

Improving International Potato Production

Friday 8 August 2008

The Apex Hotel, Dundee

Conference Programme



HIDDEN
TREASURE



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Welcome to
Improving International
Potato Practice
2008



Welcome to this major event, organised as part of the 2008 UN International Year of the Potato.

The conference is timely, as food prices are soaring worldwide, driven by fierce competition for reduced international supplies of wheat, maize and rice, and other agricultural commodities. As concern grows over the risk of food shortages and instability in dozens of low-income countries, global attention is turning to this age-old crop which could help ease the strain of food price inflation.

Our programme topics address new possibilities in the use of scarce resources, particularly water, how climate change is likely to impact on potato crops, updates on pests and pathogens and current breeding studies.

Keynote speaker, Dr Pamela Anderson, is Director General of the International Potato Centre in Peru – the world's leading centre on potatoes – and is an expert on emerging plant diseases.

We are also delighted to welcome speakers from India, Holland, and China, as well as SCRI's own research colleagues.

We hope you enjoy the conference and the chance to network with others involved in research into a plant which has been a vital part of the world's food crops for 8000 years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. J. Gregory". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Gregory

2008 – The International Year of the Potato

The General Assembly of the United Nations in 2005 affirmed the need to focus world attention on the role that the potato can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty and agreed to declare 2008 the International Year of the Potato. Its aim is to raise awareness of the key role played by this humble tuber in agriculture, the economy and world food security. But it also has a very practical aim: to promote development of sustainable potato-based systems that enhance the well-being of producers and consumers and help realise the potato's full potential as a "food of the future".

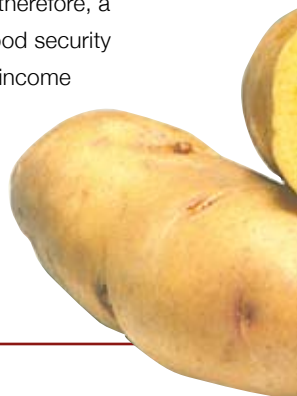
The potato is already an integral part of the global food system. Potato consumption is expanding strongly in developing countries, which now

account for more than half of the global harvest and where the potato's ease of cultivation and high energy content have made it a valuable cash crop for millions of farmers.



At the same time, the potato – unlike major cereals – is not a globally traded commodity. Only a fraction of total production enters foreign trade, and potato prices are usually determined by local production costs, not the vagaries of international markets. It is, therefore, a

highly recommended food security crop that can help low-income farmers and vulnerable consumers ride out current turmoil in world food supply and demand.



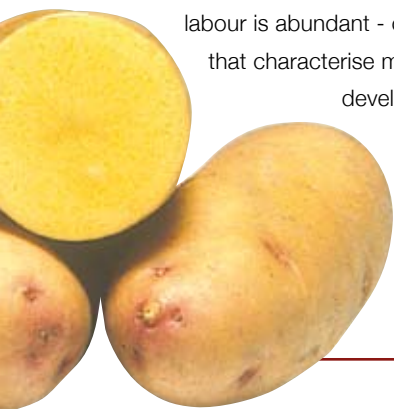
The food of the future?

Over the next two decades, the world's population is expected to grow on average by more than 100 million people a year. More than 95 percent of that increase will occur in the developing countries, where pressure on land and water is already intense. A key challenge facing the international community is, therefore, to ensure food security for present and future generations, while protecting the natural resource base on which we all depend. The potato will be an important part of efforts to meet those challenges.

The potato should be a major component in strategies aimed at providing nutritious food for the poor and hungry. It is ideally suited to places where land is limited and labour is abundant - conditions that characterise much of the developing world.

The potato produces more nutritious food more quickly, on less land, and in harsher climates than any other major crop - up to 85 percent of the plant is edible human food, compared to around 50 percent in cereals.

World potato production has increased at an annual average rate of 4.5 percent over the last 10 years and exceeded the growth in production of many other major food commodities in developing countries, particularly in Asia. While potato consumption has declined in Europe, it has increased in the developing world, from less than 10 kg (22 lb) per capita in 1961-63 to almost 22 kg (48.5 lb) in 2003. Consumption of potato in developing countries is still less than a quarter of that in Europe but all evidence suggests it will increase strongly in the future.



