



Steven Jacobs

OF&G (Organic Farmers and Growers CIC) GB-ORG-02 United Kingdom

Slightly more than 500k Ha of organic land in the UK

Of which 84% (427k Ha) is grassland (335k Ha permanent grassland & 92k Ha temporary grassland)

Circa 25% self-sufficient in combinable cereals for animal feed

Circa 40% self-sufficient overall in cereals

There is a clear need to address this disparity if we want regenerative, local, resilient farming in our country.

Actions

1. Review farm support for arable - risk and reward (management skill)
2. The largest organic farm event in the UK - National Organic Combinable Crops (NOCC)
3. Gain Lab -
 - A. Supporting multi-functional supply networks
 - B. Organic specific cereal varieties
 - C. Working with academic and research institutions
4. Networks and peer-to-peer and engagement
5. Engaging with policy makers and public

The question we must be asking is how can we deliver a more regenerative farming system.

Cereal crop varieties are bred mainly for the non-organic market. These are not entirely suitable for organic farming systems. This affects the crop agronomy in the field and its value throughout supply networks.

Government support is a key element that organic food businesses do rely upon. The environmental stewardship payments received help to cover much of the cost of putting in measures that protect and enhance the natural landscape. Environmental stewardship also offers a mechanism whereby the farmers open their farm gates and show their efforts including through educational and disabled group access.

The experience of organic farmers and food businesses licensed with OF&G provides great examples of the value of organic and the critical importance of good supply network relations.

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OF&G is the trading name of Organic Farmers & Growers CIC
Company number: 01202852.

See images below.



"WHY ORGANIC?"
It helps me make better use of my resources and get
CLOSER TO CONSUMERS
who care about how food is produced."

Tim May
 Organic farmer
 Basingstoke




"There's a definite
STRENGTH
in the organic market.
The future is
EXCITING."

Richard Morris
 Farm Manager
 Wimpole Hall Estate




"I look at it as a whole business having cows and sheep, the environmental stewardship,
and **BEING ORGANIC** *knits together*
That holistic approach
IS WHAT ALLOWS US TO FLOURISH."

John Alpe
 Organic farmer, Forest of Bowland



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