

SOUTH EAST ESSEX ORGANIC GARDENERS

NEWSLETTER NO: 138 – MARCH 2018

<http://seeog.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/43705483846/>



Soil Association

SEEEOG was formed in 1994, to promote the principles of organic gardening by:

- Composting organic waste
- Protecting wildlife
- Reducing pollution
- Encouraging species diversity

Membership is currently £8.00 per annum, £12.00 family.

Is your local school a member of SEEEOG? If not, we offer free membership on receipt of application form!

Venue, notes etc.

Please use the entrance in Prittlewell Chase, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 9AG (corner of Fairfax Drive and Prittlewell Chase). Our speakers start at 20:00 sharp, but Growing Together is open from 19:00 to prepare the room, etc.

Please notify Graham Oster-Ritter if you wish to receive your newsletter by post/email, or change your email address: grahamoster@btinternet.com

For future reference, our newsletter copy 'deadlines' for 2018 are as follows:

May	-	Monday 23 April
July	-	Saturday 23 June
September	-	Friday 24 August
November	-	Wednesday 24 October

SEEEOG GROUP NIGHTS/EVENTS/VISITS 2018

Monday 15 January 2018: SEEEOG talk

Ian Tinton - Woodview Gardens/Dalefoot Composts

Ian moved on from selling glasses for a living into gardens, working outdoors. Then an interest in sustainable garden products and a relationship with Dalefoot, who started as bog restorers, who had Herdwick sheep and land with bracken. Combining these shearings gave slow release potash and magnesium with water retention. Ian observed a change in attitudes with the public towards products with good environmental credentials and has found his product range satisfies a full range of needs - seed and cuttings; vegetable growers x2 strength; greenhouses; soil conditioner; ericaceous; clay-buster; no dig surface mulch. Customers return and business is expanding well.

It is composted indoors at a set ratio of bracken to wool. It has been feedback led. Now he is finding that plant nurseries are interested - pricey but effective, with highest environmental credentials - and finds himself working with Transition Town groups, the Green Party, Permaculture London and Soil Association. Other items are Remin rock dust, Biochar and endorsements from Organic Growers, Soil Association, Scottish Organic Producers Association, Biodynamic and Organic Systems approved. Say no more!

Ian was also present selling and supporting the Seed Potato Day.

Ron

Free online course Citizen Science: From Soil to Sky: I have enrolled and finished week 2 - very good content and presentation; wide range of involvement run by University of Dundee. It is highly recommended. <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/grow-from-soil-to-sky>

Ron

Monday 19 March: Group Night

Martyn Davis, our esteemed SEEEOG member, presents 'Honeybees get all the good publicity and hog the headlines'. This talk will be about the host of under-appreciated insect pollinators that beaver away often unnoticed and yet are just as vital to the health of the ecosystem.

Sunday 15 April, 10:00 – 16:00: Hadleigh Gardening Show, Hadleigh Old Fire Station – assistance definitely wanted here!

Saturday 5 May, 14:00: afternoon visit (car-share) to Crapes Fruit Farm, Aldham

Saturday 19 May, 10:00 – 15:00: 2nd Plant and Craft Market, Leigh Road Baptist Church (clashes with GO AGM; help definitely wanted here as well!)

Monday 21 May: Group Night with a Master Composter! TBC!

Wednesday 6 June, 09:30 – 14:30: Essex Schools Food and Farming Day, Writtle College, for schools only

Saturday 9 June, 10:00: return visit to walled garden at Riffhams, Little Baddow

Sunday 1 July, 14:00 – 19:00: Visit (car-share) to Hilldrop, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, SS17 8QB - Open Garden for NGS. This garden is not all about roses! It is a wild flower and wildlife paradise. Since building our turf roof house in 1995, we have trialled waste materials to grow plants and mimic brownfield habitats as well as getting plants and soils onto buildings and urban infrastructure. These parts of the garden are now our most important and diverse habitats. Admission is £5; children free; wine; vegetarian savoury snacks. Telephone: 07967 733720. Open for charity.
<https://www.wherecanwego.com/responsive/eventmap.aspx?id=e1193038>

Saturday 14 July, 14:00 – 17:00: Visit (car-share) to the Monastery of Saint John the Baptist, Tolleshunt Knights

Monday 16 July: Group Night

Kulvinder Kaur Johal, Assistant Head Teacher/Science Co-ordinator, Northbury Primary School (Barking) is going to talk about her school garden and what a difference it brings to the pupils of their large multicultural school. They have over 900 pupils, speaking over 45 languages between them. Many of them have no garden or green space to call their own. Children share a play space with each other but nothing of their own. Their school garden has been a focal point for them, so much so that they have achieved an RHS level school award. All was almost lost when the school garden suffered an arson attack last year, but they now have their thriving garden back.

