

Professional DBT



The Douglas Bomford Trust

A hectic few months for people receiving financial support from the Douglas Bomford Trust. Technical Secretary David White reports.

Roger Hoxey, ex-Silsoe Research Institute, attended two conferences to present work on measurements in the atmospheric boundary layer (ABL). The first was the 9th International Colloquium on Bluff Body Aerodynamics and Applications 29th July – 2nd August 2024 held at the University of Birmingham.

Paper: *Fluctuating surface pressure measurements on the 6m cube.*

The second was the Wind Engineering Society WES2024 14th UK Conference on Wind Engineering 4th – 6th September 2024, held at the University of Southampton.

Paper: *Reference pressure for wind load measurements in a turbulent boundary layer.*

“I would like to thank the Douglas Bomford Trust for financial support enabling me to present our

work at a National and an International conference”.

Kit Franklin (IAgrE President Elect) and Ray King recently launched their series of podcasts, Brash Ag, aiming to help inform those working in the agricultural engineering sector as well as attract new people to the agricultural engineering space. The co-hosts discuss new and existing agtech topics as well as interviewing some of the key people in the industry.

“We are very grateful to DBT for making this possible. At this point, we have 11 episodes. The feedback has been very positive. Hopefully, we are spreading the word about the importance of Ag Engineering.”

The podcasts have already gained over 50 followers and over 500 streams across Apple music, Spotify and other leading podcast platforms.

A trip to Finland

The DBT funded 6 engineers to attend a 2-night educational visit to Finland in August. The trip included 2 company visits, including PONSSE Forestry machinery and the Valtra tractor factory.

Attendees learned about and saw new machine technology in the agricultural and forestry industries. Building personal networks was another key aspect. Attendees were Rhodri Williams, Henry Lapworth, Dom Neal, Sam Withers-Lewis, Rob



Weston and Charles Cooper.

“Finland is a beautiful country, and it is always great to meet new people, learn new skills and experience cultural differences. Thank you for the financial support “, Dom Neal.

A Japanese experience

Harper Adams University PhD student, Aimee Tonks, attended the 27th International Congress of Entomology (ICE), Japan, 25th – 30th August 2024.

ICE is one of the largest conferences for the science of entomology. Over 4,000 individuals from 82 countries and regions gathered at the Kyoto International Conference Centre.



“Attending and presenting my research at ICE 2024 was a truly incredible opportunity. The conference explored research across all areas of entomology, including pest management and pesticide application technologies. I gave an oral presentation of my PhD research exploring the potential of physically acting bioinsecticides for use in open-field agriculture. It was an honour to present my research at such a largescale, esteemed international congress and build my network as an early career researcher. I want to thank The Douglas Bomford Trust for their support and contribution towards this once in a lifetime opportunity”.

Prize giving

On 26th September, Nick August (DBT Chair) attended the Royal Agricultural University’s (RAU) Graduation Ceremony and Vice Chancellor’s Lunch. Nick presented the Douglas Bomford Trust prize to MSc Agricultural Technology and Innovation student, Mansour Haken, for the best agricultural engineering dissertation, “A Fungal Challenge

to Autopoiesis: Exploring a Novel Biology-Push Biomimicry of Mycorrhizal Fungi”. Congratulations, Mansour.

“On behalf of all of us at the RAU, thank you for being a Prize Sponsor. We value your support and hope that you will continue your involvement in the future”. Melissa Spagnoli, RAU, Development Office.



RAU Student Mansour Haken collects the DBT prize from Chair Nick August

Just Giving

Finally, if you wish to donate to the Trust to support its work, the Trust is now registered to accept donations through Just Giving, please follow the link on the DBT website. Just Giving will collect the donations on behalf of the Trust, and GiftAid can also be claimed on donations made by those who pay UK tax.



For further information, see the Trusts website:

www.dbt.org.uk

Or contact the Secretary David White via:

enquiries@dbt.org.uk

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