

**For Immediate Release**  
**Maidstone, 11<sup>th</sup> March**

## **FARM EXPO ENJOYS SUCCESSFUL SECOND SHOW**

Farming machinery and trade show, Farm Expo, establishes itself as a key date in the agricultural calendar after another successful event organised by the Kent County Agricultural Society.

Farm Expo took place at the Kent Showground on 4 March and welcomed 2500 visitors and hosted over 110 trade stands, 32 of which were new to the event. Visitors got the chance to see the latest machinery and services for the agricultural industry from the large range of national and international manufacturers and suppliers.

The headline seminar looked to the next ten years for farming. Phil Jarvis from the NFU Environment Forum, rural commentator Rob Yorke, and NIAB EMR Managing Director Mario Caccamo gave their insights into the next decade in agriculture including a discussion of the NFU's Net Zero pledge.

Farmers also had the opportunity to hear expert advice on diversification. Charles Trotman from the CLA, Brachers partner Lee May, and Kristina Boulden, director at Romney Marsh Wools, spoke on why diversification is becoming increasingly important, what to consider when starting a project and gave advice on diversifying farm businesses.

James Forknall, Chairman of the Kent County Agricultural Society, said: "the second Farm Expo has been a great success. We enjoyed a large turnout which shows the importance Farm Expo has in providing a place for farmers to meet their peers and see developments in the industry."

Farm Expo also celebrated the many farming businesses serving the industry with the Best in Show Trade Stand Awards. Crawfords Ltd and Ernest Doe won the award for Best Machinery Stand. Best Service Stand went to BTF and Lambert & Foster, both chartered surveyors, and McVeigh Parker won the award for Best Product for their display of specialist fencing. The Best New Stand went to chartered accountants Chavereys.

Julian Barnes, Kent County Agricultural Society vice chairman and local wine producer, said: "we had a fantastic range of trade stands this year representing all aspects of the farming industry. Farm Expo not just serves the arable and livestock sectors but the farming industry as a whole, including fruit and viticulture. It was great to have such a diverse range of businesses with us representing the broad nature of farming."

Farm Expo launched with its first event in 2019 and has continued its success into its second year. The showcase event for farming machinery, supplies, and services will return for its third year on 3 March 2021.

[www.kentshowground.co.uk/farmexpo](http://www.kentshowground.co.uk/farmexpo)

**Press Contact:**

Becky Parrock

01622 633058

becky@kentshowground.co.uk

**-ENDS-**

**Notes to the Editors:***About Farm Expo*

Now in its second year, Farm Expo is a key date in Kent's agricultural calendar offering machinery, supplies, and services for the agricultural industry. With trade stands, seminars, debates, and networking opportunities, Farm Expo looks towards the future of farms, farming, and rural enterprises. Organised by the Kent County Agricultural Society, Farm Expo is free to visit.

*About the Kent County Agricultural Society (Registered Charity Number: 1001191)*

The Kent County Agricultural Society has been supporting education and improvement in agriculture, horticulture, forestry and related industries since its foundation in 1923. It provides grants to Kent Young Farmers Clubs and offers university scholarships to students wishing to study in related fields. The Society also provides free education on farming to young children through the 'Farming in the Classroom' initiative and the Living Land event.

The Society's headline event is the Kent County Show, the region's showcase event for farming, countryside, and rural life. The three day show in July brings together the best food, animals, and entertainment that Kent has to offer and reveals the true spirit of "The Garden of England."

Alongside its work in supporting education in agriculture for young children and students, the Society also supports the county's agricultural and land-based industries and workers through recognition awards and its trade show, Farm Expo in March.