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| When? | Who? | What was covered? | What was discussed? |
| 18th July | Omsco | Brexit and structure | Company overview , Brexit and NFU organic work |
| 5th July ‘19 | Defra | Brexit update | TracesMT, 3rd country recognition, EU compliance in no deal scenario. |
| 1st July ‘19 | Defra/SA | feed meeting | TracesMt and COIs , SA presentation on insects for feed, new poultry regs and impacts. Vitamin feed additives |
| 25th June ‘19 | Organic farm visit. James Robinson | OMSCO – Brexit, NFU education overview.  NFU NW- ambassadors programme | James Robinson gave full tour of the dairy farm. |
| 18th June ‘19 | SA | FGB | Market overview, ELMS, EOAP,SA 10 year strategy. Organic September |
| 14th June ‘19 | Sandringham Farm Visit | Full over view and tour. NFU Forum breakfast meeting | Presentations from Hodemedods, NFU ELMS update  Forum- position on NetZero. |
| 14th May ‘19 | Polly bells Organic farm visit | Full over view and tour . | AHDB presented on plant protection and the Smart Hort initiative. John Taylor took the tour. |
| 5th/6th May ‘19 | COPA COGCA | New organic regulations 2021 | Main body of the meeting was given over to the delegating and implementing acts on 2921 regs. |
| 19th March ‘19 | NFU Organic Forum | AHDB data session , | Much of the meeting was given over to |
| 15th March ‘19 | EOF Bristol | Next steps in bringing EOAP to fruition | Discussion on who represents the EOF , reigniting and expediting the EOAP. Interim chair Christopher Stopes . |
| 6th March ‘19 | OTB | OTB annual briefing | Organic breakfast event planned along Feed your Happy. Bridging the funding Gap in post Brexit world. |
| 26th Feb ‘19 | SA Farmer and grower board | Organic market report, ELMS, organic cert on hydroponics | LH first SA FGB meeting. Discussions on all agenda points, growth in dairy sector, but market decline in meat |
| 22nd Jan ‘19 | DEFRA Organics team | New NFU organic contact and new organic Defra team members | John Pawsey lead discussions on NFU organics positions, the full Defra team discussed their roles and positions on 3rd country equivalence, no deal Brexit and new organic regulations. |
| 17th Jan ‘19 | OFG | NFU/OFG relationship | Working methods going forward. |
| 15th-16th December ‘18 | COPA COGECA | New Organic regulation 2021 | Also the civil dialogue meeting looked at the impact of new regulations. |
| 14th December ‘18 | OF&G Organic Congress | Transforming organic farming and food in the UK | Focusing on the organic food markets and future opportunities for the sector. Shaping of organic regulations discussing public money for public goods and the meanings behind the phrase. |
| 11th Dec ‘18 | Soil Association-Farmer and Grower board | Brexit, Organic comms and involvement in soil association projects (Farm biodiversity audits) | Discussion around organic communications and how they are used and how they can be more useful for organic growers. Climate change and how organic can change to meet mitigation requirements and whether less meat but better may be a solution. |
| 6th Dec ‘18 | Organic Forum | Brexit, Productivity and utilising data. | Discussions around Brexit and what the NFU is working on in terms of the agriculture bill and lobbying parliament. Updates on productivity work, the EU settlement scheme and board reports. |
| 22nd Aug 18 | Defra | Technical Notices for organic in no deal scenario | Government released a technical notice which showed that UK producers will no longer be allowed to trade with the EU in a no-deal until UK certification bodies gained approval from the EC, which could take up to 9 months. UK producers will also not be allowed to use the EU organic logo. The NFU will be looking into this in more detail and will continue to stress that a no-deal will be devastating for UK farming. We require free and frictionless trade with the EU |
| 10th Aug 18 | Copa Cogeca | Member concerns regarding proposed rules on implementing acts | NFU raised concerns regarding proposed rules on implementing acts; particularly regarding stocking density, manure management and access to range. Members will be travelling to Brussels to discuss these further in September |
| 6th Aug 18 | Arla | Arla’s announcement regarding fodder derogation | Member where concerned that the impact on price and young stock regarding Arla’s announcement was not realistic to the UK market. NFU raised concerns with Arla and CBs particularly the impact this announcement has on feeding young stock |
| 25th July 18 | Soil Association-Organic grass and forage seeds | Organic market report and a review of land area. Summaries of trade and future availability of organic grass and forage | Updated on organic land areas, current consumer and future events of the Soil Association. 70% inclusion rates reviewed. |
