

Masstock

SMART FARMING

You are invited to a Masstock Smart Farming Event

Helping you Plan for Early Spring 2009

Purpose of Meetings

The main focus of meetings this spring will be on the crop management problems caused by late drilling and poor planting conditions. How do we manage these crops for the best outcome at harvest time? How do we decide which crops will 'make it' and which will not? What level of investment is appropriate? What is the outlook for grain markets going forward? How will Spring Crops be affected?

Programme

General themes of the meetings – but see reverse for topics and demonstrations at each venue

Oilseed Rape

- Managing backward crops
- Nitrogen inputs – can optimum canopy size be achieved?
- Disease treatments
- Blackgrass control – product choices and timing

Winter Wheat

- Managing backward crops
- Nitrogen inputs
- T0 and T1 treatments
- Blackgrass control

Winter Barley (some meetings only – see over)

- Managing backward crops
- Nitrogen inputs for feed and malting
- T0 and T1 treatments
- Blackgrass control
- Review Seed treatments 'Take Off'

Spring Barley (some meetings only – see over)

- Achieving high yields – lessons from 2008

Workshop sessions:

- Investment equation – high cost inputs versus volatile output values
- Maximising the efficiency of fertiliser use
- New NVZ regulations
- Spring Crop options - issues
- Market developments and Biofuels update (Finlay Calder)

2009 Crop Opportunities

- * Guest Speaker – Finlay Calder, Glencore (Ex Scotland and British Lions)
- * Buyer for the New Ethanol plant on Teeside for 1.2 million tonnes wheat
- * Top tips on Malting barley markets and storage from his Scottish experiences

Date & Location of Meetings

(Please see over for detailed information of individual meetings)

Tuesday 24th February 2009

Manor Farm, Stapleford, Salisbury,
Wiltshire, SP3 4LP
Start: 1.45pm
Finish: 5.00pm

Thursday 26th February 2009

H F Hart Ltd, Glebe Farm, Hatherop,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7
3NA
Start: 1.45pm
Finish: 5.00pm

Tuesday 3rd March 2009

Wick Bottom Barn, Temple Farm,
Rockley, Marlborough, SN8 1RU
Start: 1.45pm (for 2pm start)
Finish: 5.30pm

Wednesday 4th March 2009

Yattendon Estates Ltd, Haw Farm,
Ashampstead, Hamstead Norreys,
Berkshire, RG18 0TP
Start: 1.45pm
Finish: 5.00pm

Thursday 5th March 2009

J W Bonner & Son, Coldharbour
Farm, Radstone, Brackley, Northants,
NN13 5TL
Start: 1.50pm
Finish: 5.00pm

Masstock Smart Farm events demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of the latest crop production systems and provide a forum to discuss wider farm management issues and identify the routes to high yields and gross margins for Masstock customers. We invite a number of technology partners to contribute to these meetings where their products have a role to play in successful arable farming.

Partners in profitable farming

www.masstock.co.uk

Venues and Details

Please see reverse of reply sheet for location details

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| Tuesday 24th February 2009 Meet at: 1.45pm Finish Time: 5.00pm | Thursday 26th February 2009 Meet at: 1.45pm Finish Time: 5.00pm | Tuesday 3rd March 2009 Meet at: 1.45pm Finish Time: 5.00pm |
| Meet at: Manor Farm, Stapleford, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP3 4LP (By Kind permission of Roger & Geoff Moore) | Meet at: H F Hart Ltd, Glebe Farm, Hatherop, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 3NA (By kind permission of H F Hart Ltd) | Meet at: Wick Bottom Barn, Temple Farm, Rockley, Marlborough, SN8 1RU (By Kind permission of Temple Farming) |
| Farm Specific Discussion Areas: The meeting will focus on ideas, principles and re proposed management of the unusual growth stages encountered this year. 1.45pm: Meet 2.10pm: Visit Trial Plots 3.30pm: Tea/ Coffee and Cakes 3.45pm: Presentations and Discussions Themes of the meeting will include: Early season management of break crops (Tom Blanchard) Dealing with thin crops/ forward prices and 'Growing strategies' (David Langton) Spring Barley (Russell Frost) | Farm Specific Discussion Areas: The meeting will focus on Oilseed Rape and Winter Wheat and Barley, in terms of managing a backward crop, the nitrogen inputs, disease treatments and Blackgrass control. 1.45pm: Visit to Trial Plots 3.30pm: Tea & Cakes at Southrop Village Hall 4.00pm: Discussion and Presentations Themes of the meeting will include: The investment equation, focus on high cost inputs versus volatile output values. Maximising the efficiency of fertilizer use New NVZ regulations Spring crop options and the related issues Market developments and Biofuels update | Farm Specific Discussion Areas: The meeting will focus on Oilseed Rape and Winter Wheat and Spring Barley, in terms of managing this year's crop, the nitrogen inputs, disease treatments and Blackgrass control. 1.45pm: Visit to Trial Plots 3.30pm: Tea & Cakes at Wick Bottom Barn 4.00pm: Discussion and Presentations Themes of the meeting will include: The investment equation, focus on high cost inputs versus volatile output values. Maximising the efficiency of fertilizer use New NVZ regulations Spring crop options and the related issues Market developments and Biofuels update |

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| Wednesday 4th March 2009 Meet at: 1.45pm Finish Time: 5.00pm | Thursday 5th March 2009 Meet at: 1.50pm Finish Time: 5.00pm |
| Meet at: Yattendon Estate, Haw Farm, Ashampstead, Nr Hamstead Norreys, Berkshire RG18 0TP (By kind permission of Yattendon Estates Ltd) | Meet at: J W Bonner & Son, Coldharbour Farm, Radstone, Brackley, Northants NN13 5TL (By kind permission of Lawrence & Anthony Bonner) |
| Farm Specific Discussion Areas: The meeting will focus on Oilseed Rape, Winter Wheat and Barley, in terms of managing a backward crop, the nitrogen inputs, disease treatments and getting the best performance out of our spring sown crops 1.45 pm: Visit to Trial Plots Winter wheat and barley – the key varieties and early season management Winter rape – effect of season and establishment system on the canopy 3.30 pm: Tea & Cakes at Aldworth Village Hall 3.45 pm: Presentations and discussion Themes of the meeting will include: Dealing with thin crops/ forward prices and 'Growing strategies' (David Langton) Spring cropping options and getting the best performance from these crops (Jim Hynes) Biofuels update and spring barley markets (Finlay Calder) | Farm Specific Discussion Areas: The meeting will focus on Oilseed Rape and Winter Wheat and Barley, in terms of managing a backward crop, the nutrition inputs, disease treatments and Blackgrass control – getting the best result. 2pm: Visit to Trial Plots 3.30pm: Tea & Cakes at Syresham Village Hall 4.00pm: Discussion and Presentation including Finlay Calder who is responsible for wheat procurement for the Ensus Bio-ethanol Plant on Teeside that will be coming on stream this year Themes of the meeting will include: The investment equation, focus on high cost inputs versus volatile output values. Maximising the efficiency of fertilizer use including variable rate New NVZ regulations Spring crop management Metaldehyde stewardship |

With thanks to all our host farms for their cooperation and support