

Scotland's Plant Health Conference – 1st June 2023

Novotel Edinburgh Park, 15 Lochside Avenue, EH12 9DJ

09:15 [Registration and tea/coffee](#)

10:00 **Welcome:** Gerry Saddler, Chief Plant Health Officer for Scotland

Ministerial Opening of the Event: Ms Lorna Slater MSP

Chairperson for Session 1: Clari Burrell (Scottish Forestry)

10:15 **Update on Plant Health Centre Activities 2022-23**
Ian Toth (Plant Health Centre)

10:35 **Plant Health in the Natural Environment**
Workshop with Ruth Mitchell (James Hutton Institute) and Duncan Stone (NatureScot)

11:25 **Series of Quickfire (5 min) Presentations from PHC Funded Projects**

- Understanding farmer/agronomist perceptions for decision making in crop health and the impact of that on key metrics such as IPM scores and pesticide usage (Henry Creissen, SRUC)
- Potential of biocontrol for the sustainable management of plant diseases in Scotland: opportunities and barriers (Helen Rees, SRUC)
- Interdisciplinary analysis of plant health threats to arable and horticultural crops in Scotland (Ali Karley, James Hutton Institute)
- Gibase 2.0: Enhanced preparedness in Scotland's green infrastructure (Harry Watkins, St. Andrews Botanic Gardens)
- Understanding an emerging health threat to Caledonian Scots pine (Sarah Green, Forest Research)
- Plant biosecurity resources: increasing the accessibility of notifiable plant pest information for professional operators (Alistair Yeomans, Plant Health Alliance)
- A targeted analysis of the impact of insecticide withdrawals in Scotland, in the context of alternative control options (Mark Bowsher-Gibbs SAC Consulting)
- Biosecurity for plant health: better justification of precautionary measures (Chris Pollard, Forest Research)
- Action Research to gain a deeper understanding of large-scale biosecurity risks to Scotland (Rehema White, University of St Andrews)

12:10 [Lunch](#)

13.00 **Poster Session with tea and coffee**

Chairperson for Session 2: Kim Davie (RESAS)

13.40 **Plant Biosecurity Strategy for GB & Defra's Funding Priorities for Plant Health**
Nicola Spence (Defra)

14.00 **Plant Health Policy in Scotland Update**
John Speirs (Scottish Government)

14.20 **Scottish Environmental Horticultural Growth Strategy**
Stan Green (Growforth Ltd)

14.40 [Coffee Break](#)

Chairperson for Session 3: Fiona Burnett (Plant Health Centre)

14.55 **Identifying the Plant Health Risks Associated with Plant Waste Disposal and Peat-Free Growing Media**
Matt Elliot (RBGE)

15.15 **Ending the Sale of Peat in Scotland**
Ros McHugh (Scottish Government)

15.35 **Tree Health in Scotland: Overview from Scottish Forestry**
James Nott (Scottish Forestry)

15.55 **Closing Remarks**
Gerry Saddler, Chief Plant Health Officer for Scotland

16:00 [Depart](#)

Poster Presentations (13:00 to 13:40)

Understanding farmer/agronomist perceptions for decision making in crop health and the impact of that on key metrics such as IPM scores and pesticide usage

Henry Creissen¹, Hernan Degiovanni¹, Kyran Maloney², Ali Karley³ & Christophe Lacomme⁴ (¹SRUC, ²SAC Consulting, ³James Hutton Institute, ⁴SASA)

Potential of biocontrol for the sustainable management of plant diseases in Scotland: opportunities and barriers

Helen Rees¹, Matt Elliot², Hernan Degiovanni¹, Kyran Maloney³, Jane Brisbane¹ & Henry Creissen¹ (¹SRUC, ²RBGE, ³SAC Consulting)

Coastal trapping of *Ips typographus* in England indicates natural cross-Channel dispersal

Kerry Barnard¹, Daegan Inward¹, Katy Reed¹ & Jean-Claude Grégoire² (¹Forest Research, ²University of Brussels).

Glbase 2.0: Enhanced preparedness in Scotland's green infrastructure

Harry Watkins¹, Andrew Hirons², Henrick Sjoman³, Mariella Marzano⁴, Beccy Middleton¹ & Rebecca Duncan¹ (¹St. Andrews Botanic Gardens, ²Myerscough College, ³Gothenburgh Botanic Garden, ⁴Forest Research)

Understanding an emerging health threat to Caledonian Scots pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*)

Sarah Green¹ & Joanne Taylor² (¹Forest Research, ²RBGE)

The Centre for Forest Protection

Louise Gathercole¹ (¹Forest Research)

Plant biosecurity resources: increasing the accessibility of notifiable plant pest information for professional operators

Alistair Yeomans¹ & Matt Elliot² (¹Plant Health Alliance, ²RBGE)

A targeted analysis of the impact of insecticide withdrawals in Scotland, in the context of alternative control options

Mark Bowsher-Gibbs¹, Sarah Wynn², Jim Dimmock², Steven Thomson³, Katrina Dainton⁴ & Elise Webb² (¹SAC Consulting, ²ADAS, ³SRUC, ⁴Forest Research)

Biosecurity for plant health: better justification of precautionary measures

Chris Pollard¹, Mariella Marzano¹, Marios Theocharopoulos¹, Vadim Saraev¹, Sarah Green¹, Katrina Dainton¹, Henry Creissen² & Rehema White³ (¹Forest Research, ²SRUC, ³University of St Andrews)

Horizon scanning future plant pest threats to GB by understanding past establishments

Anastasia Uglow¹, Kerry Barnard¹, Alice Peace¹, Katy Reed¹ & Daegan Inward¹ (¹Forest Research)

Action Research to gain a deeper understanding of large-scale biosecurity risks to Scotland

Rehema White¹, Mariella Marzano², Sarah Green², Ana Perez-Sierra², Harry Watkins³ (¹University of St Andrews, ²Forest Research, ³St. Andrews Botanic Gardens)

Identifying the plant health risks associated with plant waste disposal and peat-free growing media, and developing best practice guidance for waste disposal and composting across sectors

Matt Elliot¹, Sarah Green², Audrey Litterick³ & Alistair Yeomans⁴ (¹RBGE, ²Forest Research, ³Earthcare Technical, ⁴Plant Health Alliance)