

Role of Horticultural Development Council (HDC) & the UK Minor Use (SOLA) Programme



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Horticultural Development Council

- HDC funded by levy payment from growers
- Co-ordinate Research and Development on key issues for UK industry

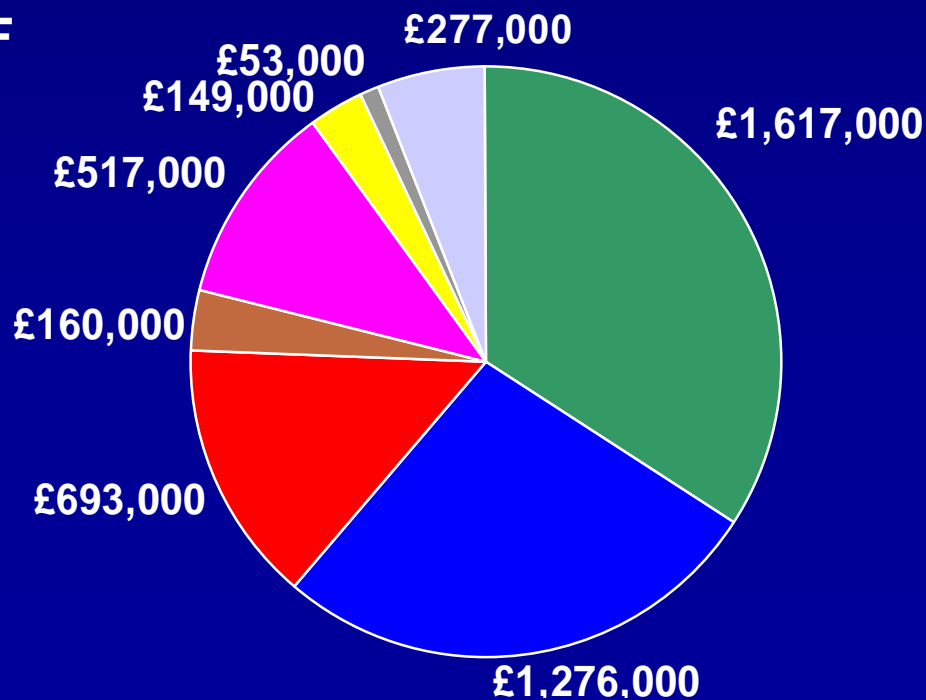


Finance - *coming in*

2005/06

- FV
- PC
- HNS
- M
- SF
- BOF
- CP
- TF

Total income = £4.74M

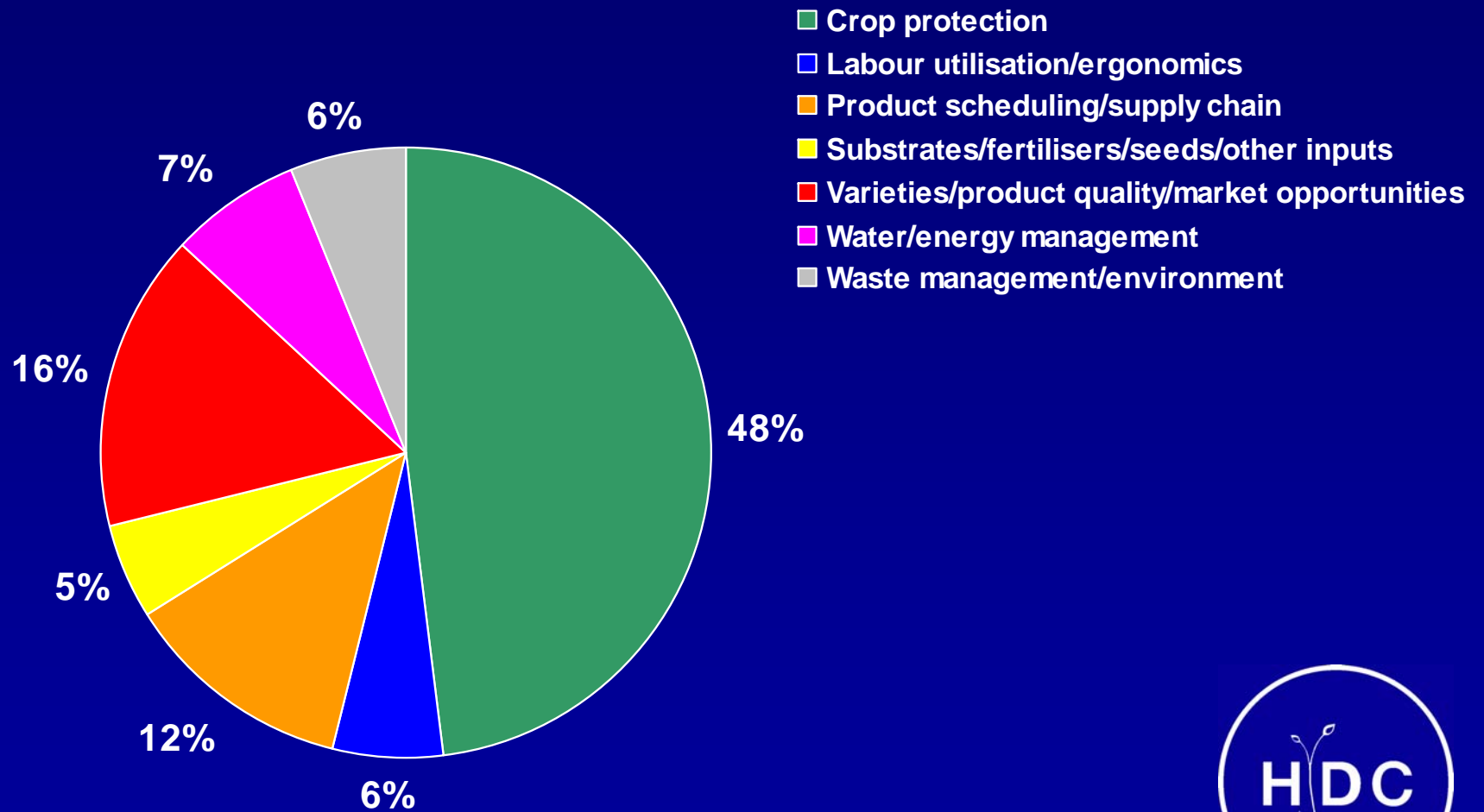


Who decides how the money is spent?

- Growers!
- Growers, together with scientists and consultants develop research 'strategies'
- These strategies are the 'high priority' areas that industry agree should be tackled as a matter of urgency
- Elected Panel members discuss and vote on projects



Money spent – by issue



Aim of HDC's crop protection work –maintain the armoury



- Conventional pesticides
- Biological Control Agents
- Cultural methods
- Varietal resistance



Crop Protection

- Key part of HDC work is the SOLA (minor use) programme.



SOLA

- Specific Off Label Approval
- Edible crops must be supported by residues data – to demonstrate consumer safety
- No Crop Safety data
- No efficacy data

- All use is at the risk of the user
- No manufacturer liability



SOLA programme

- HDC secures some 20 to 40 new SOLAs per year
- See PSD website for details www.pesticides.gov.uk or CSL Liaison
- Total of approx 1638 SOLAs
- Cost to UK growers since programme began – approx £4.7 million



SOLA Programme

- Trials data generation is funded by HDC (UK growers) – NO Government funding
- Generated by contractor – all to GLP
- Also obtain data from Manufacturers
- Minor Use Mutual Recognition
- EU collaboration/data exchange



EU initiatives on minor uses

- EU Minor Use Groups set up in 2003
