

On a scale of 1-10 how do you rate the components of the IPM toolbox, in terms of their IMPORTANCE TO FARMERS?



What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Provide a free advisory service!

Provide a range of case studies with emphasis on grower experiences

integrate more IPM into agronomist's training

Ensure regulations don't disadvantage people using IPM.

Fund IPM research and knowledge exchange

Fund research into IPM options

more on farm learning / KE sessions on IPM practices

fund unbiased farm advisors

Give clear guidance on what methods have been shown to work

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Support farmer-led on farm trials, so that farmers can have a go at IPM tactics with reduced risk to their business.

See what successful farmers are doing re IPM and learn from their experience

IPM is going to require on-going research to improve IPM practice for existing targets but also to develop new solutions for new pest, disease and weed issues that will arise.

provide better understanding on negative impacts of commonly used pesticides on your IPM strategy

Missed the role economics plays in decision making process

Encourage use of Independent Agronomy

Training, funding in research

Fund IPM research and dissemination of information

Provide an outlet for information that is free from bias . There is a dearth of independent institutes that provide unbiased advice, that is free, and therefore not associated with sales potential.

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Provide support for on-farm demonstrations and publicise this - demonstrate how this saves money. Provide advice based on this that is FREE to farmers at point of delivery.

Financial support for collaborative research projects with academics and stakeholders. AHDB funding lost needs to be replaced.

Provide R&D and KT short project funding to growers to address specific topics

To support IPM practices in agri-environment & SFI

Make a easily accessible and well publicised central hub for government information on IPM. And make it free!

Fund IPM research. To date much of the research has been on single measures e.g. varieties, pesticides, biologicals.

Support demonstration of IPM working on farm

Support existing knowledge exchange routes e.g. AHDB

Incentives to make changes

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

ROI of IPM needs to be evidenced

delink agronomy payments and chemical sales - it should be service-based

Fund existing groups to provide extra KE above their normal activities

fund research into the balance of IPM with other farm management objectives

Support joined up projects, research led from lab to farm, not lost on "big science" projects which do not carry on. I have seen project guidance written up not not proof read by the researcher involved and erroneous information supplied to industry

Make it clear what government views as 'doing IPM'

Completely delink agronomy advice and product sales

Provide funding to develop decision support tools that utilise specific local weather data and regional risk to manage crop pest & disease issues

Subsidised advice (independent agronomists etc.)

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Make use of Agri-Tech innovation centres to deliver and provide solutions to IPM issues

Funding for IPM research in collaboration with commercial companies who are developing solutions and with regulators.

Simplify regulations for testing and registration on biopesticides. Allow monitoring semio-chemicals for mass trapping with no or simplified registration process, support local production of bio-pesticides

More "carrot" than "stick". A lot more basic research is needed on beneficials, thresholds, etc; this will require funding. There is already a very well established Knowledge Exchange system in place, but it requires research to provide Knowledge

Organise a benchmarking system allowing to compare IPM-based cropping systems

Facilitate diversification of crop rotations, and support farmers looking to grow different crops

make use of specialised agronomists

Regulations on imports to ensure they are produced using IPM

the only SFI test & trial has shown quite clearly that greatest barrier to uptake/driver to do more IPM is economic. Government needs to develop financial incentives to stimulate/de-risk further uptake. Also need to incentivise better recording of IPM

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

encourage knowledge exchange between farmers

Funding to advance IPM, particularly in research and knowledge exchange.

Provide the research to back up the advice, encourage the correct measures happening on farm i.e. supporting the beneficials, apply insecticide tax

Develop case studies on successful use of IPM so it becomes more attractive to farmers.

Fund long-term studies so that rotations can be taken into account in research and demonstrations

support links between researchers and farmers

Fund laboratory and on-farm IPM research

engage with industry including food supply chain on acceptance of ipm methods

Network of demo farms that are pushing the boundaries of IPM

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Provide central funding for research into IPM practices and a central resource for information / guidance on best practices. Resource needs to cover all crops.

Clearly define the different pesticide categories. Research the efficacy of biologicals v agrochemicals in the field.

Ensure regulatory system allows novel products to be approved quickly and efficiently

Consider all policy drivers in the round

pressurise others in the supply chain that represent barriers to IPM adoption e.g. retailers

Promote case studies

Demonstrate cost-efficiency of IPM-based strategies

Provide/subsidise training
Make biocontrol products easier/cheaper to register via CRD (adopt EPA type system)
In the 1st question, training was seen as being less important than advice - but advisers will need training so they access & help with

Support R&D so that there ARE options to give farmers to use! Some systems have few if any IPM options tested

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Support IPM Knowledge exchange and demonstration trials

Different business model, going from purchasing crop protection, to a 'less/non commercial' knowledge intensive system. Needs support.

