

The
DOUGLAS BOMFORD
SUPPORTING AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING *Trust*

**Support for projects and individuals
at Silsoe/Cranfield
and Women in Engineering**

Prof Jane Rickson
(Cranfield University)



Cranfield UNIVERSITY Silsoe



What the Trust did for us:

1. Support for projects and individuals at NCAE, Silsoe College and Cranfield University

- Variety of innovative and impactful research projects: e.g. conservation tillage (e.g. Dr Mike Giannitsopoulos, below), soil erosion control in maize, cover cropping, computer tomography scanning, precision irrigation, water and energy management
- Links with industry: e.g. Frontier Agriculture, George Sly, Cobrey Farms, Lamport Hall, NFU Mutual, Wye and Usk Foundation





Cranfield UNIVERSITY Silsoe



What the Trust did for us:

1. Support for projects and individuals at NCAE, Silsoe College and Cranfield University

- Variety of innovative and impactful research projects: e.g. conservation tillage (e.g. Dr Mike Giannitsopoulos, below), soil erosion control in maize, cover cropping, computer tomography scanning, precision irrigation, water and energy management
- Links with industry: e.g. Frontier Agriculture, George Sly, Cobrey Farms, Lamport Hall, NFU Mutual, Wye and Usk Foundation
- Links between academia: e.g. Moulton College, Harper Adams, Warwick
- International support: e.g. SAFAD (Student Aid for Agricultural Development), Malawi
- Curiosity led research (as well as practical solutions)
- Mentoring and support of students (and their supervisors!)
 - e.g. Membership of a PEI, the Institution of Agricultural Engineers
- Confidence of ECRs (early career researchers)
- Employability: e.g. Severn Trent Water Ltd, Defra, Postdoctoral Research, NIAB, AHDB, Beeswax Dyson farms





Cranfield UNIVERSITY Silsoe



What the DB Trust did for us: 2. Support for Women in Agriculture and Engineering

Some brilliant exemplars!

Dr Esther Ogunniyi - Effects of clay and organic matter amendments on water and nutrient retention of sandy soils.

Dr Jo Niziolomski - Optimising soil disturbance and mulch attenuation for erosion and runoff control in row crops.

Dr Alex Cooke C.Env - Compost-based filter socks to control runoff, sediment and phosphorus losses associated with extreme rainfall events.

Dr Agnese Mancini - Cover crops for sustainable maize production.

Silvia Arpano - Optimizing PAM spray application to mitigate soil splash and capping (2022)

+ Chloe Dunne PhD on the roles and recognition of women in UK farming

+ Women in Engineering initiative at Harper Adams University.



Alex Cooke - Environment and AgriFood PhD student at Cranfield University



"I am so unbelievably grateful to the DBT for the support they gave me for my PhD throughout the 3.5 yrs. They supported everything from fieldwork materials and analysis to conference attendance and mentorship, all of which gave me valuable experiences, support and fun.... Without my PhD, and so without DBT, I wouldn't have been successful in getting my current role, so thank you for everything – I couldn't have done it without you."

Dr. Alex Cooke, C.Env.

