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BCPC Congress 2024

Shaping the future of crop protection



With domestic agricultural policy firmly behind driving sustainable farming practices, this year's BCPC Congress explores how these policies are shaping food production in the UK and their potential impact on pesticide regulation and use. At a broad level, there is a balance between producing enough nutritious food for a growing population while minimising environmental impacts.

The government's Sustainable Farming Incentive offers attractive options for taking land out of food production to boost biodiversity, improve soil health and mitigate climate change. However, how is this effecting land use, and could it potentially harm the country's food security? Will the change of government lead to further policy modifications?

These issues will be the focus of the first morning, before the conference programme splits into two streams in the afternoon.

Stream A, Regulatory Affairs will examine the evolving UK crop protection regulatory landscape, including latest news from HSE CRD, the national regulator for the UK, and possible regulatory implications of precision application.

Stream B, New Approaches to Agronomy will explore how the latest science is being applied, including precision application and the best use of emerging technologies.

On the final day, the future of pesticides will become the central theme, discussing how the Sustainable Use Directive, the National Action Plan for Pesticides and the Sustainable Farming Incentive are likely to change the landscape for pesticide use in the years ahead.

The programme will then move to an afternoon workshop, giving delegates an opportunity to provide comment and input on how HSE's Chemical Regulation Division plans to regulate plant protection products in line with government policy.

In addition to the packed programme, there will be plenty of opportunities to network with fellow delegates, sharing experiences and insights to apply in your respective fields of expertise.

A big thank you to Jim Orson, lain Watt and Henry Creissen for putting together what I am sure will be a compelling and thought-provoking programme, to all our speakers who have kindly agreed to present, and to our event partner TSG Forum for organising the event.

Julian Westaway General Manager, BCPC

THE BCPC CONGRESS ORGANISING COMMITTEE



General Manager **British Crop Production** Council (BCPC)



Member of the BCPC Advisory Board British Crop Production Council (BCPC)



Director of the Institute for Agronomy and Agriculture University of the Highlands and Islands



Head of Plant Protection TSG Consulting

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Monday 25 November

18.00 – 19.00 P	re-congress drinks reception and presentation of BCPC Awards
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Day 1 - Tuesday 26 November

08.00 - 09.30	Registration and refreshments			
09.30 - 09.40	Welcome and introduction Julian Westaway (General Manager, British Crop Production Council, BCPC)			
Plenary session:	Balancing environmental and human health protection	on versus food production		
09.40 - 09.45	Chair: Tony Pexton (BCPC Advisory Board and Farme	Chair: Tony Pexton (BCPC Advisory Board and Farmer)		
09.45 - 10.15	How sustainability in agriculture can help drive good growth Prof Jules Pretty (<i>Professor of Environment & Society, University of Essex</i>)			
10.15 - 10.45	Creating opportunities for wildlife and sustainable crop production through the deployment of funded environmental measures Dr Alastair Leake (Director - The Allerton Project, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust)			
10.45 - 11.15	Morning break: exhibition & networking			
11.15 - 11.55	Yield is still king - How to do it sustainably David Exwood (Deputy President, National Farmers Union)			
11.55 - 12.25	PPP regulation - What next? Dave Bench (Chief Executive, CropLife UK)			
12.25 - 12.55	Q&A session Chairman and all speakers			
12.55 - 13.50	Lunch			
13.50 - 13.55	Stream A Regulatory affairs Queen Suite Chair: lain Watt (Head of Plant Protection, TSG Consulting)	Stream B New approaches in agronomy The Imaginarium Chair: Henry Creissen (Director of the Institute for Agronomy and Agriculture, University of the Highlands and Islands)		
13.55 - 14.25	Regulatory update from HSE: International engagement Dr Christine Snaith (Head of Plant Protection Unit, HSE CRD) and Dr Julian Cudmore (Residues Team Leader, HSE CRD)	Precision pest control technologies to meet sustainable farming goals Dr Nick Tillett (Director, Tillett and Hague Technology Ltd)		
14.25 - 14.55	How can companies deliver on growth and sustainability and avoid unconscious sustainability trade-offs in the process? Caroline Potter (VP, Sustainability, Sagentia Innovation)	Alternatives to glyphosate & the challenges lan Graham (Managing Director, Complete Weed Control Ltd)		
14.55 - 15.25	Break: exhibition & networking			
15.25 - 15.55	Sustainable coformulants in PPPs – An EU regulatory perspective and outlook Inge Huygens (Regulatory Affairs Manager, ARCHE Consulting)	From theory to practice: IPM findings on AHDB strategic and monitor farms Henny Lowth (Senior Knowledge Transfer Manager, AHDB) and Matthew Brearley (Knowledge Transfer Manager, AHDB)		
15.55 - 16.25	Digital agriculture - Regulatory and scientific aspects of precision application Janet Williams (Head of Regulatory Science - UK, Ireland & Nordics, Bayer CropScience)	When a scientist meets a farmer David Jones (Farm Manager, Morley Farms Ltd)		
16.25 - 16.55	Q&A session lain Watt and speakers	Q&A session Henry Creissen and speakers		
16.55	Close of day 1			
16.55 - 18.25	Drinks reception Guest speaker: Sean Sparling (Independent Crop Co Services Ltd) talking on "Wishing I'd worked harder a			