| 3rd July 18 | British Farmers & Growers-National Organic Combinable Crops | Soil health and plant diversity | Plant diversity and soil health, Organic research into combinable crops and on farm trials. |
| 26th June 18 | DEFRA Organic Feed stakeholders event | Updates of current issues and new regulations in animal feed | Updated on the new EU organic regulations, how to gain support the future of organic animal feedstuffs and current challenges that pose the market |
| 7th June 18 | NFU Organic Forum | Strategy planning & volatility management | Main outcome was that the forum needed to engage more with members, and educating stakeholders in organic farming practice. John Alpe was also voted Vice Chairman |
| 22ND May 18 | Copa Organic working party – Brussels | Organic poultry production rules | NFU raised concerns regarding letting young pullets to range at a young age and asked that the rules are not changed from the current derogations in place |
| 17th May 18 | Organic Poultry industry representatives | Conference call regarding new poultry regulations | Discussion on industry thoughts regarding the new poultry production rules including age to letting pullets out to range & separation of flock rules |
| 8th May 18 | John Pawsey | On farm event for members | Farm tour of Johns farm, looking at soil health, rotations, as well as how he works within the supply chain |
| 4th May 18 | Commissioner Hogan | Future of CAP | John Pawsey met and discussed with Commissioner Hogan along with other commodity board members the future of CAP |
| 23rd April 18 | Defra | Health and Harmony | Members, and industry stakeholders met with defra to discuss the health and harmony paper |
| 18th April 18 | NFU Organic Forum | Chairman elections, Health and Harmony discussion | John Pawsey was voted to be chairman. The organic forum discussed their input into the NFU response to the command paper, including how they would like to see public money being used going forward |
| 13th March 18 | English organic Forum | English Organic Action Plan | Update on progress, timelines and command paper discussion |
| 13th February 18 | Soil Association | Farmer and Grower board | Items discussed included an update on bTB diagnosis technology, the SA Fresh Produce Campaign, research projects the SA is involved with, what the 25 year environmental plan might mean for organics, and the release of the SA Organic Market Report. Organic Market Report – consumption of organic produce surpassed 2008 peak, continued growth (although differs between sectors). Problem – need more (UK) farmers to convert to meet demand. |
| 7th February 18 | Defra / Soil Association | Organic animal feed stakeholder group | Feed availability and sourcing, issues facing the sector |
| 25th January 18 | Arla/Soil Association | Think tank on advertising organic dairy | Best advertising across the industry & the main barriers and key issues concerning organic – how can messaging about the industry be improved to break down these key issues and therefore engage better with consumers. Themes came up such as better message regarding “welfare & pesticides” and ensuring that messaging is positive |
| 23rd November 17 | Copa Organic Working Party |  | The recent regulation extending the pig and poultry feed and pullet derogations and its implementation |
| 19TH October 17 | NFU Organic Forum meeting | English Organic Action Plan update, monogastric derogation update, comms activity and Brexit discussion | The forum fed back views on subgroup topics of the action plan, the forum where pleased to see NFU working for organic poultry farmers and urged that industry must make moves to remove this derogation alongside lobbying for an extension so farmers do not face a cliff edge, the forum also would like to be a policy document focusing only on organic policies post Brexit – NFU Brexit will work with the forum to do this. |
| 11th October | Soil Association Farmer & Grower Board | Copper reauthorisation approval, labelling matters campaign, organic sept market update | Copper is being applied for as an emergency use by AHDB who are leading this. Labelling Matters are calling for mandatory production system labelling, and organic September and market continues to be in growth. |
| 4th October 17 | English Organic Forum & IFOAM UK | Report of IFOAM EU Vision 3.0, monogastric derogation update, current state of play of draft EU regulation text and update on English Organic Action Plan | English organic action plan subgroups updated their policy thinking on each topic – this will be pulled together to form actions for industry and government as part of a 5 year plan, this includes conversion & maintenance payments, short supply chains, trade with EU and 3rd countries. Derogation are at a standstill until the draft text get the legal sign off – currently looking towards November now |
