INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) for sustainable crop protection
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-has IPM now ‘come of age’ because of pressures (societal, food supply chain, pesticide resistance, regulatory...?)
Will IPM help to reduce pesticide risk and use?


Implemented by National Action Plans: aim in UK has been for voluntary approaches adopted by stakeholder partners

Overseen by CRD for Defra ‘Pesticides Policy’, reflecting:
- Need to keep regulatory burdens on businesses to a minimum
- Arable and horticultural sectors already using IPM procedures
- VI in place to promote responsible pesticide use/IPM uptake

Future: need for continuation, in similar form, but within any new Post-Brexit UK Agricultural Strategy under development

Vision: More (safe, nutritious, affordable) food with fewer pesticides
Do we need IPM where effective pesticides may no longer be available (withdrawn, resistance etc)?

• **Long history of R&D** supporting IPM approaches
• Funded by Government, frequently in **collaboration**
• [At time of Defra LINKs, total IPM related ~ £9M p.a; 120 projects]
• **Effective control through combinations** (resistant varieties; biocontrol/biopesticides; reduced/more targeted chemical inputs)
• **New partnerships** (Agri-Tech Centres); & EU C-IPM ERA-Net, building on SCAR Working Group, ENDURE network, PURE project
• To address the **increasing gaps** in crop protection toolbox
• Also potential role in new **plant biosecurity** strategy and in protection of **pollinators**
Does IPM need a ‘systems approach’ rather than being seen simply as an alternative technology?

• Concept originated from use of economic thresholds to restrict use of pesticides and their replacement with biological and other non-chemical control methods
• IPM ‘packages’ perceived as direct replacement to a pesticide
• Grower/farmer concerns about time and expense of IPM implementation and risk of higher level of crop damage
• Combinations often situation-specific (+ pesticide if needed)
• Optimisation: Greatest compatibility, ideally synergy, and least antagonism between the approaches being integrated!
• e.g. joint plant breeder/biocontrol expert collaboration in developing varieties best suited to BCAs and natural enemies