# INTERNATIONAL BIODYNAMIC RESEARCH CONFERENCE THE WHOLE AND ITS PARTS

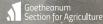
Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester · United Kingdom 31 August — 4 September 2025











**Conference Partners** 

### A Warm Welcome











Biodynamic Association, United Kingdom Biodynamic Federation Demeter International Forschungsring Section for Agriculture at the Goetheanum Royal Agricultural University Dear Participants,

We warmly welcome you to the 3rd International Biodynamic Research Conference.

This gathering takes place at a time when the call for a more conscious, more holistic approach to agriculture is growing stronger. Biodynamic agriculture offers such an approach—rooted in an understanding of the farm as a living organism, in co-creation with nature, and in a recognition that human beings are part of the wider communion of life. It is an agriculture that calls us to take responsibility—for the way we cultivate the soil, for how we nourish communities, and for how we relate to the Earth as a living being.

The aim of this conference is to create a space in which research from across knowledge systems can meet, dialogue, and deepen. Biodynamic agriculture, with its complexity and wholeness, requires approaches that are equally holistic and consider both the seen and the unseen, the measurable and the experiential, the practical and the philosophical.

In this spirit, the conference invites us to bring together diverse disciplines and perspectives, and to allow the boundaries between them to become more fluid.

The conference invites us to be curious, to be generous with our questions, and to meet one another in a spirit of shared inquiry. It is an opportunity to connect—across fields, languages, and continents—and to strengthen the research community dedicated to biodynamic farming and its wider relevance in a changing world.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who contribute to this gathering—through their research, their presence, and their ongoing work in the world.

The Steering Committee
3rd International Biodynamic
Research Conference

# The Conference

### **Conference Formats**

Each morning begins with an invitation to take part in observation exercises on the campus of the Royal Agricultural University. These moments of quiet attention open the senses and prepare us for the day ahead. The conference then begins with a short tuning-in exercise to enliven our awareness and focus our attention.

This is followed by keynote presentations that offer insights on various aspects of biodynamic research. The rest of the day is shaped by workshops, talks, and poster presentations. Talks and posters are grouped into sessions based on shared themes and are moderated by a session chair. The research presented in these sessions is also documented in the conference proceedings.

Workshops provide an opportunity to explore a specific topic in depth together with other interested participants. They last 90 minutes and follow an interactive format.

Evening activities round off each day, featuring organic and biodynamic food from the region. After the conference, participants are invited to join excursions that offer further experiences and exchanges.

### **Programme Updates**

Please refer to the latest version of the conference programme at **biodynamic-research.org/programme**. As is common with international conferences, changes may occur right up to the start of the event.

### Guideline for Workshops Facilitators

Workshops are intended as a joint exploration of the chosen topic within a circle of interested participants. They last for 90 minutes each.

If you are facilitating a workshop, please prepare a 90-minute session that includes opportunities for discussion and discovery. We invite you to view your participants not as consumers of content, but as co-creators in the shared examination of the topic. Frequent questions or small group tasks can help maintain lively interaction and prevent passive absorption of the material. A dynamic atmosphere can also be created by repeatedly dividing the group into smaller units and spending time with each, giving all participants the chance to engage with you and share their ideas.

### **Guideline for Talks**

Talks offer insights into various research projects and are grouped into sessions around related themes. Each session lasts 90 minutes and typically includes several Talks. Each talk should be about 15 minutes in length, leaving time for discussion with the audience. A session chair will moderate and manage the time.

If you contribute a talk, we kindly ask you to prepare a 15-minute presentation that summarizes the research topic, its relevance, the methodology used, key findings, and prospects for future work. Afterwards, please be available for a conversation with the audience.

### **Guideline for Poster Presentations**

Poster presentations are visual summaries of research, offering a concise and focused way to share our work. They are organised into sessions based on related themes. A session chair will moderate the session and manage the time.

If you are contributing a poster presentation, please prepare a 5-minute presentation around a poster that summarises your research. Please bring with you a printed poster, preferably in AO format. Afterwards, kindly remain available for a conversation with the audience.

### **Presentation Equipment**

Our seminar rooms are equipped with projectors and screens. Please bring a copy of your presentation on a USB stick so that our volunteers can set everything up for you. Furthermore, please bring your own laptop as a backup. The UK uses British electrical plugs, so you may need an adapter for your power cable. If you require assistance, please visit the Welcome Desk and speak with one of the conference volunteers.