Day 2 - Wednesday 27 November

08.00 - 09.00	Registration and refreshments	
Morning session	: Issues impacting on future pesticide use	
09.00 - 09.10	Chair: Dr Chris Hartfield (Senior Regulatory Affairs Adviser, National Farmers Union)	
09.10 - 09.40	Biocontrol - Next steps in Europe Jennifer Lewis (Executive Director, IBMA)	
09.40 - 10.10	Post-Brexit challenges in trading between GB and N Ireland Bruce Steele (Northern Ireland representative of Voluntary Initiative, VI)	
10.10 - 10.40	IPM adoption: Projects and practice Phil Jarvis (Chair, Voluntary Initiative, VI)	
10.40 - 11.10	Morning break: exhibition & networking	
11.10 - 11.40	The role of the UK Expert Committee on pesticides in an evolving regulatory environment James Clarke (ADAS Research Director & Chair UK Expert Committee on Pesticides)	
11.40 - 12.10	What are the strongest influences on biodiversity in the English landscape and rivers? Prof Andrew Johnson (Environmental Research Scientist, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH))	
12.10 - 12.40	Environmental land management schemes Caroline Nicholls (SFI/CS Technical Content Lead, Defra)	
12.40 - 13.00	Q&A session Chair and all speakers	
13.00 - 13.55	Lunch	
Workshop delive	red by HSE Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD)	
13.55 - 15.25	CRD workshop HELP US TO HELP YOU: How applicants can support CRD to make better use of our shared resources, by addressing common issues which delay progression of evaluations Led by Barry Neill (Pesticides Products Team Leader, HSE CRD) and Fiona Fisher (Senior Assessment Manager, Pesticides Products Team, HSE CRD)	
15.25 - 15.40	Break	
15.40 - 16.30	CRD workshop continued	
16.30 - 16.40	Close of Congress Julian Westaway (General Manager, BCPC)	

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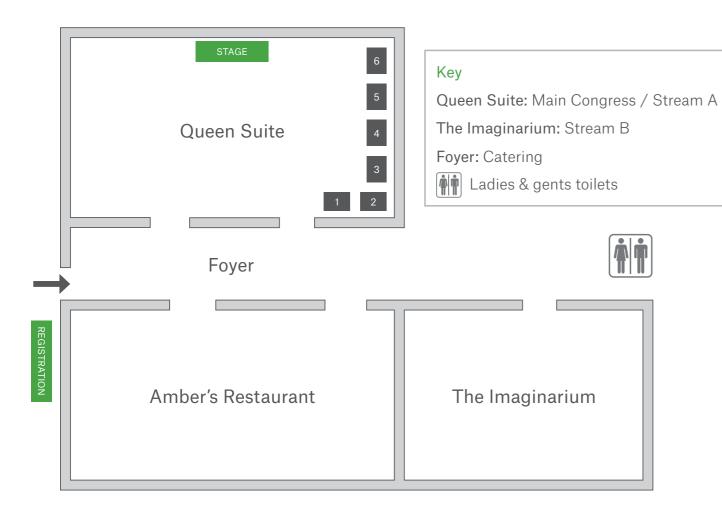