Monday 17 September: Group Night with SEEOG member Philip Fawcett

This year is 50 years since Philip left school and started his gardening career He will try to give some insight into how he started, what happened in the last 50 years and what comes next.

Monday 19 November: Group Night with Seed Co-operative, the UK's community owned Seed Company

<https://www.seedcooperative.org.uk/>

OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 12 May, 11:00 – 14:00: May Fayre at Growing Together Westcliff

NEWS

Allotment news

1) Following on from the Breaking News article in issue one of the Allotment and Leisure Gardener the NSA have great pleasure in confirming the launch date of the Allotmenters Liability Insurance as 29 March 2018.

The National Allotment Society (NAS) is introducing this new member benefit in conjunction with Shield Total Insurance who already operates the NAS discount insurance scheme. The benefit is being created via an insurance policy purchased by the NAS to give personal liability cover to all member plot-holders.
<https://www.nsalg.org.uk/news/new-inclusive-member-benefit/>

2) According to Mike Thurlow (Allotment & Leisure Gardener, Issue 1, 2018), mare's tail thrives in wet, acidic soil. One 'organic' herbicide that has claims to controlling it is produced by the company 'Neudorff'; their website is neudorff.co.uk. They are based in Solihull and supply a wide range of organic products.

3) New allotment site, Hockley: Charles Church has applied to Rochford District Council (RDC) for approval of details to meet conditions regarding the open space area, allotment space and outdoor sport/youth

facility details. Hockley Parish Council (HPC) will review the plan at the 19th March Full Council meeting prior to any response to RDC.

The overall plot still provides the commitment of 2520 sq metres, but is no longer the rectangular plot that was shown to HPC. It has been re-shaped and partially moved towards the sports area to overcome the objection from the Essex Badger Protection Group that the plot was not 20 metres from a badger sett. The revised layout includes moved boundaries to the north and west to retain a corridor around the allotment area.

They have suggested a layout that would provide six large plots and two smaller plots, or up to 14 smaller plots, depending on demand. The area moved towards tree growth, due to the change, could be used for storage (or perhaps sheds).

The site has to be available 12 months after completion of the Pond Chase development.

Crapes Fruit Farm: Spring?

On the whole, the winter has been most satisfactory here at Crapes with only our Vranja quince trees showing that they are alive. The cold spell at the end of February will have done no harm to established trees.

The chill has come from the East. Those travelling across Europe by land will observe white tree trunks in gardens, orchards and municipal areas. The whitewash coating, often a metre or more above ground level, is to reflect the effect of the sun from the bark of the tree trunks during continental frosty periods. Without this, there is a serious risk of the bark splitting as the tissues thaw too rapidly. Obviously this predisposes the fabric of the tree to disease.

Likewise, 'the ice storm' phenomena, the effects of which I have seen in Gracemont, Oklahoma - yes, Dust Bowl country more associated with soil blows and the planting of Eucalyptus to help with soil retention, but harsh winter weather is experienced there also. Having tried pruning some fruit trees there - which had suffered from ice storms over the years - the current weather forecast for freezing rain in the southern UK, with this extra serious wind chill, causes concern that a similar effect might happen here in Essex.

The harsh effect of the wind chill on the youngest one-year growth on the ends of the branches, and the blasting by ice particles, might be seen once temperatures return to our usual for March. Anything which either cuts off or nips out the terminal bud - whether it is with secateurs, powdery mildew infection or frosty wind damage - is, in effect, pruning and the tree will respond accordingly. At least with secateurs, control is maintained.

Mother Nature doesn't believe in being controlled!

Our blossom should be on time for (Saturday) 5th May (our SEEEOG visit).

