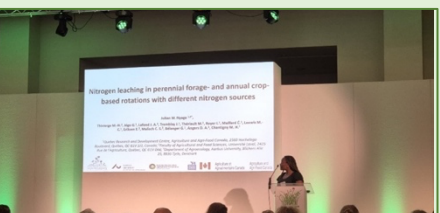


THIS ISSUE

- Doctoral researchers presented their work at the EGF conference, contributing through both oral and poster sessions
- Field site visit to the UK LegumeLegacy site
- Satellite Training of LegumeLegacy at FarmED



LegumeLegacy at the 23rd European Grassland Federation Symposium

The LegumeLegacy Network proudly participated in the 23rd European Grassland Federation (EGF) Symposium, held in Reading, UK, from 15–17 September 2025 under the theme “Multispecies Grasslands”. This international event brought together leading researchers, industry professionals, policymakers, and stakeholders committed to advancing sustainable grassland systems across Europe.

Members of the LegumeLegacy consortium showcased their innovative research through oral presentations, poster sessions, a field site visit, and a satellite training event at FarmED, highlighting the project's commitment to delivering climate-smart agriculture, improving forage diversity, and strengthening scientific collaboration.

Raniel Valencia

DRs presenting at 23rd Symposium of European Grassland Federation in Reading

Meret, Julian, Raniel and Ellen had the happy opportunity to present some of their work at the 23rd symposium of European Grassland Federation, held under the theme “Multispecies Grasslands”. The experience offered them a valuable chance to deliver oral presentations before a large audience of international experts, with more than 200 delegates attending the event.

Meret explored the role of functional traits to explain performances in multispecies grasslands, whereas Julian elaborated on nitrogen leaching in perennial forage- and annual crop-based rotations with different nitrogen sources. Raniel showed data on multispecies swards outperforming perennial ryegrass monocultures under drought and Ellen shared insights in the effects of sward diversity on herbage quantity and quality in managed grasslands on peat.

They were very delighted that they had the opportunity to present their scientific work as early-career scientists, strengthening their presentation and communication skills.

Ellen Baekelmans

Interested in the three-page papers submitted for this EGF Symposium? Check the proceedings here: [Proceedings | European Grassland Federation](#).

LEGUMELEGACY DRS PRESENTED POSTERS AT THE EGF 2025 CONFERENCE

Poster sessions at EGF 2025 Symposium

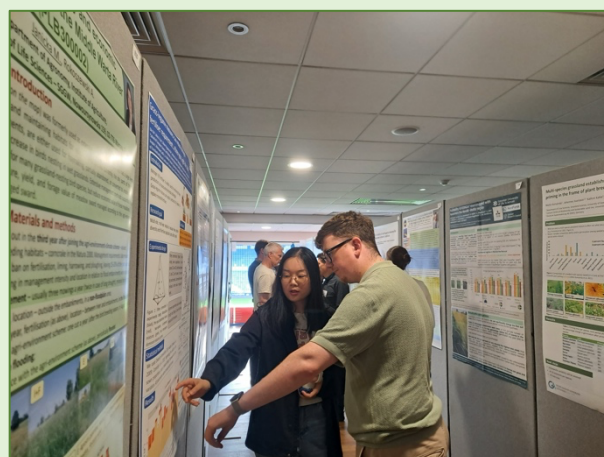
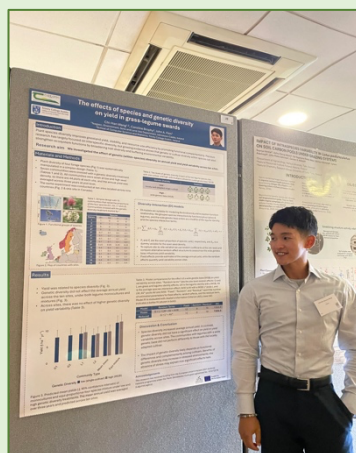
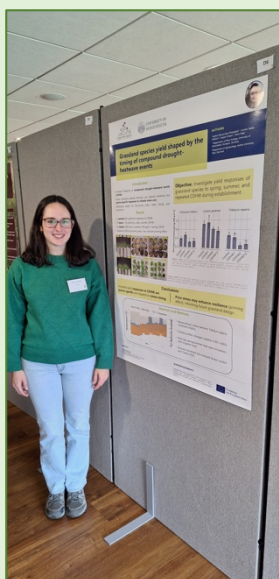
At the EGF 2025 Symposium, four Doctoral Researchers presented their work through poster sessions, showcasing the diversity and depth of ongoing grassland research within the network. The posters included:

