The BCPC Congress 2019

Understanding the demands and opportunities of a “Green Brexit” – how do we deliver food production alongside environmental enhancement?

19 - 20 November 2019
Hilton Brighton Metropole
Brighton, UK
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For almost 30 years, TSG Consulting has provided companies around the world with regulatory guidance and scientific expertise. Our experts are highly knowledgeable in the core sciences and the public policy decisions that are used to structure and implement environmental and chemical regulations. By combining this knowledge with our industry experience, we provide companies with comprehensive services from the early stages of product development to marketplace entry and ongoing compliance.

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Welcome to The BCPC Congress 2019

The BCPC Congress is without doubt a unique event, providing a single forum where both regulatory and non- or quasi-regulatory challenges to crop production can be considered. Since its formation over fifty years ago, BCPC’s mission has been “to promote the science and practice of sustainable crop production”. Our initial thrust was to provide information on the use and benefits of advances in (chemical) crop protection, but we evolved over the decades to promotion of all science-based tools to support productive, safe and environmentally benign crop production.

Indeed, the light of recent trends, our mission statement could be extended, to state ... “to counteract those who misuse or ignore science in advancing their political agendas, to the detriment of food production and ultimately human well-being”. Let’s remind ourselves that two years ago:

- the Minister of Agriculture, addressing the Congress, stated that a stand-alone UK agrochemical and agribiotech regulatory regime would be based on scientific risk-assessment – and added that the weight of evidence did not support the withdrawal of neonicotinoid insecticides in the UK.
- a wide range of globally recognised scientific and other authoritative bodies (including the WHO) were strongly supporting the view that glyphosate was not a “probable carcinogen”.

I will not comment on the direction of travel, both in the UK and more widely, since then. Suffice it to say that whatever future regulatory and non-regulatory standards UK food producers will have to meet (whatever our relationship with the EU), demands to deliver increased UK food production and environmental enhancement will increase inexorably. Any (financial) support will be predominately for environmental and other “public goods” benefits rather than food production; lobbying for restrictions on agricultural products and practices, frequently based on or supporting populist misconceptions, will not abate.

This makes advances in, and defence of, the application of science to farming practices, and to regulatory support for opportunities from emergent technologies, absolutely critical to meet the combined goals.

We are very pleased to have overseas (with thanks to the AHDB for speaker sponsorship) and UK speakers on these topics, from a range of influential agricultural organisations. We are also very fortunate to again host the traditional CRD Workshop, particularly this year, with its very topical focus on regulating new agricultural technologies.

I am sure that delegates will take full advantage of the opportunities, and look forward to – as always - stimulating presentations, discussion and conclusions.

Dr Colin Ruscoe — Chairman, BCPC Advisory Board

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Terrestrial Ecotoxicology Specialist

A GLP-compliant CRO, specialising in terrestrial ecotoxicological studies, offering a comprehensive range of services for evaluating the effects of pesticides. Studies are carried out following internationally-accepted guidelines under laboratory, aged-residue, semi-field or field conditions. Studies utilise precision sprayers and extensive controlled-environment facilities.

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As experts in Chemical Regulation, Ecotoxicology and Environmental Fate, we are perfectly placed to find solutions for your products and risk assessments.

Chemical Regulation

Our team consists of experienced regulatory consultants with expert knowledge in the procedures and requirements concerning the regulation of plant protection products, biocides and substances registered under REACH in the EU. Our regulatory affairs team can provide a range of support services including:

- Devising strategies for substance & product registrations in EU Member States
- Data gap analysis and data filling strategies to meet the data requirements for substance and product registrations
- Registration dossier preparation and submission
- Post-submission support and dossier defence

Ecotoxicology & Environmental Fate

We support sustainable agriculture in an IPM-world by taking a scientific approach to environmental risk assessment. Whilst rigorously adhering to the current regulations, we perform both lower tier risk assessments, as well as refinements at the higher tier, to register products that are both efficacious and environmentally safe. We have particular strengths for refining a risk assessment in a realistic way within our team in the following areas:

Ecotoxicology
- Assessment for endocrine disrupting potential
- Ecological modelling approaches (e.g. IBM, TKTD)
- Experience of bespoke testing strategies (e.g. pulsed exposure, field testing)

