

Farming in the extremes



Soil & Water
Management Centre

When:

2nd December 2020

For further details and how to book:

register online via <https://bit.ly/3iXywHZ>

The last twelve months have been very difficult for many growers, a wet autumn curtailed much of 2019's winter cropping plans followed by a very dry spring which throttled yield potential for this past harvest. The Soil and Water Management Centre's annual conference, which this year is virtual, is a timely opportunity to reconsider resilience to extreme weather.

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Programme

Time	Title	Speaker
09:30	Introduction plus Guy's take on farming in the dry	Guy Smith
09:50	Climate Change how do we define it and what does it mean for UK Agriculture?	Simon Jeffery <i>Harper Adams University</i>
10:15	Climate change and extreme weather – perceptions and adaptive responses among farmers and land managers	Rebecca Wheeler <i>University of Exeter</i>
10:45	Discussion	
11:00	Break	
11:15	Practical farm measures for reducing greenhouse gases and capturing carbon	Becky Wilson <i>Duchy College</i>
11:45	Reducing the farm carbon footprint with carbon auditing	Al Brooks (Estate Manager) <i>Faccombe Estate, Hants</i>
12:05	Using soil data to plan environmental management on farms: The ASSIST E-Planner tool	Prof Richard Pyewell <i>Centre for Ecology and Hydrology</i>
<p><i>[The ASSIST Environmental Planner is a free web-based tool that provides farmers with access to detailed environmental data on their farms to support improved decision-making. The tool combines data on soils, topography, nearby habitats and landscape features to determine the relative suitability of the majority of Britain's fields for four management options: water resource protection, woodland creation, winter bird food and flower-rich pollinator habitats. Suitability of each option is presented in easy to explore heat maps for the chosen farmland area.]</i></p>		
12:35	Discussion	
12:50	Lunch	
13:20	Farming with extreme rain – Flood mitigation work	Chris Stoute <i>Game Conservation and Wildlife Trust/ University of Sheffield</i>
13:50	Farming with Natural Flood Management	Hannah Fawcett Farmer and Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer/Farm Adviser for Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
14:10	Building soil resilience to mitigate excess rain with regenerative farming	Ian Wilkinson Farm manager <i>Dunkirk Farm, Co. Durham</i>
14:30	Discussion	
14:40	Break	
14:50	Using steel – where it still has an important role in raising soil resilience	Dick Godwin
15:20	Farmer case study - Why maintaining a flexible approach to crop establishment is critical for my business	Robin Gaymer Mentmore Park Farm <i>Farmer and contractor Beds</i>
15:40	Panel discussion and concluding remarks	Guy Smith - Chairman
16:00	Finish	