Need farming systems research

Firstly identify what knowledge exists in similar areas, climates , situations to ours, avoid wasting time when the solutions may already be out there. Dont ignore the value of old research

Ensure SFI IPM Standard payments are attractive and meaningful to growers!

Free advice, to understand that not all farms are the same and appreciate that one plan wont suit all.

Develop strategic (not tactic) DSSs

Solid evidence on the financial implications of IPM (whether good or bad) so farmers have this knowledge before making decisions.

Connect farmers in the UK with counterparts in other countries who are implementing IPM well, in potentially different ways, to spark innovation

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Make it more economic to use True IPM than not

Greater funding of basic research to develop solutions free of commercial bias

Re introduce the old ADAS service specifically concentrating on IPM

Show knock on benefits to biodiversity - demonstrate this on farm. Many farmers want to support wildlife - flora and fauna and IPM can help do this. So not just agronomic benefit but others as well.

Acknowledge IPM is challenging, do not penalise if people try but don't get results

A greater emphasis on IPM metrics and pesticide impact metrics

train discussion group facilitators to encourage better peer to peer learning

Support development of What Works centre for Agriculture and Horticulture as recommended in the National Food Strategy

No scientific evidence that IPM delivery differs whatever the source of advice

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Focus funding on applied aspects; helping farmers access and implement existing IPM resources known to be effective

Educate the public about why farmers do what they do and the consequences of not being able to manage pests adequately

Use Farmer Clusters - facilitation funded and privately - to help peer to peer training

We cannot carry out IPM in potatoes, we cannot! Because we do not have basic information on variety strengths and weaknesses. TRV is a classic case.

IPM involves products with a very specific and narrow period of use within the product life cycle. Growers need technology tools often based on catches / weather to optimise efficacy

Individual simple On Farm trials to demonstrate benefits of IPM

Facilitate registration of IPM friendly pesticides

More transparency in pesticide registration data so that full impact on non-targets is publicised

How many farmers are on this call?

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Funding, advice through independent sources . Regional advice to target different systems, ie root crop areas, arable

Most IPM solutions are long term changes and require funding for longer term research than the current 3 year cycle.

IPM does carry greater risk for farmers - could government consider crop insurance schemes as per the US?

Support farmers in developing long-term IPM strategies, that incur short term costs

Don't forget farms are businesses, the importance of economics to drive IPM should not be underestimated

To understand that not all farms are the same, advice to each individual set up may be more encouraging.

Promote the holistic approach for IPM

Shift to a wider view on IPM, considering multiple pests/crops rather than focusing on each pest individually

Subsidy type funding for farmers that test alternatives and share knowledge?

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Look at area-wide approaches rather than field by field approach to deliver better impacts of IPM

Look at targeted use of pesticides use high tech pest identification & spot spray targeted areas

Make sure government is aware of the trade-offs that IPM Involves

Government led/funded advisory service - at least to the advisers
More cooperation between Defra/growers/advisers/research organisations
Multi agency R&D cooperation - avoid silo approach

Introduce incentives for farmers to adopt IPM practices
Create a new independent extension service for research, development and dissemination of IPM techniques
Facilitate farmer-to-farmer learning on IPM
Fund the new IPM body through a pesticide tax

Once you show farmers the consequences of their pesticide use personally they often change behaviour organically - think this is under utilised. but requires individual interaction with farmers - so individual advice.

encourage knowledge exchange between farmers by funding farmers in demonstrating principles, and building regional collaborations

Need research to update treatment thresholds as many out of date

Identify priorities in IPM and get them funded by whatever means.

What can GOVERNMENT do to best support in the delivery of practical IPM solutions to farmers?

Continue engagement across industry more like today!

Link farmers and researchers to trial IPM strategies - helps the farmer to try IPM with reduced risk and data is more robust

All parties need to recognise that IPM cannot reduce economic viability of farms of all types
Recognise unintended consequences eg beneficials in crop can become contaminants at harvest
Involve multiples/packers
ref fresh produce

De risking pest control for farmers means using IPM products means greater awareness of pest life cycles .
There is a requirement to invest in technology that can provide this information on a field basis

Grower margins are tight. There is a requirement for Govt funding for technology decision making tools to maximise the efficacy for IPM products