Environmental fate
- Assessments of aged sorption
- Kinetics analysis, both laboratory and field data
- Spatial assessments for both groundwater and surface water
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Monday 18 November 2019
18.30 – 19.30 Pre-event Welcome Drinks Reception

Day 1 – Tuesday 19 November 2019
08.30 – 09.50 Registration and Refreshments, (Ambassador Room)
10.00 – 10.15 Welcome and Introduction - Dr Colin Ruscoe (BCPC), (Regency Room)

Plenary Session
10.15 – 10.30 Chairman John Wallace (Suffolk Farmer and Chair of The Morley Agricultural Foundation)
10.30 – 11.00 Post Brexit. The political perspective from Brussels Julie Girling (Former Member of European Parliament (MEP), for the South West of England and Gibraltar)
11.00 – 11.30 Morning Break, (Ambassador Room)
11.30 – 12.00 The role of advice in delivering for the environment Robert Sheasby (Agricultural Industries Confederation)
12.00 – 12.30 Time for a new approach to develop sustainable plant health solutions for UK farmers and growers Guy Smith (National Farmers Union, NFU)
12.30 – 13.00 Plant Genetic Technologies for a Green Brexit: Opportunities and Problems Dr Tina Barsby OBE (National Institute of Agricultural Botany, NIAB)
13.00 – 13.20 Q&A Session
13.20 – 14.15 Lunch Break, (1890 Restaurant)

Stream A, (Regency Room)
Regulatory Affairs
Chairman Iain Watt (TSG Consulting)
14.15 – 14.45 Industry input in managing key challenges of the revised General Food Law Dr Martyn Griffiths (Bayer SAS)
14.45 – 15.15 GLP, Trade Secrets and Regulatory Transparency: where do we go from here? Dr Mike Carroll (TSG Consulting)
15.15 – 15.45 Afternoon Break, (Ambassador Room)
15.45 – 16.15 Endocrine disruption: science and regulatory significance Stephen Ruckman (TSG Consulting)
16.15 – 16.45 Recent developments in regulatory data protection Hans Mattaar (ECCA)
16.45 – 17.15 Regulatory considerations for Gene Editing: Challenges and Opportunities Karen Holt (Regulatory Affairs)
17.15 – 17.35 Q&A Session
17.35 – 17.40 Close of day 1

Stream B, (Dukes Room)
Science-based Agriculture
Chairman Jim Orson (BCPC)
14.15 – 14.45 Using science and technology to meet future needs for quality, profitable food production and environmental protection: A grower and processor’s perspective Harry Wilder (Barfoots of Botley)
14.45 – 15.15 How do we best use insecticides in better pest control strategies? Professor Lin Field (Rothamsted Research)
15.15 – 16.15 Science-based Agriculture Discussion Forum Chairman Jim Orson (BCPC)
Panel members include speakers from the plenary session
15.45 – 16.45 Recent developments in regulatory data protection Hans Mattaar (ECCA)
16.45 – 17.15 Regulatory considerations for Gene Editing: Challenges and Opportunities Karen Holt (Regulatory Affairs)
# Programme

## The BCPC Congress 2019

**Understanding the demands and opportunities of a “Green Brexit” – how do we deliver food production alongside environmental enhancement?**

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Dr Tina Barsby OBE
NIAB
Tina is the CEO of NIAB, previously the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, which is celebrating its centenary this year. Tina is a plant geneticist with significant experience in the agricultural crop sector. With a PhD from the University of Nottingham, she spent several years in North America before returning to the UK. After almost 20 years working for the Limagrain Group, she became CEO of NIAB in 2008. NIAB is an internationally recognised and innovative organisation, operating under the strapline ‘Plant Science in to Practise’. Tina is committed to the translation of plant science into products and services of value to industry and to society at large. She is an Associate of the Royal Agricultural Society and was awarded an OBE in the 2018 New Year’s Honours List for services to Agricultural Sciences and Biotechnology.