Ben's Diploma site is at: <http://dreadbensdiploma.weebly.com/index.html> - just hover over Projects at the top of the screen to view each of one.

Farmers' Markets 2018

Leigh-on-Sea Town Council's Farmers' Market at Leigh Community Centre, 71-73 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, 3rd Friday of the month from 09:00 to 13:00, apart from December (08:30)

Friday 16 March; Friday 20 April; Friday 18 May; Friday 15 June; Friday 20 July; Friday 17 August; Friday 21 September; Friday 19 October; Friday 16 November; December market – date TBC
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1818935024986153/>

Rochford at the WI Hall, West Street, 1st Saturday of the month from 09:30 to 12:00

Saturday 3 March (cancelled); Saturday 7 April; Saturday 5 May; Saturday 2 June; Saturday 7 July; Saturday 4 August; Saturday 1 September; Saturday 6 October; Saturday 3 November; Saturday 1 December
<https://www.facebook.com/rochfordfarmersmarket>

Garden Organic news

As you all know, we're affiliated to Garden Organic, 'the national charity for organic growing, we provide a range of programmes to enhance individuals, communities and the environment through organic growing.' And we're sure that you're all aware now of what's going on at Ryton?

Lawrence Hills established Ryton Gardens in 1985 as home for the charity he founded, the Henry Doubleday Research Association, later to become Garden Organic. A year later the gardens opened to the public to promote organic gardening. Upon his death in 1990 his ashes were scatted around the gardens and its future now lies in the hands of the trustees of the charity.

This year (January 2018), to the surprise of many members, the gardens were placed for sale with an estate agent as investment/redevelopment opportunity. Discussions had taken place with the Local Planning Authority that indicated that they would not oppose residential redevelopment provided “the openness of the green belt” in which the gardens are situated.

SEEOG will be represented at their AGM on Friday 18 May, you can be sure!

This is ongoing and there is a lot going on – and to do – there is now a website at <https://saverytongardens.wordpress.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/146330316031153/>

GM news

1) Rothamsted Research has applied to Defra for permission to plant another field trial of GM Camelina Sativa. A public consultation is open and GM Freeze will be responding, along with SEEOG. GM Freeze has consistently led the opposition to open air field trials in the UK, creating detailed technical objections and supporting others to express their opposition in the most constructive ways. In the past, they have used core funding to cover the cost of this unplanned and urgent work but in the past year they have seen a 40% drop in core grant funding. They launched an appeal on Friday afternoon (23 Feb) and have already received enough donations to know that they can get some kind of response together.

<https://www.gmfreeze.org/>

2) Exposed: The Tory-Trump plan to kill food safety in the UK

A shady network of hard-right think-tanks and politicians with ties to Donald Trump and the UK Tory Party are agitating to sell the British public chlorinated chicken, hormone-fed beef and GM foods, says an article in Insurge Intelligence. A trans-Atlantic network of Conservative and Libertarian think tanks were caught creating ‘shadow trade deals’ which deregulate in favour of food and drug lobbies during Brexit. In this investigation, Kam Sandhu exposes the long history of this trans-Atlantic network, and its efforts to drag us towards corporate freedom at the expense of public safety since the birth of neoliberalism. The network now sees an opportunity to enact significant changes during Brexit, aided by the duplicity of business interests in public discourse. The British public needs to get a grip on the future we want.

<https://medium.com/insurge-intelligence/the-tory-trump-plan-to-kill-food-safety-with-brexit-chicken-6faa9fbff0c1>

Gozo Growing: The one where we became weather geeks

Six months on and the plot has begun to take shape. Several “lasagna” (no dig) beds have been set up, together with two Hugulkultur beds. We successfully experimented with straw bale growing in the autumn, resulting in reasonable harvests of tomatoes (still cropping), courgettes and kale. Three compost heaps have been set up including a HotBin, which we moved across from our courtyard garden to cope with the additional levels of compost material. Nearly all the rubble walls around the perimeter of the plot have now been repaired or restored. Several of the mature olive trees surrounding the area were also lightly pruned to remove any obvious dead, diseased or damaged wood.

