



MGA TIMES

Maize Growers Association

December 2023

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MGA CONFERENCE 2024

We were very pleased to announce the dates of our 2024 Maize Growers Association conference in October as **Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th February 2024.**

The 2024 conference will be held at Eastwood Hall in Nottingham on the 28th February to include a host of excellent speakers and a chance to network with industry leaders while looking around a variety of trade stands. In an exciting change we are having our farm visits the day before on the Tuesday 27th. These visits include a tour of Severn Trent's AD site and a trip to a local dairy farm. Spreading our event over two days gives us more opportunity to showcase more of what the MGA does.



Picture taken at the MGA Conference 2023

Tickets for the conference are available via Eventbrite using the following link or QR Code.



Picture taken at CEDAR. MGA conference 2023

Bring a friend!

We look forward to seeing as many members as possible, but please remember that the event is open to non-members too. If you know anyone who, you think, would benefit from attending the conference and potentially become an MGA member, please feel free to let them know about the event, so they can come along. Remember as members you will receive a discount off of your conference tickets. If you have any questions regarding the 2024 conference, please feel free to contact the office



<https://bit.ly/3G5apVA>

A big thank you to our conference sponsors this year SAMCO System, VADERSTAD and SILOSTOP Agri. Without your support this event would not be able to take place.



CONFERENCE SPEAKER PROFILE



We are pleased to introduce one of our conference speakers Louise Penn

Louise is a BASIS, FACTS, Soil and Water and Conservation Management qualified agronomist with a portfolio of clients in the Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire area. She is particularly interested in regenerative agriculture and soil health, and believes we have a big opportunity to be more sustainable in our farming practices and still maintain high levels of profitability and productivity. She is involved on her mixed family farm where sheep and grass leys have been integrated into the arable rotation allowing the transition from a plough to a direct drill-based system and improvements in soil health. Providing her technical and practical knowledge across both enterprises.

Louise graduated from Newcastle University with a First Class Honours in Agriculture with Farm Management and then travelled to Western Australia to travel and do a harvest driving a chaser bin on a 10,000 Ha farm. Her career started on a national agronomy programme before joining Ceres Rural, where she has a farm consultancy role offering farm and crop management advice to her clients.

Variety Booklet 2024

We are very pleased to include our variety booklet for the coming 2024 year.

As with previous years, we have only published the first-choice maize varieties; if you would like to see the list and qualities of the second-choice varieties for 2024, please contact the office. Alternatively, we will soon be putting them on our website.

If you have any questions re maturity groups and or matching fields with maturity groups or anything else within the variety book please do not hesitate to get in touch. If you would like a digital copy of the booklet, please email the MGA office.

Non members are also able to purchase a copy of the variety booklet at a cost of £30.



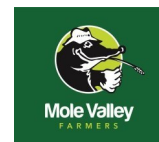
Wishing all our members a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from everyone at the MGA Office!

We hope you all enjoy the festive season. This is just a quick message to say that office will be closed between 22nd December until 4th January. We will however be checking emails between these dates and will pick up answer phone messages, we will get back to you as and when we can during this period. The office email is info@maizegrowersassociation.co.uk and the office phone number is 01363 775040

The whole of the MGA team would like to thank you for your support this year and look forward to working with you in 2024.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY



AT

EASTWOOD HALL, Lawrence Suite, Mansfield Road, Eastwood, Nottingham,
NG16 3SS

You are invited to our 2024 annual Maize Conference. It is being held Wednesday on 28th February 2024, from 8.45 am — 4:00 pm. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. We have an enthusiastic and knowledgeable panel of speakers. Many thanks to SAMCO, VADERSTAD and SILOSTOP for supporting the event.

Time	Speaker and Subject
8.45 a.m.	Registration & coffee
9:45 a.m.	Welcome - John Jackson, MGA Chairman
9.50 a.m.	Main sponsors and Mole Valley message
10.10 a.m.	Beth Metson - Soil Association Exchange - encouraging positive changes to farm businesses that offer continuous environmental improvement and deliver profitability into the future.
10:30 a.m.	Neil Groom and Jon Myhill – MGA Trials to include seed dressing story
11:00 a.m.	Coffee break
11:20 a.m.	Martin Williams – River Wye Catchment – Nutrient Management
11:50 a.m.	Louise Penn – SFI opportunities and other “wins” for farmers
12:20 p.m.	Lunch
1.20 p.m.	Michael Jarmuz – Future Biogas story- AD plants without Government support
1.50 p.m.	Roman Gambirasio – The Swiss Future Farm, maize trials and why Switzerland isn't a maize country any more
2.20 p.m.	Coffee break
2:35 p.m.	John Jackson and Jon Myhill -1 st year of under sowing and technical guidance
3.05 p.m.	Boots & Heels - Being influencers in today's climate and using the power of social media in the industry to teach and interact with the general public
3:30 p.m.	Networking and trade stand viewing