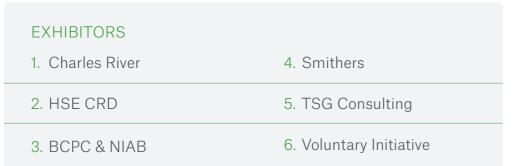


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Dave Bench | Chief Executive CropLife UK

Dave leads CropLife UK which promotes the essential role of science and innovation in protecting food, parks, gardens, roads and railways as well as

advocates good stewardship, better regulation and best practice. Until June 2020, Dave led the Health and Safety Executive's work to ensure that UK chemicals regulation would be operable and effective post-Brexit. From 2011-2017 he led the UK regulatory authority for plant protection products, biocides, CLP, REACH, and PIC. Dave has spent most of his career leading specialist teams in strategic policy roles. Over the years, Dave has been involved in policy development and regulation in a range of areas, including genetic modification in agriculture, animal health, marine, and most notably chemicals & plant protection products.



Matthew Brearley | Knowledge Transfer Manager Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)

Matthew is part of the Knowledge Transfer team for Cereals & Oilseeds at AHDB. Matthew

works to disseminate AHDB updates and messages out to levy payers as well as collect levy payer feedback on AHDB activity. A key conduit for these processes is the Cereals & Oilseeds Monitor Farm network in which Matthew has been involved for the last two years.



James Clarke | ADAS Research Director & Chair UK Expert Committee on Pesticides (ECP) **ADAS**

James has been with ADAS since 1979 and is an expert in all aspects of production, especially

sustainable agriculture, integrated farming and impacts of arable farming on the environment. He has a strategic/project director role in major projects on research investment, plant breeding, farming systems, assessment of sustainability, use and impacts of plant protection products, herbicide resistance and weed management. James is an agriculture graduate of Reading University. James has been appointed as the Chair of the UK Expert Committee on Pesticides (ECP). He previously served as an independent member and Deputy Chair, specialising in agronomy, from 2021 to 2023.



Dr Henry Creissen | Director of the Institute for Agronomy and Agriculture University of the Highlands and Islands

Henry is Director of the Institute for Agronomy and Agriculture

at the University of the Highlands and Islands, based in Orkney. His expertise includes applied plant pathology, IPM, agroecology, social science, knowledge exchange and project management. He is a member of the Scottish Voluntary Initiative, the British Crop Production Council Weeds Expert Group, and the Scottish Society for Crop Research. He sits on the organising committee for the British Crop Production Council Congress and the conference Crop Production in Northern Britain. Henry is an Associate Editor for the journal Crop Protection.

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Dr Julian Cudmore | Residues Team Leader Health and Safety Executive, Chemicals Regulation Division (HSE CRD)

Julian joined the predecessor to CRD (the Pesticide Safety

Directorate) in 2006 where his initial role involved the evaluation of chemistry and residues data for the approval and authorisation of pesticides. From 2014 to 2019 Julian was the UK's technical representative at the EU's Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (residues section). In September 2020 he became the team leader for MRLs at CRD overseeing the implementation and operation of the new GB MRL regime. Julian is currently the residues team leader, which includes the GB MRL regime. Prior to joining CRD, Julian worked in the food industry where his role included analytical method development and analysis of food for environmental contaminants and pesticide residues. He has served as an expert on the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) since 2017 and is involved in several eWG of the CCPR.



David Exwood | Deputy President National Farmers Union (NFU)

David farms over 1200 tenanted hectares with his wife and two sons in the heart of the Sussex Weald. Starting in 1989 with 70ha, the business now has

arable, dairy beef, Sussex suckler herd and sheep enterprises. In 2003 they opened a farm shop, selling a wide range of food from the Victorian stable yard at Westons. He has served previously within the NFU as Branch Chair, West Sussex Council Delegate, South-East Regional Chair, as well as four years on Governance Board. David was elected to the position of NFU Deputy President in February 2024 after serving two years as Vice President from February 2022.