### **Conference Proceedings**

The conference proceedings are a collection of the research presented through talks and poster presentations at our conference. They serve as a record of current work and emerging insights within the biodynamic research community and the wider biodynamic movement Contributions include papers, abstracts, or summaries.

The proceedings are available towards the beginning of the conference at biodynamic-research.org/proceedings.

### Seminar Rooms and Venues

Plenary sessions and keynote lectures will take place in **Boutflour Hall**. Talks and workshops are mostly taking place in the **Sir Emrys Jones Centre**. There is an annotation alongside each (EJ) together with a number. This refers to the room number in that building. A printed plan will also be posted outside the main door.

### Certificate of Attendance

All contributors and attendees can receive a certificate of attendance after the conference. Certificates will be issued in digital form as a PDF; a printed version can be provided upon request. To request your certificate, please contact us at biodynamic.research@goetheanum.ch. Kindly allow a few days after the conference for processing and delivery.

### Excursions after the Conference

If you have registered for an excursion, please visit the Welcome Desk in the Tithe Barn to confirm your participation and settle the payment. Excursions are not included in the conference ticket and shall be paid for separately on-site. If you have not reserved a place in advance but would like to join an excursion, you are welcome to check for availability and sign up if places are still available.

# **Arrival Information**

### **Electronic Travel Authorisation**

Before you travel, do not forget to complete your Electronic Travel Authorisation, unless you hold a visa or UK residency. You can apply online at gov.uk/eta/apply.

### Arrival

The closest international airports are Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, and London Heathrow. From these cities, rail and coach connections are available to either Kemble or Cirencester. From both towns, onward travel to the Royal Agricultural University requires a taxi.

The nearest train station is Kemble, located about 2 miles (3.2 km) from the university. For train schedules, visit: nationalrail.co.uk

National Express coaches run from London Victoria Station and Heathrow Airport to Cirencester. The coach stop is around 40 minutes on foot or a short 5-minute taxi ride from the University. For coach schedules, visit: nationalexpress. com/en/destinations/cirencester

Taxi services are: Cirencester Radio Cars (+44 1285 650850) and Kemble Train Station Taxi Service (+44 333 8000750). The fare is approximately £11. Most taxis accept credit cards.

For cars, the address is: Royal Agricultural University Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 GIS

Please use the Stroud Road Entrance car park upon arrival.

### Welcome Desk · Tithe Barn

Upon arrival at the Royal Agricultural University, please proceed to the Welcome Desk in the Tithe Barn to receive your conference badge. At the Welcome Desk, you can also sign up for workshops, register and pay for excursions, and receive assistance from the conference team. The Welcome Desk will open on 31 August at 16:00 and remain available during the conference.

### Guesthouse · Porter's Lodge

If your conference ticket includes accommodation, please proceed directly to the Porter's Lodge of the Royal Agricultural University to check in to your room. The standard check-in is on 31 August, and check-out is on 4 September by noon. Breakfast is included.

If you wish to arrive earlier or depart later, please contact **shortstay@rau.ac.uk** to make an individual arrangement, or speak directly with the guesthouse staff. Extra nights are charged at the guesthouse's standard rate and can be paid for on-site. For any questions regarding accommodation, please contact the Porter's Lodge staff directly.

### **About Cirencester**

The Royal Agricultural University is located on the edge of Cirencester, Gloucestershire. It was an important Roman settlement and is now a thriving market town. More about the town can be found at cirencester.gov.uk/visiting-cirencester.

### **Financial Support**

If you were granted financial support to attend the conference, you can collect your payment at the Welcome Desk. You will receive the amount confirmed to you by email from the Steering Committee. Payments will be made in cash, in British Pounds Sterling (GBP).

To receive your payment, we require the receipts of your travel expenses. A printed or digital copy is sufficient. Please bring these with you or send them in advance to biodynamic.research@goetheanum.ch. If your actual travel costs (converted into GBP) are lower than the granted amount, you may be reimbursed for the actual expenses incurred. If you have any questions, our team will be happy to assist you at the Welcome Desk.

### Weather and Packing

During the conference, it will be late summer in the UK. Daytime temperatures are expected to range between 19–25°C, with nights dropping to around 10–12°C. However, weather conditions are unpredictable, and rain is possible. Please pack a few warm clothes for cooler evenings and a raincoat or umbrella in case of wet weather. For your electronic devices, bring the appropriate plug adapters and converters. The UK uses 220–240 volts, 50 Hz, with standard UK sockets.

