



Crop science and plant health at SASA and the role of the Chief Plant Health Officer

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The value of plants to Scotland's economy

Sector	£ Gross Value Added (GVA)
Crops	822m
Forestry	1bn
Natural Environment	17.2bn



From:- Economic, environmental and social values of Scottish plant sectors (2017).
 RESAS Tender ref: CR/2015/15. University of Aberdeen and John Clegg Consulting Ltd

Crop Science at SASA

- ❖ Potato & vegetable DUS (potato VCU) testing
- ❖ Herbage trials
- ❖ The Official Seed Testing Station
- ❖ Certifying authority for cereals and potato seed crops
- ❖ Inspector training
- ❖ UK potato quarantine unit & production of initial propagation material
- ❖ GM inspectorate



Plant Health at SASA

- ❖ Statutory and regulatory control of pests and diseases
- ❖ Diagnostic service for non-indigenous pests and pathogens
 - bacteriology, entomology, mycology, nematology and virology
- ❖ Monitoring of some indigenous pests and pathogens
- ❖ Horticulture and marketing inspectorate
- ❖ Plant Health, horticulture, seeds & potatoes policy
 - Plant health, seed potatoes, seeds & varieties, pesticides & fertilisers, etc. Brexit!



Chief Plant Health Officer for Scotland

- ❖ Build collaboration in plant health across agriculture, forestry, horticulture and the wider environment
- ❖ Scottish Plant Health Strategy
- ❖ Research, education and best practice
- ❖ Outbreak response
- ❖ 'Plant pests and diseases do not respect borders'
 - Collaboration (Defra, DAs, EU, EPPO, IPPC, etc.)





The Scottish Plant Health Strategy

- Commits to safeguarding Scottish plant health, in order to protect and enhance the economy and natural environment
- A coordinated and collaborative approach (UK Plant Health Service)
- Not just about what government can do - partnership working
- Greater engagement and involvement with stakeholders and public

How WP 2.1 (and it's predecessors) contributes to SASA's/SG's work and the Chief Plant Health Officer role.....



- ❖ Diagnostics
 - Blackleg, PCN , etc.
- ❖ Pest & crop characterisation
 - Variety trialling, barley and potato genotyping
- ❖ Disease management and advice
 - Aphid monitoring, insecticide resistance, IPM, etc.
- ❖ Development of regulations, legislation etc.
 - SPCS, *Dickeya*, etc.





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