



MGA TIMES

Maize Growers Association

March 2024

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MGA CONFERENCE 2024



Thank you to everyone who attended the MGA conference 2024 in Nottingham. Our 2 day conference was a massive success with excellent attendance on both days. We have a big thank you to say to the following people who helped to make both days both informative and enjoyable. Simon Ellis the host farmer on our first day farm tour, John Jackson and his team at Severn Trent for taking the time to host us also on the first day at their AD plant. To our main conference sponsors Samco System, Vaderstad and Silostop Agri for supporting the event, to all of our 17 trade stands and of course our conference speakers. Below are some pictures from both days, so if you weren't able to attend you can see some of what the days entailed. If you would like a copy of the conference papers please contact Kate in the office and she will transfer them over to you. If you attended the conference but unfortunately your USB stick was blank, again please contact Kate and she will make sure you get a digital copy of the papers. After the success of the 2024 conference, the MGA council and team are very please to announce that next years conference will be the same 2 day format. It is to be held in the Glastonbury area in Somerset. We will announce more details throughout the year as we have them.

DAY 1 - Simon Ellis's Farm and Severn Trent AD Plant, all pictures taken by Kate Baker MGA



Day 2 - Main conference day - Eastwood hall, Nottingham, all pictures taken by Kate Baker MGA



A MESSAGE FROM THE MGA CHAIRMAN



Hello to all our members,

I am writing to you all today to inform you of a few changes that we have decided to make regarding the MGA memberships. After our last council meeting held this month it was brought to the council's attention that membership prices have not been increased since 2018. With the rising running cost, the MGA council has decided to raise membership subscription prices for this cropping year. The letter attached to this mailing will detail the rise in cost depending on what type of membership you have. If you usually get an invoice in January, February or March you will have realised that you, thus far have not received one and that is due to this membership increase. You will receive your new subscription invoices in April. Any other members will receive your subscription invoices during your normal subscription charge month. I have also been asked to remind you that we are now using Xero for all our accounts and to please check you junk folders to ensure your subscription invoices have not gone into there by mistake.



On another note after extensive discussion the MGA council has agreed that where possible we will be emailing out our newsletters and other correspondence. This is to ensure that members are receiving the correspondence. We are finding more and more that when we are posting our newsletters they are not always being received by the correct people. This is mainly due to changes of address and the MGA unfortunately not being notified. It has been agreed that there will be 4 postal mailings a year to all of our members. The rest of our mailings and other correspondence will be via email unless you let us know that you would like to receive your newsletters only via post. There is a form attached to this months times which will ask you to confirm your contact details, including email address, telephone number and postal address. On this form (which can be emailed back to Kate in the office) there is the option to receive all your mailings via post. If you do not opt in for this option then you will receive all of your newsletters and correspondence from us via email. We do however need an up to date email address from you to make this work. We have taken this decision to help to protect MGA funds. This is so we can better ensure that all of the money raised through subscription charges can go back into our R&D trials and the independent running of the MGA. It is most important to us that we continue to give you, as growers and industry leaders the most up to date information, whilst maintaining the MGA's independence.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message and for your continued support for the MGA.

Best Wishes

John Jackson (MGA Chairman)

SOIL TEMPERATURE TESTING



We have nearly got to that time of year again, when we start our soil temperature testing and send our results out to all of our members. We will be starting this from the 2nd of April. If you would like to be a part of our soil temperature volunteer team please contact Kate for more details on info@maizegrowersassociation.co.uk

NITROGEN PREDICTOR



Again we have reached that time of year where we will be offering our Nitrogen predictor service to all of our members. If you would like help with how much Nitrogen to put on your fields this year please contact the office and Kate will email you an N Predictor spreadsheet. You only need to fill out a few details regarding your fields history and we will do the rest. Once all the details are processed at the MGA office, you will receive your results. This is a great way of checking how much Nitrogen your fields actually need and could save you money in the process. Contact Kate on info@maizegrowersassociation.co.uk to receive your form or to ask for more information.

The MGA Technical Team



We would like to introduce two new advisors to the MGA Team Christine Pedersen and John Morgan



Christine, brings her passion and expertise to the MGA as the new Ruminant Nutrition Advisor. Her academic background in Animal Science, honed with international experience, fuels her dedication to supporting MGA members. Being a principal dairy business consultant and senior nutritionist at The Dairy Group, Christine has a proven track record working with top dairy herds. Committed to Net Zero, she believes in sharing advancements and shaping a sustainable future for UK agriculture.