- *Grass-legume mixtures can reduce nitrogen fertiliser requirement: a three-year, eight-site study* (Hu, et al.)
- *The effects of species and genetic diversity on yield in grass-legume swards* (Wang, et al.)
- *Impact of multi-species swards on in vitro digestibility and methane production* (Orešković, et al.)
- *Effect of sward diversity richness on photosynthesis parameters of selected grassland species* (Orešković, et al.)
- *Grassland species yield shaped by the timing of compound drought-heatwave events* (Philadelphi, et al.)

For several Doctoral Researchers, this was their first experience presenting a research poster at an international symposium. The event facilitated scientific exchange and provided the opportunity to engage with experts in the field, gain feedback on emerging results, and explore future collaborations. The poster sessions also enabled participants to explore a wide spectrum of research across Europe, learn from peers, and gain a deeper understanding of grassland systems under changing climatic and agronomic conditions.

Attending the EGF 2025 Symposium enriched both scientific insight and professional development through meaningful interactions and shared learnings within the grassland research community.

Emery Wang



Sophia Philadelphi, Emery Wang and Die Hu presenting their research poster.

LEGUMELEGACY UK SITE SHOWCASED DURING FIELD TOUR AT THE 23RD EGF SYMPOSIUM

LegumeLegacy UK Site Featured During the Field Tour at the 23rd EGF Symposium in Reading, UK

During the symposium, delegates had the opportunity to visit two of the University of Reading's key agricultural research farms: the Crop Research Unit and the Centre for Dairy Research. This part of the programme allowed participants to directly explore active research trials taking place at the University, including the LegumeLegacy experimental site.

As I am based at the University of Reading, my supervisor encouraged me to host one of the field stations at the Crop Research Unit to present the LegumeLegacy UK site to the delegates. I was truly honoured to take on this opportunity and represent our project during the field tour.

During the visit, I shared the overall goals of the LegumeLegacy project and presented initial results from our grassland phase. I highlighted the benefits of multispecies swards in terms of biomass yield and shared early findings on follow-on crop grain yield, which showed positive effects from multispecies swards.

The field tour generated productive discussions and insightful questions from delegates. The experience was highly rewarding, offering an excellent opportunity to communicate our research in an applied setting and engage with experts from across Europe.

Raniel Valencia



FARMED SATELLITE TRAINING: LEGUMELEGACY RESEARCHERS LEARN INNOVATIONS IN REGENERATIVE FARMING AND SHARE THEIR RESEARCH

Satellite training at FarmED in the Cotswolds

Following the successful participation at the EGF conference in Reading, the LegumeLegacy consortium enjoyed a one-day satellite training at FarmEd in the Cotswolds. In this tranquil scenery the Doctoral Researchers gave five-minute pitches, sharing their individual projects and results in a popular science format. The FarmED team also shared their projects, including the Centre for High Carbon Capture Cropping (CHCx3), and guided the group on a Farm Walk through the surrounding demonstration fields, which showcases regenerative agricultural systems.

Linn Huser



The EGF symposium was an important milestone for the LegumeLegacy consortium. It provided the researchers with valuable opportunities to present their work, exchange ideas, and connect with colleagues from across Europe. Through presentations, poster sessions, the field tour, and the FarmED visit, the event supported knowledge sharing and highlighted the growing interest in multispecies grassland systems.

Rather than just an academic gathering, the experience helped advance our collective understanding of sustainable farming practices and their potential to support more resilient agricultural systems.

Raniel Valencia



LegumeLegacy is an MSCA Doctoral Network

<https://legumelegacy.scss.tcd.ie/>

This newsletter was edited by Doctoral Researchers Ellen Baekelmans,
Linn Huser, Raniel Valencia and Emery Wang.



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