



Latest Update from the BCS

- **BCS Operators' Forum**
- **Upcoming BCS Understanding Test Results Webinar**
- **REA's ORG Conference**

BCS Operators' Forum

The next meeting of the BCS Operators' Forum is being held on the **18th of May from 12-3pm**. This meeting will be held in person at The Trinity Centre in Cambridge, but with an option to join virtually to allow as many operators to attend as possible. The address for the venue is The Trinity Centre, 24 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 0FN, and lunch will be served. The minutes from the previous meeting can be found on our website [here](#).

If you are interested in attending the Forum, you can register interest and confirm attendance by contacting Emma Laws at emma@realschemes.org.uk. Please inform us should you have any dietary requirements. If you are not able to attend this meeting but you would like to have an issue raised on your behalf, please contact Jo Chapman or Tom Brown, who share the role of BCS Operators' Representative, using jo@acshropshire.co.uk or tombrown@andigestion.com.

The Forum consists of representatives of AD operators who are either certified or working towards certification under the Scheme. The Forum provides operators with the opportunity to raise and discuss issues they may be experiencing in relation to certification under the Scheme and where appropriate other issues that may impact on the Scheme as a whole. We welcome as many operators as possible and no matter the scale of operation or production, all views are considered and given equal weighting.

A few words from Jo Chapman and Tom Brown, who share the role of BCS Operators' Representative:

"I have attended every forum meeting for some years now, both 'face to face' and online. I find these meetings a really useful way to keep up to date with ongoing changes to the standard, feedback issues, and in recent years to understand the wider regulatory context for AD operators and to understand how quality digestate fits in with the wider ongoing changes. Meetings have also been good networking opportunities and a chance to develop ideas and understanding of different experiences and issues across different types of operations. Feedback from the operators' forum is taken to the oversight panel, and we have seen changes and improvements over time as a result of this feedback, so the forum provides a real way for operators to get involved and contribute." - Jo

"I have been attending the BCS Scheme forum meetings since 2016 and I have found this beneficial in a number of ways, such as learning of upcoming changes to the rules, being involved in discussions with other operators about similar problems they are facing and being able to raise issues with the scheme administrators." - Tom

Upcoming BCS Understanding Test Results Webinar

The next 'Understanding Test Results' webinar will be held on the **20th of May at 10:30 - 11:30am**.

The webinar is designed for operators to gain an insight into the test methods used under BCS. This opportunity complements any existing training on this key aspect of PAS 110, as the understanding of test results is important for maintaining compliance and deciding how to respond to test failures. The webinar includes detailed explanation of the RBP test, which has been discussed at length at the BCS TAC and Operators Forums due to the challenges presented by inoculum inhibition experienced by some operators. Our CCS webinars have proven popular with compost producers, providing a chance to learn and an effective platform for discussion on this topic with REAL and other producers.

The cost is £50pp to attend. If you are interested in attending the webinar or if you would like any further information, please contact emma@realschemes.org.uk.

REA's ORG Conference

The REA are hosting their next organics recycling conference, exhibition, and dinner on the **31st of March**, celebrating their 25th anniversary.

This year's event offers an opportunity to get up to speed with changes, challenges, and opportunities, in the sector, including the Government's Waste and Resource Strategy which will introduce requirements for all food and garden waste to be separately collected, as well as a wide range of regulatory changes such as the new Farming Rules for Water and the Quality Protocol.

REAL will be attending and we are looking forward to seeing people in person again!

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