| 25th Sept 17 | MEPs, Copa & EU Commission | Organic Monogastric Derogation expiration | A delegation from the UK lead by NFU and members met with the Head of Unit at EU Commission, MEPs and Copa to lobby for an extended timeframe to the monogastric derogations due to expire at the end of this year. MEPs will apply pressure for a discussion to be made urgently. |
| 7th Sept 17 | Organic Forum Farm Event | Open farm event for members hosted by forum member Andrew Burgess at Taylorgrown Farm. Presentations from Soil Association, OTB and Produce World | Update on market growth for organics, what the future could look like and how promotional activity which the OTB are doing could see an uplift and growing on a commercial scale – how food businesses work with their organic farmers. The day ended with a farm tour around Taylorgrown crops hosted by Joe Rolfe and the management tools he used to overcome challenges and maintain soil health. |
| 24th Aug 17 | Defra farm meeting | Organic poultry derogation expiring at end of 2017 | The concern of members if the derogations for feed and pullets are removed. The health and welfare reasons associated without derogations and the future of policy concerns with the new organic text. NFU where clear on the urgency producers needed regarding clarify post Dec 17 [Read more here](https://www.nfuonline.com/sectors/organics/organics-must-read/nfu-takes-defra-onto-farm-to-lobby-on-organic-feed/) |
| 22nd Aug 17 | Organic Forum Farm Event | Open farm event for members hosted by forum member John Alpe. Discussion on dairy strategy, organic market opportunities and how John has invested in his farm | Organic and conventional members attended Johns farm which hosts 25 school visits per year including disability access throughout the farm. Members heard about NFU’s policy work, along with a farm tour [Read more here](https://www.nfuonline.com/sectors/organics/organics-news/blog-organic-insights-shared-in-lancashire/) |
| 6th July 17 | NOCC17 | Discussion sessions included seed breeding and selection, innovation of available varieties, and future generation | Challenges of variety trial plots, latest research and science driving production of organic arable crops |
| 29th June 17 | Defra/English Organic Forum meeting | Ways to take forward an English organic action plan | Defra are keen this is industry lead and gets the buy in from businesses within the supply chain as well as retailers in order to drive both consumption and conversion within the UK. Defra are also very keen to continue the close working relationship with the sector to ensure the regulation delivers for the industry |
| 21st June 17 | Soil Association Produce Forum | Organic Market, Brexit, regulation state of play | Large produce businesses raised concerns about that “Organic September” isn’t best placed due to the majority of produce crops isn’t at the best of quality. Also discussion around trading from within Europe once we leave EU – and what impact this has, as out of season cropping takes place mainly within Europe |
| 6th June 17 | Organic Farm Tour | Brexit, & main issues for organic members | Impact of Brexit on organic members, mainly due to regulations of organic standards, |
| 23rd May 17 | Organic Regulation Stakeholder group | Main issues with the text of the new regulation | All organic stakeholders when through the new text to highlight to Defra the industries joint concerns – there are many issues with the new text that hopefully this will support the UKs call to stop the negotiations. |
| 16th May 17 | F&G Board at Soil Association | Campaigns, organic market, research projects | Campaigns need to be passed through F&G board before made public so farmers can support the claims, organic market in growth. SA working on projects regarding novel weeding techniques |
| 12th May 17 | CDG | Regulation review | Again strong calling to the commission to stop negotiations regarding the regulations as the text is so far off the original text that it is going to cause huge issues at farm level if it is implemented |
| 11th May 17 | Copa WP Organics | Derogations and regulation review | Copa calling for derogation on poultry to be extended. Most of Copa members are calling also for the review of the regulations to come to a stop – rather than continuing on areas where they cannot reach an agreement which could potentially leave legislation with no added value |
| 8th May 17 | OTB & OF&G | OTB funding awarded | How do the organic industry raise the profile of organics to farmers as a business opportunity to meet the expected uptake of organic sales – OTB won European money to grow the UK market |
| 4th May 17 | Organic Feed Stakeholder Group | Av. Of feed with sufficient nutrition, conversion of organic arable | Concerns raised with derogation on poultry feed and the need for this to be extended. There currently isn’t enough UK organic arable to meet sufficient demand |
