

“Sustainable Intensification & Farmland Birds” Seminar

PROGRAMME

- 10.00 Arrival & Coffee
- 10.30 **Opening Remarks by Seminar Chairman Lord Selborne GBE FRS FIBiol**
- 10.40 **The Joint Challenge of Food Security & Environmental Enhancement**
Professor Charles Godfray CBE, FRS, Dept of Zoology, University of Oxford
- 10.55 **The Extent & Causes of Declines in Farmland Bird Numbers**
Professor Ian Newton OBE, FRS
- 11.10 Questions & Discussion
- 11.20 **Address by Mr James Paice MP, Minister of State for Agriculture & Food,**
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- 11.40 Questions for the Minister
- 11.55 Refreshment Break
- 12.10 **Agri-Environment Schemes & Farmland Bird Recovery, Professor Ken Norris,**
Centre for Agri-Environmental Research, University of Reading
- 12.25 Discussion
- 12.55 Lunch
- 13.45 **Chairman’s Introduction to Case Study Session**
- 13.50 **Environment Schemes - How to Achieve Better Outcomes**
Richard Macdonald CBE - Chair Farming Regulation Task Force
- 14.05 **The South West Farmland Birds Initiative**
James Phillips (Natural England) & farmer Peter Richards, Gloucestershire
- 14.25 **Farmland Bird Trials at the Allerton Project, Loddington, Leicestershire**
Dr Alastair Leake, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust
- 14.40 **Research from Elmley National Nature Reserve, Philip Merricks MBE**
- 14.55 Discussion
- 15.20 **Outcomes & Chairman’s Closing Remarks**
- 15.30 Close

OBJECTIVES

The “Practice with Science” Group of the Royal Agricultural Society of England wishes to bring together policy makers, scientists, farmers and conservationists to explore ways in which farmland bird populations can be increased.

Detailed objectives are:

To consider farmland bird numbers, the Farmland Bird Index and the impact of Environment Schemes

To assess how best to develop better research, policies and practices to nurture sustainable farmland bird populations

To explore new ways in which the farming, conservation and scientific communities can work together to bring about bird population increases