John Morgan is welcomed back as the MGA's Maize Sustainability Consultant. John will be writing papers and presentations on highlighting maize's low carbon footprint, biogas potential, efficient nutrient management, SFI interaction and low agrochemical use. John will be championing practices like cover cropping and buffer strips to minimise environmental impact and showcase the positives of maize.



As a member you have access to all our consultants, either via phone or email. If you have any specific questions for Christine, John or Jon Myhill please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Becca & Lizzie's Charity Event



Becca and Lizzie who spoke at the MGA conference this year are trying to raise support for a charity event that they are holding in April. Please see below for more information. To receive further information regarding this event or information regarding sponsoring it please contact Becca and Lizzie directly using the detail provided.

We're excited to bring you an opportunity to sponsor our industry-first event with **Married at First Sight's** star Rozz Darlington!

This April, we're hosting a Live Q and A and on-farm floral Demonstration in aid of charity- a unique and exciting event created to make a **big impact** to both country lovers and townies alike!

This event brings together the award-winning podcast hosts, Becca and Lizzie, alongside special guest Rozz Darlington to create an up close and personal experience for attendees and a powerful platform for brands like yours.

The event will run two sessions over a weekend.

Following a flower arranging demonstration, the live podcast-style chat will take the conversation to a whole new level and bridge the gap with Rozz and the audience.

Hosted on Rozz's farm, guests will receive a welcome drink on arrival, a luxury floral cupcake and goodie bag and will also be able to take pictures throughout.

Plus, it's all in aid of charity!

Please don't hesitate to schedule a call at your convenience to discuss this exciting opportunity further. We're available at **07359 108 733** or sayhello@beccaandlizzie.co.uk

Becca and Lizzie



Membership Subscriptions From January 1st 2024

Grower – Single holding growing maize/wholecrop cereal silage for forage, biogas feedstock and or grain maize. **£150+VAT.**

Commercial grower –Multi site grower who would like mailings and other membership benefits to extend to multiple managers/units. MGA publications should not be copied or circulated to other units/growers/feedstock suppliers and or colleagues although knowledge gained as a result of membership and publicly available MGA information can be.

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
5 units	10 units	15 units	25 units
£600	£900	£1200	£1750
£120	£90	£80	£70

Associate – one person agronomist/nutritionist – would receive electronic and paper mailings and membership benefits. MGA publications should not be copied or circulated to clients although knowledge and publicly available MGA information can be. - **£250+VAT** unchanged from current rate.

Small commercial – company turnover of <£500000 multi person business up to 5 members of which would receive electronic and paper mailings and membership benefits. MGA publications should not be copied or circulated to clients and or colleagues although knowledge gained as a result of membership and publicly available MGA information can be. **£550+VAT.**

Medium commercial – company turnover £500001- £1500000 multi person business up to 5 members of which would receive electronic and paper mailings and membership benefits. MGA publications should not be copied or circulated to clients and or colleagues although knowledge gained as a result of membership and publicly available MGA information can be. **£775+VAT**

Large company – >£1500000 multi person business up to 5 members of which would receive electronic and paper mailings and membership benefits. MGA publications should not be copied or circulated to clients and or colleagues although knowledge gained as a result of membership and publicly available MGA information can be. **£950+ VAT.**

Educational – Educational institution library would receive electronic and paper mailings and membership benefits. MGA publications should not be copied or circulated to clients and or colleagues although knowledge gained as a result of membership and publicly available MGA information can be. **£150 + VAT up from £135 + VAT**



MEMBERSHIP CONTACT DETAILS

Please can you confirm your up to date contact details to us via email, phone or post.

We need the following details:

a current postal address for you or your company,

a working email address

A current contact phone number

If you wish to still receive your mailings via post please let Kate in the office know either via phone, email or post using the following details

FAO: Kate Baker

Office 2, Unit 50 Commonmarsh Lane

Lords Meadow Industrial Estate

Crediton

EX17 1DN

Or via email

info@maizegrowersassociation.co.uk

Or via phone

01363 775040

If you no longer wish to be a member of the MGA please contact us to let us know. If you do not you could still incur subscriptions fees that will still need to be paid.

Many thanks

The MGA office team.