You can read the whole of Simon and Mary’s article at <http://seeog.org.uk/>

Lauriston Farm

Lauriston Farm has battened down the hatches this week with the farm looking beautiful but feeling bitterly cold. We’ve bought the pregnant ewes into the barn, which is only the third time this has happened in fifteen years.

The snow has enabled us to focus on internal building projects so we are converting the kitchen to food quality, finishing a new boot/tea room, finalising the new office and getting the materials for a new, larger craft room. It’s all go!

Monique has many seedlings showing their green faces and our new 8m x 25m polytunnel is going up after the snow melts. Andre has finished the chicken house and run so we will be finding some hens next week.

Spencer is busy promoting the day placements for adults with learning disabilities; we have a launch event planned for April 17th and we are developing good contacts and have hosted CoCoCare every other week this year.

The cows are all well, as are the bees, and the biodynamic course is being well received. SEEEOG have some hedge pledge plants to put in so we look forward to seeing you soon! Best wishes from us all at Lauriston!

Spencer Christy 1/3/18

<http://www.lauristonfarm.co.uk/>

Members' contributions

1) **Have you ever come across "Maori potatoes" in the UK?** We understand they're grown as a staple in New Zealand as they are resistant to blight, store well and extremely tasty.

<https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/discover-collections/read-watch-play/maori/maori-potatoes>

2) **6 Easy Steps to Become an Amateur Farmer in Malta**

More and more Maltese people are feeling disconnected from the natural environment - and it's beginning to show. When a 22-year old Maltese university graduate said he wanted to become a full-time farmer, many were shocked and surprised. But this just goes to show how far removed we've become from our rural, agrarian roots here in Malta.

<https://lovinmalta.com/lifestyle/community/6-easy-steps-to-become-an-amateur-farmer-in-malta>

3) **National Mammal Week** is organised by the Mammal Society and takes place in the last week of October each year, including both weekends. The 2017 National Mammal Week was held 21st-29th October and the 2018 date will be announced shortly.

<http://www.mammal.org.uk/national-mammal-week/>

4) **Community garden for soldiers and veterans**

A charity has set up a gardening project in Leigh (Lancashire) to help serving and former soldiers. Shoulder to Soldier aims to give financial and welfare help, as well as organising practical projects like the new garden. Ex-forces engineers are already using their skills to design the layout which will take into account veterans with disabilities.

<http://www.itv.com/news/granada/update/2018-01-18/community-garden-for-soldiers-and-veterans/>

5) **We were fascinated** to learn that Pat's cousin, Russell Wortley, did research on potatoes in Cambridge during the war. When he was not doing that, he was recording folk music from East Anglia and being a Morris dancer.

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/library/special/wortley>

6) **Vic took some potato samples to show Julian Turner on pick-up day**, who confirmed: "Yes, shortlist is Spraing, or failure to get enough calcium to make new cell walls for causation; lifting early is the only solution I know, certainly not Sarpō specific."

<http://seeog.org.uk/2018/02/a-good-potato-harvest-last-year-but-unlucky-with-some/>

7) **Have a read of this:** The Amateur Potato Breeder's Manual, by Raoul A. Robinson

<http://sharebooks.com/system/files/Potato-Breeders-Manual.pdf>

8) **This helpful War-Time Cookery booklet** explains the best way to save food and fuel during the Second World War when there was rationing on most essential and luxury items. A useful and informative resource - a facsimile of a cookery pamphlet issued in 1940. Or just cutting down on waste, kick-starting a new healthy eating regime or simply looking for some mealtime inspiration?

http://www.iwmshop.org.uk/product/22359/WarTime_Cookery_booklet_facsimile

9) **'Doctors advise each of us to eat at least 12 ozs. and if possible 1lb. [340 or 454 grams] of potatoes each day.'** Along with its bright, jaunty cover and illustrations, the Potato Pete Recipe Book from the Ministry of Food is filled with advice and recipes written from a background of wartime food rationing.

Readers learn that 'potatoes help to save both fat and flour in pastries...' while the recipe for Pink and Green Purée on page 5 suggests adding 'a small piece of margarine or dripping if it can be spared.' Wartime rations restricted fats to 2 ounces (57 grams) of butter and four of margarine per week with a further 2 ounces lard. Here a complete copy of the booklet is offered. We might have the booklet in our library cupboard.