### Cash and Currency Information

The currency in the UK is pounds sterling (£), divided into 100 pence (p). The approximate conversion rate is  $1 \in \pm 0.87$ . You can exchange money at most banks, travel agents, post offices, or bureaux de change. While most of your needs will be covered during the conference, you may want to bring some cash for personal items. Please note that the nearest ATM is about a 30-minute walk from the university.

### Assistance

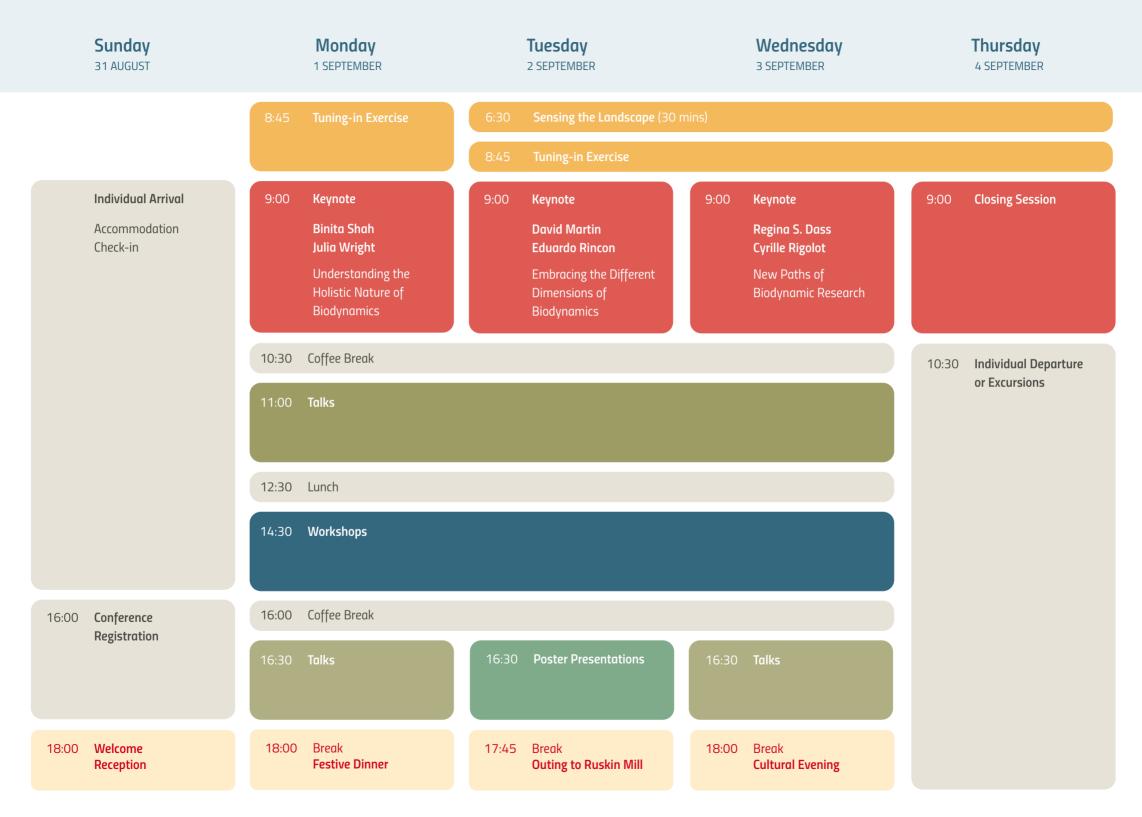
If you need assistance during your arrival, please feel free to call the conference team at +44 7896 976422.

For any questions about excursions, please contact Hannah Shepherd at hannah.shepherd@rmlt.org.uk.

The phone number of the Royal Agricultural University is **+44** 1285 652531.

### **Emergency Information**

In case of an emergency, dial 999 for police, ambulance, or fire services. For non-urgent medical needs, support is available at Phoenix Surgery, Cirencester, and Cirencester Hospital.



# **Sunday** · 31 August

# **Monday** • 1 September

Arrival

Porter's Lodge

### Check in

If your conference registration includes accommodation, please proceed to the guesthouse of the Royal Agricultural University to check into your room.