Tayside and the Scottish Potato Industry

The potato is economically important for Scotland, with a farm gate value of £142 million in 2006. The Scottish potato crop occupies about 30,000 hectares of land and produces approximately 700,000 tonnes of ware potatoes and 300,000 tonnes of seed potatoes, of which 60,000 is exported to 50 countries overseas. The potato industry in Scotland in terms of merchants, packers and processors in 2006 was worth around £272,298,764 to the economy and provided work for 958 people.

Historically in the Tayside area, which comprises the local authority regions of Dundee, Angus and Perth and Kinross, potatoes have been a key crop since the last century, with the fertile valleys and glens providing an eminently suitable climate for cultivation.

The seed crop underpins a £3.6 billion British potato industry by providing source material to ware growers in Scotland, England and Wales. These growers in turn provide

potatoes to processors or to the fresh market, primarily to supermarkets via packers. About half of the crop is used for processing into French fries, crisps and other products. British potato breeding is carried out in Scotland and seed of new cultivars is produced in Scotland through the Scottish Government's statutory Seed Potato Classification Scheme. There is a need for new Scottish potato varieties in order to increase potato usage in an economically and environmentally sustainable way; by addressing market needs, plant health improvement, nutritional and product quality and new growing conditions as a result of climate change.

SCRI carries out research to make this possible by providing the genetic knowledge, resources and tools required by potato breeders. A key resource held at SCRI is the Commonwealth Potato Collection (CPC). It consists of wild and cultivated potatoes native to Latin



America and hence of genetic diversity not available within cultivar collections of the European potato. Research outcomes are made available to commercial potato breeders in Scotland and are also used in commercially funded potato breeding at SCRI.

The benefits of growing a new generation of potato cultivars are: more yield of saleable product with

reduced production costs; reduced use of pesticides and fungicides and increased water and fertiliser (P, N) use efficiency in the growing crop; potatoes adapted to changing environments; reduced use of sprout suppressants during storage; potatoes with improved flavour and nutritional and health benefits; and new convenience foods and novel potato products.



Pamela Anderson

Dr Pamela Anderson has been Director General of the International Potato Center (CIP) since May 2005. CIP is one of fifteen international agricultural research centres supported by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Prior to becoming Director General, she served as the Deputy Director General of Research at CIP (2002-2005) and as Senior Entomologist at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture, in Cali, Colombia (1997-2002).

She received an M.Sc. in Entomology from the University of Illinois, an M.Sc.

in Human Ecology from Harvard University and a D.Sc. in Populations Sciences/Vector Entomology from the Harvard School of Public Health.

A leading expert on emerging plant diseases, her research has also included extensive work in agricultural entomology and plant virus epidemiology related to food security and income generation for resource-poor populations. She has worked in Latin America for 30 years and spent two decades working within national agricultural research systems before joining the CGIAR.

Mike Storey



Dr Mike Storey obtained degrees from Newcastle and Leeds universities where he carried out research on a range of plant nematode problems, particularly potato cyst nematode. Since 1997 he has been Research and Development director, initially of the British Potato Council, now the Potato Council. He is responsible for the commissioning and management of levy-funded research and development projects for the British potato industry. This includes the activities at Sutton Bridge Experimental Unit, the Potato Council's internationally recognised storage centre in Lincolnshire.

He is vice-president of the European Association for Potato Research and is a member of the Agriculture and Horticulture Research Forum, which is the co-ordinating group of research and development directors from each of the levy bodies that is delivering applied cross-sector research for the UK agriculture industry.

This cross-sector activity has contributed to a recent role for the Potato Council leading a Potato Working Group for the 'EuroCrop' project that is examining and identifying research to improve EU arable crop competitiveness.



Greenvale AP

Greenvale AP has a long and successful history and the promise of an even brighter future.

With many years experience, Greenvale AP is one of the largest handlers of potatoes in the UK, supplying fresh potatoes, processing potatoes and seed to all sectors of the potato farming and food industries. Employing over 750 staff based on eight UK sites, the company has an impressive track record in providing high quality ware and seed to customers across the UK.

