PRESS RELEASE 27/10/2022



Chris Packham to join farmers at Oxford Real Farming Conference

Chris Packham will join the Oxford Real Farming Conference in January as a show of solidarity with thousands of nature-friendly farmers in the UK and across the world.

The Springwatch host will join leading voices in agroecology from six continents who recognise the urgent need to transform food and farming by working with nature not against it.

Chris said: "Conservationists like myself are keen to work with agroecological farmers and support them at a time when their future is under threat. What they've already proved is that a methodology works. They are producing top-quality food with good standards of animal welfare, they look after the environment, and they ensure a rural economy that can last into the future.

"We need a new future for farming because we need to reshape the way we impact our landscape. Agroecological farmers are the pioneers. This should be a time when we pay them properly for looking after the environment and producing top-quality food."

The Oxford Real Farming Conference (ORFC) 2023 will be the largest gathering in the event's history, spanning six venues in Oxford with live-streamed and online-only sessions accessible to thousands across the world.

The ORFC 2023 programme will address critical issues including farming through an ecological and economic crisis, resisting the financialisation of nature, animal welfare, soil fertility and farmer-to-farmer mentoring and support. Tickets are on sale now: orfc.org.uk

ENDS

Notes to editors

Contact:

Sarah Buckingham, Communications Manager sarah@orfc.org.uk 07543 090731

Photos of Chris Packham

Oxford Real Farming Conference (ORFC), 4-6 January 2023 orfc.org.uk

The Oxford Real Farming Conference brings together farmers, growers, activists, policymakers and researchers who want to transform our food and farming system. In 2021 the conference went global and attracted close to 5,500 delegates. In 2023 the conference will be hybrid for the first time, with more than 100 sessions in Oxford and an online programme for thousands to access across the world. #ORFC23

People's Walk for Wildlife 2, 27 November 2022

Chris Packham is organising a People's Walk for Wildlife 2 with the support of many environmental NGOs. The walk will take place on 27 November in London from 12 noon. It will be a peaceful stroll to show government that an #AttackOnNature will not be tolerated anymore. Family-friendly and fully inclusive - costumes and colourful banners are encouraged. #WalkforWildlife2

Real Farming Trust realfarming.org

The ORFC is a programme of the <u>Real Farming Trust</u>. The Trust provides spaces for new ideas and partnerships to flourish, funds small-scale community food and farming, and works to build the evidence base for <u>agroecology</u>.