16:00

Tithe Barn

### Welcome Desk

Please visit the Welcome Desk to:

- · receive your conference badge
- · sign-up for workshops
- $\cdot$  confirm and pay for excursions
- $\cdot$  collect travel support, if applicable
- get information and support from the conference staff

18:00

**Boutflour Hall** 

### Welcome Reception and Dinner

A warm welcome to the United Kingdom and to the Royal Agricultural University from the conference organisers. This will be followed by an evening of music from **Susan Raven** and storytelling by **Chris Park**.

8:45

**Opening** • Boutflour Hall

### David Main · Eduardo Rincon

Conference opening and welcome remarks by representatives of the Royal Agricultural University, the Biodynamic Association UK, the Section for Agriculture at the Goetheanum, and the Steering and Programme Committees of the IBDRC.

9:00

**Keynotes** • Boutflour Hall

Binita Shah · Julia Wright

11:00

Talks

# → Biodynamic Preparations Moderated by Christopher Brock

EJ 7

### Benjamin Epler

Potentized biodynamic preparations in research and practice

### Ollo Elijah

The effect of biodynamic preparations on wheat roots associated microbiome

### Meike Oltmanns

Effects of biodynamic preparations: A network meta-analysis

### Yvette Wohlfahrt

Studies on the responses of grapevines on different application times of the horn silica preparation

# ↓ Knowledge Systems

EJ 10

EI9

EJ 1

# Erik W. Baars

Is the mechanistic, materialistic worldview scientifically tenable?

Anthony Mecca

14:30

Human community as a bridge:
Developing research through

social alchemy

Christopher Brock

Studying preparation effects

Chik Ying Chai

Fragrance and aroma painting

Lucas Contarato Pilon

Pfeiffer Circular Chromatography as a new impulse to biodynamic agriculture and the farm organism

Simon Charter, Philip Kilner, Liesl Haesbroek, Michael Monzies

Entering the conversation with water EJ 14

Katrina Wolff, Kate Heming

Floral compost activators and the quick return method

Carl Vollenweider, Rocío Lanthier

Incompatibility of hybrids and biodynamic breeding and research on alternatives

EI 10

Workshops

EI3

EJ 12

EI 7

EI 1

EI 13

EI9

# Moderated by Anet Spengler Neff

### Simon Reakes

Revisiting spirit of place

### Manuela de Lachapelle

Representations of biodynamics in French viticulture: From skepticism to curiosity

### Philip Kilner

Water and air as mediators of the diversity and unity of our biosphere

↓ Economy

Moderated by Julia Wright

### Corinna Nieland

Development-oriented recognition procedures as an alternative to infringement-oriented controls?

### Christian Herzig

Developing calculative practices for sustainable agriculture

# ↓ Seeds and Plants Moderated by Richard Swann

### Christina Henatsch

Induced epigenetic influences in plant (vegetable) breeding

### Rocío Lanthier

Climate change adaptation strategies for biodynamic garlic cultivation

### Walter Goldstein

Co-evolving with nature: A 37-year maize breeding journey in biodynamic agriculture

# Monday

16:30 Talks

→ The Farm Organism

Moderated by Christopher Brock

EJ 7

## **Anet Spengler Neff**

Finding the individuality of your farm

### Mark Moodie

Four dramatic UK biodynamic experiences

↓ Studying the Living

Moderated by Julia Wright Boutflour Hall

### Simon Reakes

Methodical approaches to study the living

### Amel Benzid

Anatomical, phytoecological, and biochemical Study of solenostemma argel from Hoggar

### Sophie Allain

The Goethean method as a holistic way of perception and cognition for being-in-the-world

### Valentina Canuti

Method to assess organic, biodynamic, and conventional practices on wine quality and typicality

✓ Social Aspects of Agriculture
 Moderated by Jonathan Code
 EJ 6

### Verónica Argañaraz

Community-supported agriculture and resilience: Biodynamics in Patagonia

### Jean Foyer (via Zoom)

Vine's beings: An ethnography of biodynamic winegrowing in Anjou, France

Tuesday · 2 September

**18:00** Festive Dinner · Dinning Hall

Address by **Patrick Holden**, founder and director of the Sustainable Food Trust and Patron of the Biodynamic Association.