Fiona Fisher | Pesticides Products Team Health and Safety Executive, Chemicals Regulation Division (HSE CRD)

Fiona joined the Pesticides Safety Division of the Ministry

of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (MAFF) in 1991 as a scientific officer and progressed through the grades to senior assessment manager. She remained with the organisation as it became an executive agency of MAFF, Pesticides Safety Directorate (PSD), its move from Harpenden to York in 1994 and when PSD joined other chemical regulation regimes to form a new division of the Health and Safety Executive, Chemicals Regulation Division. Fiona has been involved in the regulation of Plant Protection Products (PPPs) from the earlier national regulations, Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986, the European regimes, Directive 91/414/EEC and Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 and post EU Exit, assimilated Regulation No. 1107/2009. She has been deeply involved in and has vast experience of considering the acceptability of submissions for PPP authorisations.



Ian Graham | Managing Director Complete Weed Control

lan is Managing Director of Complete Weed Control Ltd, the longest established amenity weed control company in the UK and Ireland. He is also chair of The

Amenity Forum, the UK voluntary initiative promoting best practice in all aspects of weed, pest and disease management. Through his leadership, Complete Weed Control is recognised as being an industry pioneer with a history of investing in research and technology that has seen the organisation influence best practice and drive improvements within the sector.



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Dr Chris Hartfield | Senior Regulatory Affairs Adviser National Farmers Union (NFU)

Chris' 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 seventeen years ago. Most of his NFU career has been spent on horticultural policy, leading a team for two years. In 2017, Chris moved to join a new NFU plant health unit as Senior Regulatory Affairs Adviser and led the NFU's science and regulatory affairs team. His work focuses on the regulatory process and its implications for availability and use of crop protection products, as well as the relationship with UK regulatory authorities and international regimes. Chris is the NFU policy lead on the GB pesticides regime post EU-exit, bee health and pollinators. He leads the NFU's work on the SFI IPM standard and is a driving force behind the NFU's plant health strategy.



Inge Huygens | Regulatory Affairs Manager ARCHE Consulting

Inge studied Chemistry at Ghent University (Belgium) and obtained a PhD focussing on physical chemistry. Following this, she's

been working as a registration specialist in the crop protection industry and consultancy (plant protection, biocides) for more than 15 years, with emphasis on regulatory affairs for plant protection products, and a technical expertise in physico-chemistry, analytical methods, crop residues and human health risk assessments.



Phil Jarvis I Chair Voluntary Initiative (VI)

Phil is Land and Estates Director at Albanwise Ltd with a farming, environment and property role. He also Chairs the Voluntary Initiative, championing best plant

protection product use, delivered through Integrated Pest Management. Phil is member and former Chair of the National Farmers Union, Environmental Forum and Vice-Chair of the NFU National Combinable Crops Board. He completed a MSc in Sustainable Agricultural Management at Harper Adams University in 2011. Phil is a Professional Fellow of the Institute of Agricultural Management.



Prof Andrew Johnson I Environmental Research Scientist UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH)

Andrew is a Research Scientist at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. His work focuses on

the impact of chemical contaminants on the natural environment - in soils, rivers, sewage and groundwater. The contaminants studied include pesticides, endocrine disrupting compounds, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, persistent organic pollutants, metals, nanoparticles and microplastics. Andrew has a PhD in Soil Science.



David Jones | Farm Manager Morely Farms

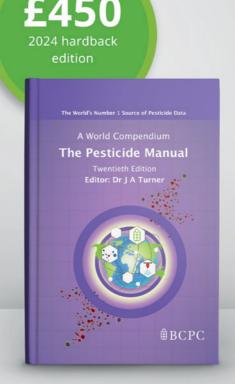
David is the farm manager for The Morley Agricultural Foundation, a charity that supports and facilitates agricultural research and education. The farm extends

over 700ha growing combinable crops and sugar beet. The organisation works closely with others hosting over 30ha of field trials, e.g. NIAB, JIC, BBRO. Several of the studies are long term, evaluating farming systems and soil monitoring. In 2023 it became a AHDB strategic farm, complementing the charities objectives of making science accessible to practical framing.

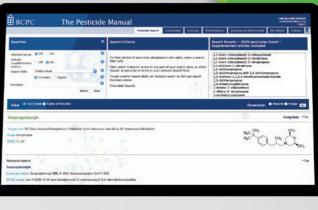
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In this latest edition the Environmental Fate section has been completely revamped and updated.

