# MGA TIMES

Maize Growers Association

January 2020

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## LAST CHANCE FOR CONFERENCE!

With only two full weeks to go until conference, things are getting busy in the office preparing your conference papers and booking lunches! There are still places available for the day, which starts with an optional tour of Dairy Research Facility at the Nottingham University's Sutton Bonington Campus at 8.30am. We will commence registration for the main conference at 10am Hilton East Midlands Airport if you are unable to make the farm tour.

With such a cutting-edge line up of speakers this year, we are expecting

Nottingham University Centre for Dairy Science Innovation

some excellent knowledge and messages to come out of this conference. We have a special focus on 'Blue Sky Thinking' during which three researchers will be explaining the theory behind their research and their progress so far. We think that this is important for members to know because we may be heavily reliant on such research taking place as we navigate through the next few years with a changing climate and changing agricultural support and regulations.

#### **Photo Competition**

We are running a photo competition for a free place at the conference in February. We want photos which fit into the following criteria or show initiative in maize field management.

- Post-harvest cultivation
- Post-harvest crop establishment, e.g. cereal, hybrid rye
- Post-harvest catch/cover crops to aid over-winter nutrient retention and improve soil organic matter, pre a 2020 maize crop
- Undersown cover crop, either at time of drilling or at 6-8 leaf stage
- Or other management options not included above

See enclosed flyer or MGA website for more information

#### **DEADLINE IS 29TH JANUARY!!**

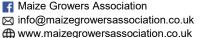


An example photo taken in 2018 of undersown Italian Ryegrass in North Wiltshire

#### DID YOU KNOW ...?

There is a type of maize called 'pod corn' which forms leaves around each kernel and is due to a mutation in the 'normal' maize genome. It is not typically grown commercially but tends to be grown for ornamental purposes.







### **Drilling Courses**

We are hoping to repeat drilling courses again this year, and move one of the courses further North. If this is something that you would be interested in, keep an eye out in our newsletters and on our Twitter page for more information.

#### Late-Harvested Maize

Enclosed is an article from Mike Wilkinson on the nutritional value of late harvested maize. It is invaluable to anyone who has harvested their maize in the last couple of months or plans to buy/ has bought any grain from lateharvesters. Please let us know in the office if you have any questions.