**Morning Exercise** · Campus

**Eduardo Rincon, Jean-Michel Florin** Sensing the landscape

:45 Tuning-in · Boutflour H

**Christopher Brock** 

9:00 Keynotes · Boutflour Hall

David Martin, Eduardo Rincon

11:00 Talks

→ Rhythms in Nature and Agriculture

Moderated by Jonathan Code

### Evelyn Iglesias

Cosmic and biodynamic influences on soil and compost quality

### Raphael Balboni

Dynamic Biosinging: A voice-based approach to rhythmic and formative forces in biodynamics

Johannes Fahrentrapp, Eva Wohlleben

Element concentration changes in fungi and plant species

↓ Knowledge SystemsModerated by Anet Spengler NeffEJ 6

### Claudia Scherr

Scientific guidelines for preclinical research on potentised preparations: Benefits for biodynamic research

Martin Timmermann

Qualitative Nature Research: Expanding the scientific framework for organic agriculture

Jean-Michel Florin, Eduardo Rincon

Active perception as the basis for free action in agriculture

Matthew Adams

Coming to our senses: Measuring food quality using taste

→ Seeds and Plants

Moderated by Chik Ying Chai Boutflour Hall

### Eckart Grundmann

Effects of eurythmic gestures on plants: An overview of 25 years of research

Marjolein Doesburg-van Kleffens

Assessing cultivation impact on cucumber quality: Insights from the stress storage test

Lucas Contarato Pilon

EI 7

Tree bark mulch in black pepper crops: Strategies and perspectives

14:30 Workshops

Thangapandian Dhanikodi, Anthoniselvi Savarimuthu

Transforming rural economy: A researchdriven biodynamic agri-business model EJ 9

Anthony Mecca

Broadening views on nutrition to explore soil-farm-human health relationships EJ 10

Alex Edleson

Learning as research: What can teachers learn from researchers, and vice versa?

EJ 3

# Tuesday

Learning th plants thro	l Florin, Maja Kolar e language of medicinal ugh Goethean science
, ,	ndy the cosmos: Viewing soil chromatography
What can b	dstein, Peter Kunz iodynamic breeding be, d do in the context of our
_	enatsch th the "Stegemann-Mantram" e, plant health, and plant

**Poster Presentations** 

↓ Agriculture and Social Life Moderated by Berni Courts

### Deborah Barker

Building capacity in the biodynamic wool supply network in the UK

### Rosa van Kesteren

Contemporary voices on the history and present moment of biodynamics in the UK

### Corinna Nieland

Recognition as an alternative to third-party certification?

### **Khotsofalang Taetso**

EJ 12

EI 14

EI7

EJ 1

EJ 13

EJ6

Enhancing biodynamic awareness in urban farming communities

↓ Biodynamic Preparations Moderated by Regina Sharmila Dass

### Pawel Bietkowski

Foliar application of silica nanoparticles enhances the growth of Vitis vinifera L. (var. Cabernet)

### Hamed Hosny

Improving fruit shelf life using biodynamic preparation extracts

### Meike Oltmanns

Horn manure & horn silica: Does the application method make a difference?

 ↓ Seeds and Plants Moderated by Anne Flohr

### **Charlotte Southall**

Exploring novel plant defence stimulators for reducing downy mildew in grapevines in Brazil

### Michael Fleck

Experimental approaches to seed treament in biodynamic vegetable breeding

### Uwe Geier, Julian Keller

Integration of agri-photovoltaic systems into the agricultural farm organism

### Julian Keller, Uwe Geier

How preparations affect lettuce under stress from high-frequency electromagnetic fields

↓ Food Systems Moderated by Julia Wright

### Paweł Bietkowski

Rethinking the true costs of agriculture: Measuring environmental and social contributions

### Saber Favez Hendawy

Egyptian agroecosystems for sustainability and resilience under climate change

### Liesl Haasbroek

Understanding the spiritual differences between a chemical and biodynamic farm

### Eduardo Rincon

The Biodynamic Research Network

↓ Studying the Living Moderated by Alysoun Bolger

### Uwe Geier, Gesine Mandt

Empathic Food Testing – an approach to assessing the quality of biodynamic beef?

