



The Arable Group •
Morley Business Centre •
Deopham, Road •
Morley •
Wymondham •
Norfolk •
NR18 9DF •
Tel 01953 713200 •
Fax 01953 605811 •
Email east@thearablegroup.com •
Web www.thearablegroup.com •

30 September 2009

Dear Member

I am pleased to report that, at the Extraordinary General Meeting of The Arable Group that took place yesterday, the resolutions before the meeting were passed by a majority considerably in excess of the 75% required.

TAG and NIAB have therefore joined forces to become the NIAB group, creating a new national independent crop research and information centre with a strong vision as set out in our previous communications to you.

I firmly believe that this now provides the springboard for exciting changes to our service over the coming year, as well as strengthening the voice of independent research. We aim to keep you fully informed of our plans through the usual programme of member events this autumn and winter.

I would like to take this opportunity of introducing Tony Pexton, who chairs the board of NIAB. Apart from overseeing operations on the family farm in East Yorkshire, Tony has been very active in farming organisations including the NFU. In 2005 he was awarded the OBE for services to agriculture. He currently also chairs the Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust and the Sustainable Arable Link R&D Programme Management Committee for Defra. Further details of the NIAB board and organisation may be found on the website (www.niab.com).

Robert Harle and I have joined the NIAB board and look forward to working with Tony and the rest of the board in furthering the interests of the whole NIAB group, and all of its members and customers.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Elliott', written in a cursive style.

Geoff Elliott