New fields have been added (Plant Fate, Soil Fate, Soil Half Life, Soil Absorption Coefficients). In addition, the Hydrolytic Stability and Aqueous Photolytic Stability fields, have now been moved to Environmental Fate.

Taken together, these data provide a comprehensive overview of how a pesticide may behave in the soil or water and how it may metabolize in plants or degrade in the environment.

Two new fields that describe the behaviour of a pesticide once ingested by animals (typically rats) have also been added to the Environmental Fate section (Animal Absorption and Excretion, and Animal Metabolism).

There have been two additional significant changes to this edition of The Pesticide Manual.

First, the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC) has developed a separate mode of action classification scheme for nematicides; now included as "IRAC Nematicide".

Second, the EU Approval Expiration Approval date is now included along with the EU Status under the Regulatory section.



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Dr Alastair Leake | Director of Policy Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust

Alastair worked as the Production Manager growing glasshouse salad crops before moving to

work for the Co-Operative Group Farms heading up their farming systems research involving organic, integrated, conservation agriculture and conventional farming systems. Alastair is Head of The Allerton Project, an 800-acre R&D farm in the East Midlands where productive farming and wildlife conservation co-exist. The farm uses a range of funding mechanisms to support this approach including private finance and "public money for public goods". Alastair has been involved in a wide range of industry bodies, and is a Board Member of Natural England. In 2023 he was awarded the Royal Agricultural Society's National Agricultural Award given annually to an individual for "an outstanding contribution to the advancement of agriculture in the United Kingdom" for his work on farming systems. Alastair has a degree in Horticultural Science.



Henny Lowth | Senior Knowledge Transfer Manager Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)

Henny is the Senior Knowledge Transfer Manager for Cereals & Oilseeds at AHDB. Henny

oversees the Strategic Cereal Farm Network that aims to carry out robust scientific trials on commercial farm settings. Henny has previous experience in organic crop research.



Jennifer Lewis | Executive Director International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA)

Jennifer was appointed IBMA Executive Director in 2019. She

represents IBMA on FAO and OECD and works with members and other stakeholders to advance biocontrol and the implementation of IPM worldwide. Prior to IBMA, Jennifer was a member of the CertisEurope Management Board, leading innovation, development and regulatory affairs for 10 years. Before that she was General Manager of Biological Crop Protection Ltd, a beneficial insect production company selling beneficial insects for pest control in Europe and Africa. Jennifer has worked in crop protection for 35 years in various marketing, regulatory and stewardship roles in the US, Brazil and Europe. She has always been passionate about IPM and biocontrol and its essential role of sustainable agriculture. Jennifer is an agronomy graduate, with an MBA and a Diploma in Sustainable Business Development.



Barry Neill | Pesticides Products Team Leader Health and Safety Executive Chemicals Regulation Division (HSE CRD)

Barry joined the Chemicals Regulation Division of the Health

and Safety Executive in 2018, following a career in the private sector in IT and operations. He joined the Pesticides Products Team as a trainee and worked his way up, specialising in emergency applications and seed treatments, and even working on a new active substance. This led to extensive contact with other government agencies and involvement in research and development projects, including securing funding for them. Barry was promoted to Acting Head of Team in March 2023. He is heavily involved in leading the update of IT systems for CRD to modern standards on a single platform to drive efficiencies and improved use of data and analytics.



Caroline Nicholls | SFI/CS Technical Content Lead Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)

Caroline began her career at AHDB where she worked for nine years, initially in research

communications and then as a Crop Protection Scientist specialising in Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Caroline then joined Prime Agriculture, an independent agronomy group, as a Technical Manager before joining Defra. She has been with Defra for five years, starting in the Pesticides Hub, then moving to the Environmental Land Management (ELM) team. Within ELM she currently leads on content development for IPM, farm wildlife, lowland peat, agroforestry, traditional orchards, and wood pasture for the Sustainable Farming Incentive and Countryside Stewardship schemes. Caroline is also an ambassador for the Defra Farming and Countryside Programme, and outside of Defra, works a day a week at home on the family farm. Caroline graduated from Newcastle University with a degree in Agriculture with Hons in Agronomy.