### Johanna Zeise

Investigating antimicrobial, colour retention and slice healing properties of cucumber

### Emiliano Dibella, Juan Martín Richter, Alex Edleson

Evaluation of the vitality of organic amendments in tomato production

### Marjolein Doesburg-van Kleffens

Developing a method and a community to access the formative forces in our food

### Paula Pihlgren

Observation and change of perspective

↓ Soil Moderated by Jürgen Fritz

### Heberto Rodas-Gaitan

Long-term effects of biodynamic preparations on soil physical properties in a 27-year trial

### Isaac Nunoo

Improving soil health: Practical solutions for sustainable agriculture

### Hend Hany

Enhancing crop productivity and carbon sequestration with basalt rock powder in the Egyptian western desert

17:45

Outing · Ruskin Mill

### Berni Courts

You are warmly invited to join a special outing to Ruskin Mill, about a 40-minute drive from the Royal Agricultural University. Ruskin Mill offers transformative education for young people with learning differences through hands-on experiences in crafts, landwork, and biodynamic farming. During the visit, you'll explore the college's beautiful farm, meet the animals, learn about their unique educational approach, and enjoy a delicious dinner made with fresh produce from the land. After the visit, the bus will bring you back to the campus of the Royal Agricultural University.

# **Wednesday** · 3 September

14:30 Talks Workshops Moderated by Christopher Brock EI6 Eduardo Rincon, Jean-Michel Florin Lara Herrlich, Christian Herzig Meike Grosse ↓ The Ecosystem and Environment Sensing the landscape Under-30s' perspectives on biodynamic Long-term effects of biodynamic practices FI7 Moderated by Jonathan Code on soil functionality and wheat quality and sustainable agriculture **Bourflour Hall** Craig Daniel Leon Lisa Winchester Meike Grosse Cloud forest recovery: Endemic Crop production and environmental impact of Moving with spiritual insights in species agroforestry and scientific the biodynamic garden EI 13 organic and conventional farming systems inquiry of emerging plants N.N. **Richard Gantlett** Raymond Auerbach, Liesl Haasbroek Sara Valentina Celis Castaño Sequestering soil organic matter Heaven and earth have met in the fire; Biodynamic vs. monoculture farming: faster than global targets may they unite in deeds of Men too! EI 1 A comparative study in macadamia 9:00 **Keynotes** · Boutflour Hall Marc Redmile-Gordon Jean-Michel Florin, Cyrille Rigolot cultivation Consciousness as a aolistic perspective: Soil health: Unlocking potential for Regina Sharmila Dass, Cyrille Rigolot Cecilia Ambort climate-positive gardening Bridging research, training, Biodynamic agriculture and autonomy: EI7 and support in biodynamics Sustainability analysis of soil ↓ Studying the Living Vivian Griffiths, Chloe Hindmarsh management Talks 11:00 Moderated by Alysoun Bolger Boutflour Hall A Narrative approach to exploring Mahendra Kumar Shrestha the historical consciousness of Michael Monzies, Simon Charter Biodynamic agriculture and ancient ↓ Biodynamic Preparations biodynamics in the UK EI3 Nepali wisdom: Reviving social and Water dynamisation and its role in agriculture EI7 Moderated by Regina Sharmila Dass Ed Berger ecological harmony Yvette Wohlfahrt Nature journaling as a ↓ Economy Studies on the responses of grapevines contemplative inquiry EI 14 Moderated by Christian Herzig EJ 1 ↓ Food and Nutrition on different application times of **Boutflour Hall** Moderated by Regina Dass Juan Martín Richter, Christina Henatsch the horn silica preparation Sherif Sanjag Research and experiences in Sustainability and economic Thangapandian Dhanikodi, Heberto Rodas-Gaitan the study of formative forces EI9 viability of olive farming systems: A Anthoniselvi Savarimuthu Microbial functional diversity comparative study in Sinai, Egypt Biodynamic farming and nutritional Martin Timmermann, Yvette Wohlfahrt, indicators in vineyard soils under Florian Leiber quality: Understanding life forces in **Christopher Houghton Budd** biodynamic land management tomatoes What does qualitative-empirical Exploring "True Trading" Rubens Fey research mean? Exploring Qualitative Jenifer Wohlers Lara Herrlich, Christian Herzig Impact of biodynamic preparations Nature Research in practice EJ 12 The Significance of horn-bearing Price building in associative food value chains on soil microbial community diversity cows: Insights into milk quality Perumal Karuppan, in vineyards of Lafite, France and holistic cow physiology Jayaraman Packirisamy, Chakaravarthi Mohan Claudia Scherr Breaking the pseudoscience barrier – Homeopathy in agriculture: Biodynamic approach setting the A systematic review of its potential

modern trend of systems science

EI 10

# Wednesday

# **Thursday** · 4 September

# 

Moderated by Alysoun Bolger

### Ricardo Pereira

Trust, leadership, and biodynamics: Exploring Temple Wilton Community Farm's CSA model

### Berni Courts

Biodynamic ecology as therapeutic education: Nurturing growth and transformation

### Iana Bundschuh

'Farmer bee schools' as a modified group consulting tool

### John Paull

The biodynamics 'show and tell' initiatives of Marna Pease

**18:00** Cultural Evening · Boutflour Hall

### Food and Music

Join us for the cultural evening, featuring a dinner with biodynamic and organic food, and enjoy a live acappella choir performing traditional pieces from the local region and culture.