- Taken lead on specific projects
- Looking at target based approach to find solutions
 - considering cultural and chemical
 - residues trial collaboration



International co-operation

- Trials – co-operation so far
 - e.g. spinosad – raspberry Be, CH, UK
 - spiridiclofen - blueberry US, Can, UK
- Zonal authorisation based on similar climates EU – or worldwide
- The wider Europe or world - crop areas.....
when does a minor crop become major ?
- For example spinach –
 - UK 545 Ha
 - Germany 3,400 Ha
 - Northern Europe > 9,000 Ha
 - Rest of world - ????



The way forward – Global harmonisation

- US IR4
- Canada work with IR 4
- Australia – own minor use programme
- Europe – Largely at MS level – support from government varies

- All have a recognised minor use problem
- What is the potential for funding to find a
- common solution



The way forward European and Global collaboration - Requirements

- Residues and Approvals database
 - To establish what alternatives are available elsewhere, supported by residues data
 - To reduce duplication of effort by encouraging data sharing



The way forward European and Global collaboration - Requirements

- Need harmonised guidance about residues data generation -
- Accreditation (GLP/GEP)
- Number of trials,
- which crop to support full group,
- potential extrapolation – extension/update to Lundehrn guidelines

- Co-operating countries need to agree a mutually acceptable GAP



The way forward – Global harmonisation

- Potential to use residues data from elsewhere (climates changing)
- Zonal Authorisations – EU or wider
- Crops tolerant of certain conditions – eg spinach

In order to do this may need -

- Collaborative studies – worldwide



Minor Uses Are Important!

Thank you !

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