

Showcase Event

Showcasing the latest innovations in biomass production and processing emerging from the Biomass Feedstocks Innovation Programme.

Exhibition of planting machinery, aeroponics, decision support tools, breeding advances and other innovations from across the biomass supply chain.

SHOWCASE DETAILS



Date: 7th & 8th November 2024



Venue: The Slate, Warwick University, Coventry, CV4 7SH,

**More
Details
and
Register**

A background image for the top right section showing a glowing lightbulb with a network of lines around it, and a small green plant growing in soil next to it.

Harnessing Innovation, the future of biomass

DRAFT PROGRAMME ~ Day 1 ~ Nov. 7th

10:00 - 10:30

Tea/coffee and registration

10.30 – 10.45

Welcome and opening address

Jeanette Whitaker, UKCEH. *Growing a sustainable biomass sector through research, innovation and demonstration.*

10.45 – 11.00

Government perspectives on innovation

Charlotte Powell, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. *Innovations and opportunities surrounding bioenergy, hydrogen and carbon capture.*

11.00 – 11.15

Gail Shuttleworth, NNFCC. *A bright future for biomass.*

11.15 – 12.00

Innovations in Biomass Crop breeding and propagation

Will MacAlpine, Rothamsted Research. *Unlocking the potential of willow using genomic selection.*

Kerrie Farrar, IBERS, Aberystwyth University. *Miscanspeed – genomic selection and speed breeding to accelerate the development of resilient Miscanthus varieties.*

Paul Carver, New Energy Farms. *The role of Energycanes, synthetic seeds (CEEDS) and novel Miscanthus varieties in the future biomass industry.*

Speakers Panel



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12.00 – 12.15

Tim Volk, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, USA. *Letters from America – reflections on willow production in the US.*

12.15 – 1.00

Lunch and exhibition viewing

1.00 – 2.00

Moving beyond barriers; creating a blueprint for the future biomass industry. Session facilitated by Creative Exchange

2.00 – 3.45

Which crop and why? Decision making for biomass crops

Steve Hunt, Teesdale Moorland Biomass. *Developing end uses for heather – naturally occurring biomass crops and the environmental benefits of processing them into saleable products.*

Pietro Alasia. Al.Wood. *The role of poplar in UK biomass systems.*

Chris Johnston. AFBI. *On farm benefits of willow for water management.*

John Hawkins, Bagber Farms Ltd. *Land use change to incorporate biomass crops. A tenant farmers perspective.*

Kevin Lindegaard. Envirocrops. *The role of decision support and information tools, in successful scaling up of the biomass industry.*

Speakers panel, including Will Rowe, Berkshire College of Agriculture. Chaired by Jeanette Whitaker.

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DRAFT PROGRAMME ~ Day 1 ~ Nov. 7th

3.45 – 4.15

Tea/coffee and exhibition viewing

4.15 – 5.00

Technologies to enhance propagation, planting and harvesting

Jamie Rickerby, Willow Energy. *Innovations in robotic planting and harvesting machinery to increase the potential scale up rate of SRC willow.*

Jason Kam, Terravesta. *Optimising Miscanthus Establishment through improved mechanisation and data capture.*

Zoe Harris, University of Surrey. *Using aeroponics to fast track the sustainable propagation of SRC willow.*

Speakers Panel

5.00 – 7.00

Free time and networking in the lounge

7.00

Conference dinner



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DRAFT PROGRAMME ~ Day 2 ~ Nov. 8th

9.00 – 9.30

Flash talks from delegates. Discussion.

9.30 – 10.15

Gail Shuttleworth, NNFCC. Facilitated workshop session. Biomass value chains – where are our gaps in understanding?

10.15 – 11.15

Biomass crops for greenhouse gas removal – the rhetoric and the reality

Steve Smith, Oxford University. *Carbon dioxide removal – the state of play and the global scale up challenge.*

Enrique Cornejo, Offshore Energy UK. *Early infrastructure deployment in industrial clusters (Track 1, 2) and development of our CO₂ storage sector.*

Erisa Senerdem, Argus Media. *Unlocking Agricultural Biomass Potential: Lessons from Forestry and Global Market Insights.*

Speakers Panel

11.15 – 11.45

Tea/coffee and exhibition viewing

11.45 - 1.30

Moving beyond barriers; creating a blueprint for the future biomass industry. Session facilitated by Creative Exchange. Closing remarks

1.30 – 2.30

Closing Remarks. Lunch and exhibition viewing. Close

This event is free to attend thanks to support from the Biomass Feedstocks Innovation Programme.

All are welcome – please register to book a place. We look forward to seeing you there!



**Be part of developing the vision for the role
of UK produced biomass in net zero.**