FI 6

### Closing · Boutflour Hall

### Eduardo Rincon

9:00

A moment of reflection with artistic touches, sharing perspectives on the research network and the future of biodynamic research, and giving heartfelt thanks to all who contributed.

### Departure

Porter's Lodge

Please check-out by noon if your stay ends on this day. If you wish to extend your stay, please approach the guesthouse staff for an individual arrangement.

10:30

Excursions

All buses depart at 10:30 from the campus of the Royal Agricultural University.

### Tour of Ruskin Mill

Ruskin Mill College is the founding college of Ruskin Mill Trust. Located in the Cotswolds, the 140 acre site includes wooded valley, a trout farm, market gardens, sustainably managed woodlands, and biodynamic farm. Nestled in amongst the landscape are craft workshops including pottery, forge, textiles, and woodwork.

### Tour of Highgrove Farm & Organic Practice

His Majesty King Charles III came to Highgrove in 1980, and the house and gardens have since undergone many thoughtful innovations. When His Majesty first arrived, Highgrove possessed little more than a neglected kitchen garden,

an overgrown copse, some pastureland and a few hollow oaks. Today, after the hard work of many people, an interlinked series of gardens now unfolds in a succession of personal and inspiring tableaux, each reflecting HM The King's interests and enthusiasms. Highgrove now welcomes up to 40,000 visitors a year. Above all, Highgrove is the family home of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

### Tour of Rothamsted Research

Home to the world's oldest agricultural research station, the Rothamsted site boasts both historic features and world-leading facilities driving sustainable farming research. Starting at the world's longest running field experiments. which first identified the principles of modern plant nutrition, the tour will include new long-term experiments seeking to establish the basic trade-offs of more regenerative approaches, GM and GE field trials, in-field plant phenotyping and the trap network for the national insect survey. Also included will be a look at new hi-tech approaches to agricultural field experimentation and lab analysis, and a visit to the historic sample archive, home to a third of a million soil and plant acquisitions.

### Tour of Tablehurst – Emerson – Plaw Hatch

The Tablehurst and Plaw Hatch Community
Farm Limited (The Coop) was born out of a
group of dedicated individuals with a clear
vision, a keen interest in biodynamic farming
and boundless love for their local community.
Since 1995, the Coop has become the owner of
two thriving, award-winning biodynamic farm
businesses farming land owned by St Anthony's
Trust in and arounfd the charming village of
Forest Row, East Sussex.

### Avebury Stone Circle – led by Chris Park

A pilgrimage to some of the ancient sites of the Avebury complex, visiting the henge, standing stones, West Kennet Avenue and Long Barrow. Learning some of the archaeology, folklore and more. Gaining an understanding of Neolithic Britain, the first farmers and the way they monumentally changed the landscape around them, aligned to the stations of the sun, the mansions of the moon and the ever-changing seasons. Chris Park lives on an organic farm in the Vale of the White Horse, Oxfordshire. His work is wide and varied, from arts and craft, ancient technologies and educational projects to eco-building, professional storytelling, folk music and raising the awareness of the heritage of beekeeping. He is a beekeeper, skepmaker, apitherapist and a practicing Druid and celebrant, immersed and versed in the lore and mythology of these sacred isles.

### Trip to Penmaenmawr

A two day excursion to the Druid Circle at Penmaenmawr in Eryri (Snowdonia). Arriving on the Thursday afternoon, the group will walk to the Druid Circle. This is the place where Rudolf Steiner is reputed to have envisioned the role of agriculture as being central to the spiritual accommodation will be at the Trigonos in Nantlle, a Ruskin Mill Centre. On the morning of day 2 the group will return to the Druid Circle, assenting by a different route for a second experience of the site. The group will then visit the museum at Penmaenmawr.