| 18th April 17 | COPA Organic Working Party | Regulation review | State of play regarding the regulation review – 90% done, expected to end by next triologue (end of May but few items delaying moving forward) left to discuss is soil production, derogations on seed and breeding purposes, development of seed market and pesticide threshold. Maltese presidency now – speaking to member states on a 1-2-1 basis. |
| 28th March 17 | IFOAM UK/EOF | Copper authorisation, regulation review, English organic action plan | Real need for a strategy approach to reducing copper use in organic farming rather than a cliff edge approach, member states getting increasing frustrated regarding the prolonging negotiations on regulations and calling on the Commission to stop, Defra have clearly said that the UK needs to speak with one voice, and so an English Action Plan group, which will function within the English Organic Forum group to come up with a clear strategy for the future of the industry to give to Defra – through regular joint meetings. |
| 9th March 17 | NFU Organic Forum | Consumer trends, Glyphosate, Organic regulation, AI Update, Farm Tours | AHDB’s Bill Parker discussed the research AHDB produce, consumer trends and the overall organic sector.  Glyphosate was the main attracting item on the agenda, alongside free range dairy, and a farm visits being held by one of the forum members, Jimi Collis,  Chris Atkinson, Head of the Soil Association, gave a review of organic regulations. NFU gave update on AI. |
| 22nd Feb 17 | Conference | Organic Early Bird Session | Presented to conference the organic consumer trend opportunities, risk regarding Brexit for OMSCo and opportunities for on farm production |
| 1st Feb 17 | Organic Producers Conference | Brexit implications, consumer trends, review of regulation update | Update of where negoications have got to with regulations, the impact on producers of organic produce in the run up to Brexit and what the organic consumer looks like. |
| 8th Dec 16 | NFU Organic Forum | SA Consultation, Legislation review, and innovation projects | Concerns around disbudding and dehorning cattle in SA standards, update on NFU involvement with environmental innovations. NFU will be pushing to see more market data information for organic supply/demand |
| 24th November 16 | Copa Cogeca Organic working party | Update on regulation | Copa have taken a position that a contamination threshold is not appropriate at this stage, due to member states operating differently when there is a contamination, copa would like to see harmonisation in procedures before a thresholds are implemented. |
| 22nd November 16 | Soil Association Farmer and Grower Board | IFOAM update, regulation update, TB, import concerns | Concerns around the standards of imported organic goods, concerns around a last push of the regulations before the end of the presidency in Brussels might mean regulations are rush and not thought through. |
| 27th October 16 | IFOAM & EOF | Update on renegotiations of regulations and the English Organic action plan | General feeling is that because the renegotiations are taking a very long time, as the commissions might lose their patients and now with Brexit and other bigger issues they might try to push any regulation through to get it sorted quickly. The English organic action plan is being held off until it is clear what Brexit means, EOF are writing a letter to the farm minister to highlight the organic position. |
| 18th October 16 | Organic Farm meeting | Update on Brexit and farm walk | Members where updated on regulations state of play |
| 13th October 16 | Soil Association Farmer and Grower Board | Update on soil association activities and IFOAM activities | English organic action plan looking to write a letter to farm minister to highlight the position of the organic sector, hydroponics causing a concern for the definition of “organics” |
| 27th Sept 16 | Copa Organic Working Group | Update on regulations review | Slovakian Presidency keen to complete the review by the end of their presidency. Sticking point currently is around a harmonised framework in case of non-authorised substances |
| 8th Sept 16 | NFU Organic Forum | Roundtable of sector update, update from ORC, forum view on Brexit | Organic farmers are encouraged to apply for enviro funding this year, as it’s unclear if this funding will be available next year. Main issues for organics regarding Brexit: Trade is still important as this will dictate the price, even though organic very much see themselves to supply local markets, free movement of labour is still important and that organic conversion funding is still required from a domestic policy POV |
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