Dr Michael Carroll
TSG Consulting
Mike is a Principal Plant Protection Consultant at TSG Consulting. He has previously worked for Arysta LifeScience, Dow AgroSciences and Monsanto in agrochemical research and development, regulatory affairs and project management. He holds BSc and PhD degrees in Biochemistry from UK universities of Bath and London respectively. Mike has over 35 years’ experience gained in the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries in the UK, Germany, Belgium and the USA. He is particularly interested in how regulatory processes differ from country to country and how local politics ultimately controls the regulatory process.

Simon Compton
Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
Simon is a Regulatory Scientific Specialist working for the Health and Safety Executive, specialising in the fate of compounds in the environment. Following service in the RAF he gained a degree in Physical Geography and Geology and began work for a research laboratory. Simon then took up an opportunity within CRD’s environmental fate team. He has 17 years of combined laboratory and regulatory environmental fate experience. He is a member of the OECD groups for both plant uptake and drones. Simon is also a member of the new technologies team at CRD.

Professor Robert Edwards
Newcastle University
Robert holds a BSc in Biochemistry and a PhD in Environmental Toxicology from Bath University and the University of London respectively. His interests are focussed on innovation in weed control, developed through working in both the private and public sector in the UK and USA. He is an author of over 300 papers, patents and book articles and is currently the Head of the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences at Newcastle University. Here, he continues to direct personal research programmes in crop protection, with a specific focus on the control of wild grasses in cereal crops, for which he was awarded the RASE research medal in 2019. Outreach and industrial roles in the farming sector include Chair of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society’s Farmer Scientist Network and the Director of the Institute for Agrifood Research and Innovation, formed in 2014 between Newcastle University and Fera Science Ltd.

Professor Lin Field
Rothamsted Research
Lin is an insect molecular biologist and her personal research interests are understanding insecticide mode of action and resistance at the biochemical/molecular level. Her research group uses the latest techniques to understand resistance and insecticide selectivity and seeks to apply this to better use of pesticides in the field through links with partners in the agronomy, farming and agro-chemical sectors. As Head of Department at Rothamsted Research, she has also developed a wide knowledge of alternative pest control strategies. The overall aim of Lin’s department is to deliver effective and sustainable crop protection strategies.
which minimise the effects on non-targets and the environment. Lin has been, and continues to be, an active participant in the debate on whether pesticides are needed and how they may affect bee populations. This has involved speaking to fellow scientists, farmers/growers, bee keepers, policy makers and the general public.

Julie Girling
Former Member of European Parliament (MEP) for the South West of England and Gibraltar

Julie has held a variety of roles across her extensive career. With a particular interest in the environment, she now works in an advisory capacity. Julie was delighted to be elected as Conservative MEP for the South West of England and Gibraltar in June 2009 and successfully re-elected for a second term in May 2014. She currently sits on the Committees for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, Agriculture & Rural Affairs and for Women’s Rights and Gender Equality.

Dr Martin Grantley-Smith
Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)

Martin has directed the strategy for AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds since 2015, working with the Cereals and Oilseeds Board to shape the priorities and the business plan. Prior to his current role, Martin worked as Business Development Manager with HGCA, taking a strong interest in developing cereals and oilseeds supply chains. Before it was merged into the AHDB, he worked for the Meat and Livestock Commission in a wide range of different roles. He has significant agricultural and post-farmgate experience in a number of different areas including marketing and exports, strategic planning and development, project management and managing industry and government relations across the UK. Much of Martin’s time is spent on seeking ways to join up supply chains for the good of all businesses within them and encouraging the adoption of tools that can improve their performance. Martin holds a degree in Animal Physiology and a PhD in Ruminant Nutrition.

Professor Rhys Green
University of Cambridge

Rhys Green is a conservation scientist researching the conservation of wild species and how the impacts upon them of farming, pollution and climate change can be reduced. He has a degree in Zoology from Cambridge University and a PhD on the foraging ecology of agricultural pests in the Applied Biology department at Cambridge. After his postdoctoral research, he joined the Research Department of the RSPB to work on bird conservation problems. In 1999 he was seconded by the RSPB to work in the Zoology department at the University of Cambridge where he helped run the Conservation Science Group. He retired from the RSPB in 2017 but continues to research conservation problems in Zoology.

