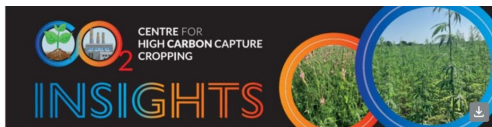




Cotswold Seeds Ltd
The Cotswold Business Village
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Insights: CHCx3 Newsletter Sept 2025



The newsletter of the Centre for High Carbon Capture Cropping September 2025

Included in this issue



Stuart Knight, Niab, CHC_x3 Knowledge Hub Leader

Welcome to the fifth edition of CHC_x3 Insights, the newsletter of the Centre for High Carbon Capture Cropping, or 'CHC_x3' for short.

Dr Lydia Smith, Niab

Unusual conditions in 2025 underline the need for trials

Research in focus

An update on the low carbon crop-to-product value chain work, led by the Biorenewables Development Centre, with the University of York and Lucid Insight

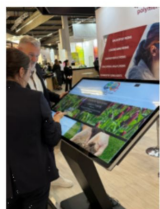


Ian Shield, Rothamsted Research

How much do you value do you place on soil organic amendments?

Meet a CHC_x3 Partner

Bitrez is a winner of the UK's coveted Queen's Award for Enterprise in Innovation in 2019, designing, developing and manufacturing award-winning polymers and specialist synthetic resins



Andrew Stevenson

Reflections on re-establishing flax production in Scotland

Stuart Knight, NIAB, CHC_x3 Knowledge Hub Leader

Welcome to the fifth edition of CHC_x3 Insights, the newsletter of the Centre for High Carbon Capture Cropping, or 'CHC_x3' for short.

With nearly 70 million people and a UK land area of c. 24 million hectares, ensuring that there is enough space for nature, water, and carbon capture, as well as all the infrastructure, housing, and food required by a rising population, will be an increasing challenge.

Back in January 2025 the Government launched a consultation on its vision for land use in England, and how to deliver it within a Land Use Framework. The consultation, which closed on 25 April, sought views on the types and scale of land use change that might be needed to meet environmental and climate targets, while also delivering new infrastructure and housing, and maintaining food production.

Meanwhile on 26 February the Climate Change Committee published its statutory report providing advice to the UK Government on the recommended level of the Seventh Carbon Budget (2038 to 2042). Nature-based measures such as planting new woodland and restoring peatlands, and energy crops, were identified as being integral to increasing land-based carbon sequestration, and to offsetting the

residual emissions from the combined agriculture and land use sectors by 2050.

In addition to producing enough food, the need for multifunctional land use is clear. The cropping options within CHC_x3 can undoubtedly help achieve this, enabling increased carbon capture, a diversified farm environment, and an enhanced supply of home-grown forage for livestock, bioenergy and biomaterials. See our articles in News from the Hub for more on these developments.

There are many ways to engage with the CHC_x3 research and Partners, including free events, and information and resources on www.carboncapturecropping.com to support productive carbon capture cropping. If you are interested in getting more involved in CHC_x3 or have a suggestion as to how else we can help, please do get in touch. Our contact details are provided on the last page of this newsletter.

In this edition of Insights, Lydia Smith, Niab CHC_x3 Project Lead gives her viewpoint on the challenging weather for carbon capture cropping over the past year. Helen Shiels describes progress with the Value Chains research. In 'News from the Hub' we highlight new developments from CHC_x3 and elsewhere. We hear from CHC_x3 partners Bitrez and Rothamsted Research about their work and aspirations for carbon capture cropping, and from flax grower Andrew Stephenson.

[Read Insights Here](#)

Date Posted: 9th September 2025