Please book via the Eventbrite link below:

<https://bit.ly/3G5apVA>

or search Maize Growers Association Conference on Eventbrite If you have any questions, please contact us via: www.maizegrowersassociation.co.uk



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01363 775040

Use this QR code to book tickets now



Introducing Our Speakers



John Jackson - John Jackson is Farm Manager at Severn Trent Green Power and MGA council chairman. He manages over 2000 hectares of maize and wholecrop which is used in their anaerobic digestion plant near Nottingham. John has worked at the farm for 35 years and has under-sown his maize with a Westerwold Ryegrass mix for the first time this year. John has had great success maximising maize yields since he started growing the crop at Stoke Bardolph in the 1980s for the former dairy unit and more recently for the anaerobic digester.



Beth Metson - Beth is Head of Agricultural Advice at Soil Association Exchange . Beth has worked in agricultural advice particularly farm environment and sustainability for 15 years. Her focus has been to take a partnership approach when working with the industry to achieve outcomes that compliment both the objectives of the farm business but also the environment that surrounds it. Her objective is to offer advice that matters. My particular focus and interests are stacking benefits on land, resource protection and resource use efficiency & creating markets for ecosystem services.



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.



Jon Myhill - Jon is the MGA agronomist, technical lead and was the project lead for the non-grass undersowing trials run in 2021, 2022 & 2023. Jon is going to explore the results of these trials, as well as provide guidance as to his thoughts on the agronomy the 2024 maize crops.



Martin Williams - Martin is a farmer and contractor in Herefordshire. He is also an ex AHDB monitor farmer. He is the co chairman of www.farmherefordshire.co.uk which is trying to help with soil and water quality in agriculture. Martin is also member of the Wye Catchment Nutrient Management Board.



Louise Penn - Louise is a BASIS, FACTS, Soil and Water and Conservation Management qualified agronomist with a portfolio of clients in the Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire area. She is particularly interested in regenerative agriculture and soil health, and believes we have a big opportunity to be more sustainable in our farming practices and still maintain high levels of profitability and productivity.



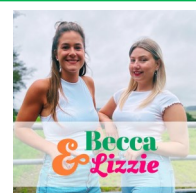
Michael Jarmuz - Michael is feedstock development lead at Future Biogas Ltd. He is currently focusing on the development of new crop-fed AD plants across the UK. Drawing on his knowledge as an experienced agricultural manager having previously been responsible for the procurement (inc. growing) of feedstocks across multiple AD plants in Yorkshire. A strong technical knowledge including BASIS & FACTS qualifications due to my background in agronomy coupled with a wealth of practical experience having worked for various small and large scale farming enterprises.



Roman Gambirasio - Roman is working as an agronomist and product specialist for GVS Agrar, the largest machinery importer in Switzerland. As GVS Agrar, they are also project partner of the Swiss Future Farm.

The Swiss Future Farm (SFF) is a project of the Arenenberg Education and Consulting Centre (BBZ), GVS Agrar AG and AGCO Corporation. The project partners use the common synergies to take up the opportunities created by digital change for agriculture and to create practical solutions for farmers.

At the SFF test facility in Tänikon, state-of-the-art machines and software are used under real conditions. Farmers, experts and visitors are given an insight into the collection of data, which is continuously evaluated and integrated into the development of new technologies and farming methods



Boots & Heels - Boots and Heels is a podcast and video series which aims to bridge the gap between farmers and non-farmers, showing how people from different backgrounds can find a foothold in this diverse and exciting industry. Presented by Farmer's Weekly community editor Lizzie McLaughlin, the "heels" of the team, and 5th generation farmer Becca Wilson, the "boots" of the duo. They have over 60k followers on Instagram.

Introducing Our Sponsors

The MGA would like to thank Silostop Agri, Vaderstad, Samco system for kindly sponsoring this conference. It is with their help that super events like this continue to be held.





Conference Trade Stands 2024



LALLEMAND ANIMAL NUTRITION

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Vaderstad
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Corteva & Pioneer
Limagrain UK
Syngenta
Lallemand
Mole Valley
Nutricor
Frontier**



Knowledge grows



Bringing plant potential to life

All of the above companies will be having trade stands at our 2024 MGA conference. There will be dedicated time to view all the trade stands and speak to the companies about their products and services during the conference on the 28th.