Dr Martyn Griffiths
Bayer SAS

Martyn graduated from University of Newcastle Upon Tyne and obtained his doctorate in the field of liquid fertilisers from Harper Adams College. His involvement in crop protection started 30 years ago with Schering. After five years of field development experience, he moved to Frankfurt, Germany with AgrEvo, where he held a number of positions including responsibility for registrations in China, Taiwan and Korea. With the formation of Bayer CropScience, he has worked in the European Regulatory Affairs team in Lyon, France and his current position is Senior Regulatory Scientific Affairs Manager in EMEA Regulatory Science. He is chairman of the ECPA Regulatory Policy Team.
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Dr Chris Hartfield
National Farmers’ Union (NFU), Plant Health Unit

Chris Hartfield’s career in the farming industry started in research, with six years spent working on the biocontrol of pest insects. He then spent four years working with farmers to deliver UK Government agri-environment schemes, before joining the National Farmers’ Union fifteen years ago. Most of his NFU career has been spent on horticultural policy, managing the team for two years. In 2017, Chris moved to join a new NFU Plant Health Unit as Senior Regulatory Affairs Adviser and lead the NFU’s science and regulatory affairs team for a short while. His work focusses on the regulatory process and its implications for availability and use of crop protection products, and the relationship with UK regulatory authorities, EU institutions and international regimes. Chris is the NFU policy lead on Brexit and pesticides, and on bee health and insect pollinators. He’s also a driving force behind the NFU’s new plant health strategy.

Karen Holt
Regulatory Affairs Freelancer

Karen graduated with a BSc in Biochemistry and Microbiology from Canterbury and started work at Syngenta, Bracknell in 1987 as a Protein Biochemist in Plant Growth Regulator and Herbicide Research. As part of the research team, she coordinated projects involving cell wall biochemistry and molecular biology in a variety of plants including tomatoes and trees. She moved to Biotechnology Regulatory Affairs in 1996 and was involved in the launch of the first genetically modified product in the UK. Since then, she has led Global and EU projects helping to shape regulatory frameworks as well as being active in OECD and on the Convention on Biological Diversity. As a Senior Regulatory Affairs Manager in Syngenta she led a team responsible for gaining regulatory approval for genetically modified plants destined for both research and commercial purposes in the EU. She is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology.

Dr Alun James
Sagentia

Alun has worked within the Sagentia Group since 2000 with a particular focus on mathematical modelling, theoretical physics and in sensor development. Innovation has been a key feature of Alun’s work, which has resulted in several patents, in areas as diverse as snowboards, safety switches, medical devices, position sensing and tracking technologies. In recognition of this work, he has been the winner of two innovation awards. Before joining Sagentia, Alun worked at various establishments and agencies of the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD), ending in DERA, which has now been split to become QinetiQ and DSTL. Alun worked on sonar modelling & acoustic signature prediction for naval applications, ultimately becoming the UK technical authority on submarine acoustic signature prediction. Alun obtained his PhD in Theoretical Acoustics from the Applied Mathematics department of Imperial College, London. His MSc (in mathematical modelling and numerical analysis) and BA (first class honours in mathematics) were both awarded by St Catherine’s College, Oxford University.

Hans Mattaar
ECCA

Hans graduated from Wageningen Agricultural University in 1984 and joined the crop protection division of Rhône-Poulenc as Regulatory Affairs Expert for the Netherlands. He then moved to product defence for the Benelux countries, and in 1992 he joined the European Regulatory Team as a coordinator for European regulatory affairs. Hans then held the position of European Public & Governmental Affairs (PGA) Manager and Regulatory Strategy Manager for seven years when the company became part of Bayer Crop Science. In January 2008 he left Bayer to pursue a career as Senior Advisor with Pappas & Associates, Attorneys at Law, in Brussels. Since June 2012 he has also held the position of Technical Director for ECCA.
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Jim Orson
BCPC Advisory Board
Jim graduated from the University of Reading in 1969, and then joined the state advisory service in which he had various roles from initially being a Local Adviser to eventually becoming National Cereals Specialist. In 1998 he became Director of the Morley Research Centre in Norfolk and in 2003 became Technical Director of NIAB TAG until his retirement from full-time work in 2007. Over his career he developed special interests in weed control, wheat production and agricultural systems and visited Australia, New Zealand and Canada on several occasions to speak on these topics. He served on the UK Government’s Advisory Committee on Pesticides (ACP) for six years and the UK Government’s Advisory Committee for Releases into the Environment (ACRE) for ten years. He is currently on the board of the Voluntary Initiative and is a member of the BCPC Advisory Board.