Jim Orson | Member of the BCPC Advisory Board British Crop Production Council (BCPC)

Jim graduated from the University of Reading in 1969 and joined the state advisory service, serving

various roles from Local Advisor to National Cereals Specialist. In 1998, Jim became Director of the Morley Research Centre in Norfolk and later became Technical Director of NIAB TAG until his retirement from fulltime work in 2007. Over his career, Jim developed particular interests in weed control, wheat production, and agricultural systems, he has been invited to 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. Jim is currently on the strategy group of the Voluntary Initiative and is a member of the BCPC Advisory Board, as well as a member of AgriFood Charities Partnership board.



Tony Pexton | Farmer & Advisory Board BCPC

Tony is an arable and pig farmer in the East Riding of Yorkshire, producing wheat, OSR, barley, vining peas and beans, as well

as bacon pigs. He is a BCPC Trustee, a former Chair of NIAB and a Nuffield Scholar. Tony is also a former Chair of DEFRA/Industry Funded Sustainable Arable Link research programme management committee.



Dr Caroline Potter | VP, Sustainability Sagentia Innovation

As VP Sustainability, Caroline holds a cross-sector role, focusing on supporting companies to develop strategies that both

improve sustainability and deliver growth. Caroline has over 18 years' experience consulting with global chemical, consumer and food and beverage companies, delivering projects that identify solutions and navigate the competing pressures and considerations of sustainability. Working closely with sister company TSG, Caroline's work in sustainability leverages expertise from across Science Group. Key focal areas include foresighting and scenario planning for sustainability risk and opportunity, developing the strategy to deliver sustainability and identifying and evaluating sustainable technology and business options. Caroline has a PhD in organic chemistry and prior to joining Sagentia Innovation, worked in scientific publishing as the editor for organic chemistry at the Royal Society of Chemistry.

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Prof Jules Pretty | Professor of Environment & Society University of Essex

Jules is Professor of Environment and Society at the University of Essex. He is former Deputy Chair of the UK government's

Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment, and has served on advisory committees for BBSRC and the Royal Society. He was appointed A D White Professor-at-Large by Cornell University in 2001, and was Founding Editor of the International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability. He received an OBE in 2006 for services to sustainable agriculture, an honorary degree from Ohio State University, and the British Science Association Presidential Medal (Agriculture and Food) in 2015. He was appointed President of Essex Wildlife Trust in 2019, was a trustee for WWF-UK, and is Chair of the Essex Climate Action Commission. This Luminous Coast was winner of New Angle Prize for Literature, and The East Country was winner of the East Anglian book of the year. He is among the top 0.1% most cited scientists worldwide, is host of the podcast and film series Louder Than Words and Brighter Futures, and posts to the series The Climate Chronicles at www.julespretty.com.



Dr Christine Snaith | Head of Plant Protection Unit Health and Safety Executive, Chemicals Regulatory Division (HSE CRD)

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. Her roles ranged from positions within HR and stakeholder engagement, to regulatory roles such as operational policy on crosscutting safety issues (e.g. workplace transport and falls from height) and establishing environmental impact assessment arrangements for decommissioning nuclear reactors. Following this, Chris led a 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 chemical regulatory schemes in 2018 and heads the Plant Protection Products Unit based in York.



Sean Sparling | Independent
Crop Consultant
Sparling Agranamy Services |

Sparling Agronomy Services Ltd

Sean is the immediate past Chairman and now Executive Director of the Association of Independent Crop Consultants

(AICC), Europe's largest body of independent crop consultants, whose membership of 283 consultants collectively advises on over 2.3 million of the 4.7 million hectares of arable crop production in the UK. Sean has been an agronomist for over 35 years, advising on over 26,000 acres of arable, root & turf production. He is deeply involved with the LRSN (Lincolnshire Rural Support Network) which provides support and help to rural families in crisis. He's an experienced expert witness, forensic agronomist and arbiter in the legal side, regularly gives evidence to House of Lords select committees and is patron of the Lincolnshire Beekeepers Association. He's a keen and long-standing practical advocate and implementer of Integrated Pest, Crop and Farm Management protocols and sits on several industry committees and government steering groups.