In 2006, as a result of the company's pioneering work in service and development, Greenvale AP was awarded the Queen's Award for Innovation – the UK's most prestigious award for business performance. Predominantly, the award recognised the company's investment in the development

of a modified atmosphere storage system named Restrain. The Restrain storage system produces low levels of ethylene gas to prevent potatoes and onions from sprouting residues and can operate for many months without maintenance. This benefits growers by offering residue-free produce, good stock management and extensive storage of crops.

Greenvale AP is continually looking for sensible growth opportunities with regards to acquisitions and product expansion and have also brought a wide range of new potato varieties to the market place during recent years. Mayan Gold was launched in 2006 and as a result of its popularity Greenvale is looking to increase volumes in the future. Unlike other potatoes, Mayan Gold boasts golden coloured flesh and new flavours not found in other modern potatoes. This is the result of a very



successful breeding programme that has run in conjunction with SCRI with whom Greenvale AP have a strong relationship and an ongoing commitment to sourcing new varieties.

Other varieties successfully launched by Greenvale AP, include the new salad and baby potato, Vales Emerald and the maincrop variety, Vales

Sovereign. We also have our own organic variety, Lady Balfour, which is soon to be complimented with Vales Everest. Both of these varieties have strong blight resistance and can withstand most weather conditions.

Greenvale AP is continually planning for the future to retain its dominant position in the market place.



Mark Pettigrew

Mark Pettigrew is Agricultural Development Manager for PepsiCo International based at Cambridge UK. As part of the Development Team Mark is responsible for the management of agricultural technologies and practices, including new variety development and crop research, in order to optimise the value to PepsiCo of the raw materials which go into their range of snack and food products. He has specific

responsibility for new potato variety introduction and is in charge of the Agricultural Sustainability Programme. Mark has been involved in the potato industry for more than 30 years, starting with Smiths Crisps in the UK, Frito Lay in Spain and Portugal and recently in Romania. He is currently supporting work in the UK, Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Paul Coleman



Paul Coleman is Technical Director of Greenvale AP.

After studying biology, chemistry and physics at grammar school, Paul joined A H Worth & Company (now QV Foods) as a potato fields trials person. During the 12 years with Worths he had various roles including potato agronomist, seed sales and technical manager with Tesco, Sainsbury and M&S. Paul started work as Retail Technical Manager for Greenvale AP after the management buy out of Dalgety Produce in 1997. He was appointed Head of Technical and Agronomy for Greenvale AP in April 2000 and joined the main board of Greenvale AP in November 2005.

He has 22 years experience of potato production in the UK and abroad,

from growing Blue Congo potatoes in Finland to organic potatoes in the deserts of Egypt. Paul's milestones to date include the development of ethylene for potato and onion storage resulting in the spin-off Restrain Company which now operates across Europe and America. He was also instrumental in the development of the unique seed treatment, Accumulator, which continues to produce impressive yield results in fields across the UK.

Paul's main interest lies in potato breeding and together with SCRI he has brought successful varieties including Lady Balfour, Vales Sovereign, Vales Emerald and Mayan Gold to commercial reality.



Signing place of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, Angus has a unique heritage – including the famous red sandstone Arbroath Abbey that witnessed the signing of the stirring document which united the Scots.



The lives of the Pictish tribes who roamed the county in the first millennium, can be explored at the Pictavia Visitor Centre at Brechin.

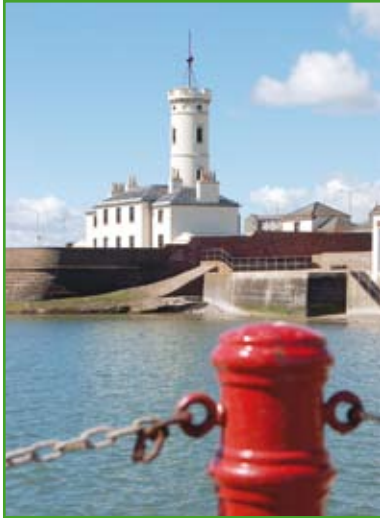
If you have time before or after the conference to enjoy the wildlife and



glorious scenery of Angus, you'll find it is ideal walking and cycling country with gentle paths or strenuous hill climbs. The rich and clear coastal waters and rivers make Angus a fishing paradise offering challenging angling on rivers and lochs, on the sea and on the shore.