Dr Bill Parker
Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (ADHB)
Bill joined ADAS, the UK’s largest independent provider of agricultural and environmental consultancy, as an Advisory Entomologist in 1984. He became involved in a wide range of research and strategic consultancy projects on pest management in arable and horticultural crops. He became Head of ADAS’ Crop Protection and Horticulture research programmes, and then took on the role of Horticulture Research & Consultancy Manager. Bill joined AHDB in 2009, as Head of Horticulture, where he was directing a wide-ranging programme of research and knowledge exchange on horticultural crops. He took on the role of Director of Research, responsible for AHDB’s entire crops and livestock research programme, before becoming Head of Technical Programmes in 2019. Bill was an independent member of the Advisory Committee on Pesticides (ACP) from 2008 to 2013, and Chair of the UK Insecticide Resistance Action Group from 2009 to 2014.

Nick Poole
Foundation for Arable Research (Australia) Ltd
Nick is the Managing Director of FAR Australia, an applied research and extension organisation serving the cropping industry in Australia. He graduated from Exeter University in the UK and has 35 years’ experience as a research agronomist, in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. He started his career at the Royal Agricultural College working for Arable Research Centres (now NIAB TAG). In 2003 he became a fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society of England for his research in cereal crops. He moved to work for the Foundation for Arable Research (FAR) in New Zealand working primarily on collaborative projects in Australia until 2012 when FAR Australia was set up. He has led national research projects and worked collaboratively with CSIRO, state departments, farming groups and the wider supply industry. His specific interests are farming systems research, cereal disease management and challenging the current boundaries of wheat productivity worldwide.

Stephen Ruckman
TSG Consulting
With over 35 years’ experience delivering programmes in agrochemicals, food substances and pharmaceuticals, Stephen strengthens the company’s toxicology and risk assessment expertise. He also leads TSG’s Human Health team, which covers hazard and risk assessment, residues and chemistry. Stephen’s career spans contract research, consultancy and the pharmaceutical industries, including roles at Huntingdon Life Sciences (now Envigo) and Cambridge Environmental Assessments. His expertise includes toxicology safety assessment and the provision of higher tier solutions and refinements for regulatory risk assessments of plant protection products, biocides, food substances and general chemicals. Stephen has a BSc in Biological Sciences, an MSc Biomedical Sciences and a Diploma in Management Studies.

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Dr Colin Ruscoe
BCPC

Colin is the Executive Chairman and President of the BCPC (British Crop Production Council), Communications Director for SynTech Research Inc, and the Chair of the Scientific Committee for IVCC (Innovative Vector Control Consortium). He also works as a business development consultant for bioscience, media and charitable organisations. Colin has previously held roles at management level for research stations, in business planning and global and European product development, as well as conducting bioscience research and insecticide discovery, for companies including Syngenta, Zeneca, and ICI Agrochemicals.

Robert Sheasby
Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC)

Robert joined AIC in May 2018 as Chief Executive. The Agricultural Industries Confederation is the Trade Association for members of the agri-supply chain, pulling together Crop Protection, Animal Feed, Fertiliser, Arable Marketing and Seed Sectors. The Confederation brings together the supply chain to ensure their collective voice is heard within Government. Previously, Robert had worked for the NFU for 17 years as Regional Director East Anglia, Regional Director North West and NFU Surveyor for England and Wales. His first role with the NFU was working on EU livestock schemes. Prior to the NFU, Robert worked in private practice surveying working in the Thames Valley and the West Country. Robert is a Governor of Easton & Otley College and has previously been a Member of the CBI Regional Council, and worked closely with LEPS in the NFU areas he was involved in. Robert is also a Chartered Surveyor, and a Member of the Agricultural Law Association. Robert holds an Honours degree in Rural Estate Management from Seale Hayne.