Bruce Steele Northern Ireland representative of Voluntary Initiative (VI)

Bruce is currently enjoying a time of 'semi-retirement' having recently sold his agronomy and agri-merchant business after

nearly 40 years of trading. During his career Bruce provided his customers with the best, most up-to-date and honest advice, building a close working relationship with his clients. Having sold the business, he is still involved with some of them on a consultancy basis across the combinables, grassland and potato sectors. Throughout his career Bruce has always



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- N°7: Studies on effects on mesocosms and natural ecosystems
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strived to support the local farming industry. He was Chair of the Ulster Arable Society and is a member of the Seeds and Cereals Committee within the Ulster Farmers' Union. He was recently nominated as an Associate of the Royal Agricultural Societies and has been the Northern Ireland representative of the Voluntary Initiative for several years. He was also recently assigned the role of Auditor for the BASIS Approved Stores scheme in Northern Ireland.



Dr Nick Tillett | Engineer Tillett and Hague Technology Ltd

Nick trained as a mechanical engineer and spent five years in the manufacturing industry before joining NIAE (the National Institute of Agricultural

Engineering) at Silsoe in 1984. He was recruited to work on brassica harvesting, but soon became interested in robotics and vision guidance, with weed control as one of the principal applications. When Silsoe Research Institute closed in 2005, Nick formed Tillett and Hague Technology Ltd with his colleague Tony Hague to continue their research. In the subsequent 19 years, the company has evolved from a small contract research organisation to a developer and manufacturer of computer vison-based guidance and control systems. They supply many of Europe's largest implement manufacturers as well as a number of smaller specialist companies.



Iain Watt | Head of Plant Protection TSG Consulting

lain is the Head of Plant Protection team at TSG Consulting and is the primary contact for communication and

coordination of customer enquiries for TSG's plant protection services. lain has over 34 years' experience in multiple disciplines in the crop protection sector, both in the UK and overseas, bringing extensive knowledge of plant protection product authorisation processes in many markets, with a particular focus on the EU and the US. lain's career experience includes applied forest research, agricultural/horticultural extension in Latin America and various technical and regulatory roles within industry. Prior to joining TSG, lain worked for a UK based company as a Regulatory Affairs Manager with global regulatory responsibility for 14 years. He also held a Regulatory Affairs Manager role at the UK industry trade association, the Crop Protection Association, where he acted as the liaison between member companies and UK regulatory authorities. Iain has a degree in Zoology from Aberdeen University and a postgraduate MSc from Imperial College in Applied Entomology. Iain is currently the Moderator of the IBMA Natural Substances Working Group, Regulatory Topics.



Julian Westaway | General Manager British Crop Production Council (BCPC)

Julian joined BCPC in 2014 as General Manager and was later appointed to Chairman

of the BCPC Advisory Board, Julian's extensive work experience background in agriculture and electronic publishing serves him well in BCPC's portfolio of products and activities. After gaining his degree in Agriculture Science, Julian joined the Milk Marketing Board before being appointed to Group Production Editor of the Chemicals Group for RBI. In 1996, Julian established the Farmers Weekly Interactive and later become Electronic Publisher for the Farmers Weekly Group. Upon leaving RBI, Julian joined Defra as Senior Editor of the Rural Business Advice Channel and then joined UBM as Online Commercial Manager for the Farmers Guardian Group. Prior to joining BCPC, Julian worked as General Manager for Point Two, an innovative equestrian air jacket manufacturer.



Janet Williams | Head of Regulatory Science UK, Ireland & Nordics, Bayer

Janet is Head of Regulatory Science for the UK, Ireland and Nordics at Bayer CropScience Ltd, based in Cambridge, UK. In

addition, Janet is also the current Chair of the CropLife UK, Policy and Regulatory Group. Janet has a Masters' degree in Toxicology from the University of Kentucky in the US. For the last 30 years, Janet has worked in agrochemical regulatory affairs for companies such as Fisons, Rhone-Poulenc, Aventis, and Bayer. She is in regular contact with the Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) of UK Health and Safety Executive and the Pesticides Registration and Control Division of the Ireland Department of Agriculture. Janet is one of the key figures leading the industry on the future of Great Britain and Northern Ireland policy on pesticide regulation.





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