

Title: PHC2018_14 - Impact of climate change on pests and diseases the spread of pests and diseases in Scotland

Background: The movement of plant pests and pathogens into Scotland is likely to increase in the coming years, e.g. due to changes in trade, potentially increasing from outside Europe following Brexit, while their spread and severity could be affected by climate change (both positively and negatively). It is therefore vital that we understand the role of climate on the impacts of such pests and diseases across the whole of Scotland, in relation to the distribution of plant hosts, allowing us to target potential control options on the main threats. To allow plant health professionals and others to assess such impacts in as straight forward a way as possible, web- / desktop-based tools are needed that offer quick and easy access to complex computer models. These models should be as comprehensive as possible, allowing new information on pests, pathogens and their hosts to be added as it becomes available.

Impact: Easily accessible tool for stakeholders and government plant health officials to assess possible impacts of climate on pests and pathogens in Scotland.

Objectives and research required for this call: Development of, or improvements to an existing tool, for accurate assessment of climate effects on pests and pathogens in Scotland; make the tool user-friendly for the lay person and easily accessible via the Plant Health Centre web site.

Outputs required:

1. Usable web or desktop application for estimating the impact of pests and diseases across Scotland.
2. 1-2 page policy summary report on the approach taken and the outcomes.
3. User-friendly guide to allow a non-expert to use any tool produced.

• **Indicative key dates:**

- Deadline for notes of interest: 27th September 2018
- Project start: 1st November 2018
- Overview of plans and project start-up meeting with PHC Directorate: by end November 2018
- Completed discussion paper and summary: 28th February 2019
- Meeting with Scottish stakeholders: by 31st March 2019

Project duration: 5 months

Milestones to be confirmed by bidder.

Date all work needs to be completed by: 28th February 2019

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Project type: Call down – collaborative project, web tool

Maximum funding available (including overheads and VAT, where applicable): Indicative value
£20,000

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