosphate losses. Participating farms are being asked to complete a simple form to collect data on the amount of annual phosphorus being imported exported on farm. In cases where the phosphorus content of feeds, manure and soil is unknown, a one-hour farm visit to collect samples for analysis can be arranged.

Farms involved in the project receive a report on their phosphorus performance to help identify areas to improve phosphorus efficiency on-farm. Anonymous data from all participating farms is also included, for benchmarking performance.

For more information or to get involved please contact Brad Harrison (b.harrison@pgr.reading.ac.uk).

The Dairy Show, Bath and West Showground

We will have a stand in the Edmund Rack Pavilion on 2nd October at The Dairy Show. Please come along and see us! Our plan this year is to run example maize dry matter tests so if you are able to bring a plant or cob then please do so! Also invite any potential new members to have a chat with us and see what we do.

Get it before it's gone!

Inoculant for improved aerobic stability



+ L.buchneri
for improved feedout and clamp life

MTD/1
PJB/1

Improves Fermentation

more, better-quality silage to feed.

DID YOU KNOW...?

There is a Guinness World Record for the most sweetcorn kernels eaten in three minutes using a cocktail stick. It is held by American David Rush who ate 241!

Dates for your diary:

2nd October - Bath and West Dairy Show (Come and see us in the Edmund Rack Pavilion)

31st October - Hallowe'en

25th December - Christmas

February 2020 - Conference

For further information:
Freephone | 0800 919808
Email | info@ecosyl.com
Visit | www.ecosyl.com



For consistently better silage