AgriFood Charities Partnership Annual Review 2023

Promoting education and science relating to the practice of agriculture and production through collaboration of charities and other funders.

Our Members

AFCP is founded upon its members. We are actively developing closer engagement with our members to ensure ongoing dialogues facilitate changes to make the most of opportunities and synergies. Thank you to our charity and research partner members who have helped support our work, individually, collectively and collaboratively.

We held our first Charity Member Webinar in June, looking at possible funding opportunities through the Agricultural Universities Council (AUC) 'Transforming Agriculture'.

Communication

Communication is core to collaboration. We continue to host our open-access search-based website to engageable individuals and charities to find funding partners. AFCP has issued a range of newsletters and event/activity communications. The AFCP LinkedIn page was launched, one of the platforms where blogs and opinion pieces are shared. Topics have included: the new BCPC archive; our soils event; Morley clean water project; traffic & tillage project; and mechanical weeding.

The AFCP National Forum this year formed part of a joint event with Harper Adams University looking at Animal Science: Addressing Current Challenges.

Research in Action: Need, Funding and Outcomes was the topic of the AFCP Regional Forum held in collaboration with NIAB, looking at soils from a range of perspectives.

Our biennial Student Forum was held in March 2024 in Cambridge at NIAB, involving 34 students funded by member charities. Click here to view the full report.

Catalyst and Facilitator

A new joint research project commenced this year in collaboration with the University of Cambridge. Elena Bidash started her PhD within the Crop Science Centre focusing on virus-induced gene silencing and editing in soybean with a view to the outcomes being used across other crops in future work.

Fern Baker has now completed her joint AFCP and AHDB funded PhD on carbon emissions in cattle.

We are currently exploring several opportunities for collaboration with research consortia on a range of agrifood research projects.

Governance

Prof. Stuart Reid joined the AFCP Board in November. Stuart is President & Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, the oldest and largest veterinary school in the English-speaking world. He is recognised by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a specialist in veterinary epidemiology and in veterinary public health by the European Board of Veterinary Specialists.

Photo Credit: Veterinary Record Mark Thomas

AFCP has formally adopted the role of 'AFCP Adviser', recognising those that advise and support AFCP in delivering its objectives, including raising awareness, understanding and engagement with AFCP.

2024 and beyond

AFCP is currently developing its strategy and looks forward to sharing this with you as we continue to create opportunities for collaboration in the agrifood sector.

www.afcp.org.uk

Patron: Lord Curry of Kirkharle

Chair: Prof. Graham Jellis

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