Guy Smith
National Farmers Union (NFU)

Guy is the Deputy President of the NFU with portfolio responsibilities for crop health and science. He also holds the Vice-Chairman position of the COPA Phyto-Sanitary committee in Brussels. Guy is involved with farming in north-east Essex with 300 hectares of combinable crops and potatoes along with 70 hectares of Countryside Stewardship.

Dr Chris Snaith
Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

Chris joined the Health and Safety Executive in 1991, initially working on the registration of non-agricultural pesticides under the then national arrangements, COPR (Control of Pesticides Regulations, 1986). After five years, she won a place on a civil service wide development scheme and spent over 20 years in a variety of posts within HSE, both corporate jobs in HR and stakeholder engagement, as well as regulatory roles ranging from setting operational policy on cross-cutting safety issues (e.g. workplace transport and falls from height), to establishing environmental impact assessment arrangements for decommissioning nuclear reactors. This was followed by eight years leading her team of specialist inspectors through a period of significant change, as proactive occupational ill-health prevention became a higher priority for HSE/GB. Chris returned to chemicals regulatory schemes in 2018 and heads the Plant Protection Products Unit, based in York. As of June 2019, she took on the chairmanship of the newly established OECD Drones Working Group.
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Paul Temple
Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)

Paul farms 312 hectares in partnership on the East Yorkshire Wolds, producing cereals for seed, oilseed rape, vegetables and beef. The farm has participated in the GM Field Scale Evaluation trials and is part of the Higher Level Stewardship scheme. Paul is a past vice president for the NFU, chairman of the COPA COGECA Cereals, Oilseeds & Protein Group and founder of the European Biotech Forum. Paul previously sat on the National Non-Food Crops Centre Board and he has recently taken up the role of Voluntary Initiative Chairman (VI Chairman).

John Wallace
The Morley Agricultural Foundation

John has been farming in and around Coney Weston, near Bury St Edmunds since 1968, growing combinable crops and sugar beet. After farming on his own for forty years, in 2008 he formed a contract farming venture, Wallace Daniels Ltd. with his business partner Andrew Daniels. The business has grown and currently manages 5,500 acres in North Suffolk and South Norfolk for 12 landowners. As the NFU county chairman for Suffolk in 1988-89, he has been involved in a number of other outside organisations including St Edmunds Borough Council, Suffolk TEC, the MAFF Ministers Regional Panel, the Farm Diversification Capital Grant Scheme (East Anglia) Ltd., the Chadacre Agricultural Trust and the Morley Agricultural Foundation of which he is the current Chairman. Always interested in innovative technologies, he hosted one of the SCIMAC GM beet trials in 2000. John’s particular interest is in enabling modern farming to exist alongside realistic environmental policies.

Iain Watt
TSG Consulting

Iain is the Head of Plant Protection at TSG Consulting. In this role, he is the central contact for communication and coordination of dossier preparation and submission according to customer requirements. Iain has worked for 30 years in multiple disciplines in the crop protection sector, both in the UK and overseas, including research, agricultural/horticultural extension and latterly industry. Most recently, Iain joined TSG from Fine Agrochemicals Ltd where he spent the past 14 years as Regulatory Affairs Manager. He brings extensive experience of plant protection product authorisation processes from many global markets, with a particular focus on the EU and the US. Prior to this, he spent two years as Regulatory Affairs Manager at the industry trade association the Crop Protection Association where he acted as the liaison between UK Crop Protection companies and UK regulatory authorities. Iain has a degree in Zoology from Aberdeen University, and he holds a postgraduate MSc from Imperial College in Applied Entomology.

Harry Wilder
Barfoots of Botley Limited

Harry is the Head of Agronomy and Supplier Development at Barfoots of Botley Limited. The company is one of Europe’s leading vegetable growers, importers and packers. Supplying premium vegetables to the UK’s retailers, Barfoots have farming operations in the UK, Spain, Senegal and Peru and source produce from over twenty-five countries globally. Harry has worked for Barfoots for nine years and is responsible for overseeing all aspects relating to agronomic strategy, quality and the sustainability agenda. Producing a range of high-value vegetable crops with the rapidly reducing pesticide armoury, whilst meeting the increasingly high customer expectations of price, quality, food-safety and environmental standards, is a challenge that Barfoots are at the forefront of!
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