<http://www.kingscollections.org/exhibitions/archives/food/ww2/pete>

10) **Try these three rationing recipes.**

What better occasion - after a period of excess - than the 77th anniversary of the introduction of food rationing to learn a lesson in indulgence? On 8 January 1940 the wartime government first introduced

rationing. Although even the staunchest nostalgic wouldn't wish for a return to those dark days, the date proves to be a good time to look back at the recipes that came out of the 'Dig For Victory' generation.
<https://mailchi.mp/iwm/try-these-three-rationing-recipes?e=9406b0fc6a>

11) **Vic's Christmas Competition:** The lucky shopper at Leigh Farmers' Market in December guessed the nearest number of bottle tops in the container - 1,702 - and is the recipient of a £20 shopping voucher. The total amount in the container was 1,717.

12) **Gardens under threat from 'game changing' plant disease**

A pest that can infect plants from lavender to cherry trees is of real and growing concern in the UK, say experts. Outbreaks of *Xylella fastidiosa* have caused widespread problems in Europe, wiping out entire olive groves. The Royal Horticultural Society says the disease could arrive in the UK on imported stock, threatening gardens. The European Commission has stepped up protections against the spread of *Xylella*, which can infect more than 350 different plants. But RHS head of plant health Gerard Clover warned that it was probably only a matter of time before it spreads to the UK.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-42504931>

13) **Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss fungi: In Our Time, Radio 4, 15 February**

These organisms are not plants or animals but a kingdom of their own. Millions of species of fungi live on the Earth and they play a crucial role in ecosystems, enabling plants to obtain nutrients and causing material to decay. Without fungi, life as we know it simply would not exist. They are also a significant part of our daily life, making possible the production of bread, wine and certain antibiotics. Although fungi brought about the colonisation of the planet by plants about 450 million years ago, some species can kill humans and devastate trees.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b09r3nwl>

With huge thanks to our contributors.....Simon, Ron, Pat and Jane

Pesticide Action Network UK

In January 2018, the UK government launched A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (hereafter referred to as 'the Plan'). The Plan lays out a range of goals and policies, designed to 'help the natural world regain and retain health', and restates the government's commitment to deliver a Green Brexit.

Ensuring that the UK adopts a strong pesticide regime post-Brexit is vital for reducing the environmental harms caused by agrochemicals. However, stringent pesticide regulations, and support for non-chemical alternatives, can also help to achieve many of the other goals and policies contained in the Plan. In contrast, failing to regulate pesticides effectively will undermine the achievement of the aspirations set out in the Plan and hold back its ability to deliver on many of its stated goals.

You can read this report in full at <http://www.pan-uk.org/25-year-environment-plan/>

Pesticide Action Network North America

Some notes from PAN North America - things to come, aspects of free trade?

Big Pharma's antics - Monsanto has subpoenaed Avaaz commanding that they hand over details of every private email or record they have regarding Monsanto - all Avaazers who have signed Monsanto campaigns. These legal battles instigated by and against the mega corporations at national and state levels to protect organic growers, agricultural workers and rural communities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stopped the prevention of young workers under 18 using chemicals.

The Atlantic Magazine recently hosted in New York an evening event called 'Harvest: Transforming the Food We Eat'. This included no farmers and no sponsors ONLY the Agriculture Division of DowDuPont. Their GE seeds used to overcome 24d chemical superweed crisis cure and pressuring the EPA to reverse the course of the planned ban on the brain harming pesticide CHLORPYRIFOS. They perpetuate the endless pesticide treadmill - their future food?! We've recognised the name of one guest speaker: Food Tank's President and Founder, Danielle Nierenberg, from whom we receive emails from time to time. What was she doing there?

Danielle has since sent us the following statement: 'Did you watch the livestream of the event? Here is the link to the video. I pointed out immediately that there were no farmers included on the panel. The reason I attended is because it is part of my job to be part of uncomfortable conversations. I think, too often, those of us in the sustainable agriculture movement only talk to one another and, in my opinion, preaching to the choir is not going to facilitate the changes we need to see. I attended because Food Tank has a unique

perspective and we wanted to be able to share it with a group of people we normally don't get the chance to talk to.'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYHD8I3rfMY&feature=youtu.be>

The other moves afoot are – EPA administrator wants it to have NO regulatory authority. Public access to scientific information is being undermined, individual scientists being attacked - without input from researchers on the leading edge of science, policy makers are less equipped to make informed decisions, hence prey to lobbyists (corporates).

