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## Latest updates from BCS

- **Reminder: Annual Participant Survey**
- **Upcoming events**
- **2023 Annual report**

### Reminder: Annual Participant Survey

Last month, REAL launched our annual [Biofertiliser Certification Scheme participant survey](#) and a separate [Research Hub survey](#). These brief surveys (~5 minutes each) are designed to collect feedback on your experiences, satisfaction levels, and ideas for improvement. Your responses are helping us assess participant satisfaction and prioritise areas for development.

As a reminder, the deadline for both surveys is **31st of October**, following the upcoming BCS Operators' Forum. You can find the surveys [here](#) and [here](#).

If you haven't already, we encourage you to participate in both surveys to contribute to the enhancement of our services.

### Upcoming events

#### BCS webinars

REAL is holding the second round of 2024 webinars, designed to deepen your understanding of the Biofertiliser Certification Scheme and PAS 110 standards. These sessions offer invaluable insights for operators and consultants in the biofertiliser industry.

The BCS digestate sampling webinar is being held on the **31st of October** and covers the following:

- Key requirements of PAS 110
- REAL's guidance on sampling liquid materials (BSI PAS110:2014)
- Practical sampling techniques
- Developing robust sampling Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

This webinar is particularly beneficial for operators facing sampling-related non-conformances or those new to the scheme.

This webinar provides a platform for open discussion on representative sampling practices.

The BCS sample testing webinar is being held on the **1st of November** and covers the following:

- In-depth explanations of test procedures
- Ensuring confidence in laboratory results
- Strategies for interpreting and addressing result failures

Don't miss this opportunity to engage with REAL experts and fellow operators in a collaborative learning environment.

Secure your place now by emailing [oliver@realschemes.org.uk](mailto:oliver@realschemes.org.uk)

#### Operators' Forum

The next BCS Producers' Forum is being held on the **2nd of October**. This online meeting provides operators with an opportunity to:

- Discuss the latest scheme developments
- Address certification challenges
- Share industry-wide concerns
- Network with fellow operators

If you would like to attend, you can email [oliver@realschemes.org.uk](mailto:oliver@realschemes.org.uk).

If you are unable to attend, but wish to have your concerns addressed, please contact our BCS operators' representatives, Jo Chapman ([Jo@acshropshire.co.uk](mailto:Jo@acshropshire.co.uk)) or Tom Brown ([tom.brown@stgreenpower.co.uk](mailto:tom.brown@stgreenpower.co.uk)).

You can find previous Forum minutes [here](#).

### REA PAS110 training course

REA Organics is running an online training course over 2 days focused on the PAS 110, the AD Quality Protocol, and the REAL Biofertiliser Certification. This online course will be held on the **24th - 25th of September** from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

This course is ideal for AD operators and staff involved in process control, quality management, and product dispatch. Key Topics include:

- PAS 110 principles and requirements
- Quality management systems and HACCP
- Input materials and pasteurisation requirements
- Sampling, analysis, and managing test failures
- AD Quality Protocol essentials
- BCS rules and requirements

Enhance your expertise in anaerobic digestion quality management and certification. Gain insights into industry best practices and regulatory compliance.

For more, click [here](#), and to book your place or for technical queries, contact Jenny Grant at [jenny@r-e-a.net](mailto:jenny@r-e-a.net).

### Annual report 2023

REAL has published its seventh annual report for the Biofertiliser Certification Scheme, providing an overview of the scheme and a summary of scheme developments in 2023.

This year's report is our longest yet at over 35 pages, containing 30 graphs and tables to provide clear and accessible insights into the state of the schemes by the end of 2023.

We encourage you to view the full report [here](#) for a comprehensive overview of the schemes, as well as updates from the Research Hub.

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