Newspeak - removal of information about the impact of fossil fuels; systematic change of language about climate change; again, limiting public access to information.

There are a lot of scientists out there; California has Chlorpyrifos as a developmental toxicant; Maryland, New Jersey and Minnesota are following.

The farmer scientists are drivers for social change.
https://secure.avaaz.org/en/monsanto_red_alert_41/

Potato Day: Weren't we lucky with the weather!

Potato Day was in full swing as soon as it started! It was sunny with a very chill wind! And folks always come in early! We had 52 varieties to buy by the tuber (15 organic this year), collected from Julian's team for East Anglia's Potato Day two weeks earlier and picked up by Jane, Mike, Ron and Vic with Growing Together's minibus.

Friday 23 February, 14:00: We prepared the polytunnel with welcome help from Growing Together, Martyn, Mike, Ron and Vic. We brushed the tables off and jiggled them about; set out our cardboard and blue plastic trays; set out labels (prepared by Graham) and emptied out the stored potatoes into the individually labelled boxes. It was a good thing we did this last job the day before as it took a lot longer than anticipated.

Saturday 24 February, 08:00: we had banners and a couple of gazebos to put up, plus the onion sets, potato fertiliser and chicken pellets to set out, all helped by Graham, Mike, Gill, Carole, Ray, Ron, Vic and Kamil. Then people started to arrive early... and in the end we were almost down to the last spud in many of the trays! Couldn't get what you wanted? Come earlier next year!

This year we had Kamil's popular and very welcome Seed Share along with Fiona and Duncan. Mrs Nirmal Gupta, MBE, from the Essex Asian Women's Association, cooked potato inspired authentic Indian cuisine, which we all said was delicious, especially as we needed to warm up!!!!

There was a really good atmosphere again, with lots of buying, chatting, networking, eating, raffling, laughing and music. What a good day, but didn't that cold wind blow again as we started to clear up?!

So thanks to all who make such an event happen and the people who came and showed that it is a needed event. Many spuds there be next year!

As usual, we sell the residue at the next Leigh market and at Group Night; otherwise at Growing Together Westcliff.

Sarah Green's Organic Vegetable Growing Season

We had gales in February which badly damaged three polytunnels. We have now had these repaired and planting of the last winter salads, Pak Choi, Mitzuna etc., is taking place now. These salad leaves will be harvested in April / May – vital in the 'Hungry Gap'.

Our seed potatoes are sprouting in their trays. We have put extra heat in the chitting shed whilst we endure the very cold outside temperatures. It is a battle between us and the pigeons as to who gets the purple sprouting broccoli. At the moment we are winning!

<https://sarahgreensorganics.co.uk/>

SEEOG library

Any book may be borrowed by members at a cost of 20p per book for each 2-month period. We would very much like to hear from anyone who could take out a few of the books from the cupboard and set them out on Group Night. Our Library needs to be used more!

Soil Association

2018: The year to define UK Agriculture? The next 12 months will be momentous for UK food and farming, here's our guide to how we got here, what's coming up, and where we might be heading. How did we get here?

The UK has had a difficult political history with food and agriculture and it is worth looking back to see where we might be heading now. In the early 18th Century, a 30-year battle began over what became known as the Corn Laws, a policy to protect UK domestic agriculture with duties on imports. The rising merchant class won the debate, as the laws were later repealed opening the UK food market up to free trade. Domestic agriculture capitulated under the pressure of cheap imports, which facilitated the mass-movement of people to rapidly growing industrial centres.

By 1914 the UK was importing two-thirds of its food and, without significant domestic production; the insecurity of an import-reliant food system was exposed during the World Wars. Government intervened and increased food production was the central aim of the 1947 Agriculture Act along with securing farm income, tenant security, and implementing high farming standards. However, this Act came at the expense of hedgerows and wetlands, which were in the way of large-scale agricultural expansion. You can read the full article at <https://www.soilassociation.org/blogs/2018/february/26/2018-the-year-to-define-uk-agriculture/>

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