Angus is a haven for all golfers with 32 courses within a 40-minute drive. Whether you are a dedicated low handicapper looking to take on the challenge of the Carnoustie Championship – venue of the 2007 Open – or a casual golfer looking



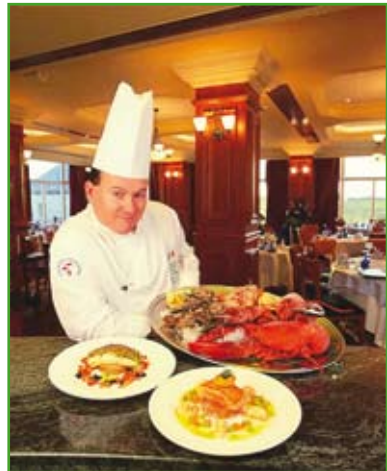
for a few relaxing rounds, Angus will give you classic Scottish golf in the historic heartland of the game.



At the end of your day it's time to relax so whether you want an a la carte dining experience or a comfortable pub meal served with a warm Scottish welcome – you are sure to find it in Angus. Taste the wholesome local produce – succulent

summer berries, the freshest seafood, the finest Angus beef and our famous Arbroath Smokie - not to mention the potato of course!

Ceilidhs, concerts, festivals, music sessions, and theatre – or just a quiet drink with a beautiful view – Angus can offer it all.



Angus is seldom crowded and is utterly authentic so why not stay longer with us and discover one of Scotland's best-kept secrets?

Visit www.angusahead.com for up-to-date information on what's on, where to stay and eat, and places to visit.



Branston continues to be the major supplier of fresh potatoes to Tesco, the UK's largest supermarket chain, and it's a position the company is committed to maintaining. With three bases across the country, Branston is never far away from its customers and suppliers. Today it employs a dedicated team of around 500 people at sites in Lincolnshire, Scotland and Somerset.

Branston's long-standing relationship with its major customer enables the company to drive areas of its business on the things that really matter to them - grower relationships, quality, environmentally sensitive issues, local products, new product development and, of course, community issues.

The use of chemical pesticides has been a contentious issue for some time but this last year will be remembered by Branston as the point its natural pesticide products

– Foil-sis and Nemaslug really established themselves.

Foil-sis, Branston's nematode trap crop is a sustainable and effective alternative to chemicals for the control of potato cyst nematodes (PCN).

Branston Nemaslug Xtra continues to go from strength to strength. Developed exclusively for Branston by Becker Underwood, Nemaslug Xtra contains the mollusc-specific pathogenic nematode *Phasmarhabditis hermaphrodita* and is effective for up to six weeks after application.

Branston's commitment to environmentally sensitive farming is also evident in its work with the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG.) Last year the two organisations came together with major industry players to launch the Environmental Guidance for Potato Production, which was sent to

every potato grower in the country, providing best practice advice. Other initiatives are planned for this year.

The company has not just focused its environmental efforts on growers. The highest standards of environmental best practice have been recognised and rewarded at Branston's Lincolnshire site. Following two years of preparatory work, the site has received ISO 14001 accreditation in recognition of the company's comprehensive and stringent Environmental Management System. Branston's Scottish site has held the accreditation since 2003, whilst its Somerset factory is preparing to be audited in the Autumn.

Branston's focus on new varieties has never been so strong. Predicting and responding to consumer trends and

demands has been evident with the launch of a new stand alone brand by Branston. The Real Potato Company was introduced last year with two exclusive varieties: Piccolo and Bellini.

The team is also finalising plans for the introduction of Sapphire, a highly disease resistant potato that tastes delicious and is particularly suited to baking but also perfect for roasting or mashing.

Branston has been building consumer interest in potatoes, especially amongst younger people. An active supporter of the Potato Council's Grow Your Own Potatoes scheme, Branston has worked with well over 1000 school children this year introducing them to growing and eating potatoes.



Peter Gregory

Professor Peter Gregory is Chief Executive and Institute Director of SCRI, based near Dundee. He has held this position for just over three years, before which he spent most of his professional career at the University of Reading, England with five years out in Western Australia in the early 1990s.

He was Professor of Soil Science from 1994 onwards and Pro-Vice-Chancellor for research and enterprise activities from 1998 until 2005. His research has involved studies of root/soil interactions in many countries, and he has also been involved in international programmes concerning climate change and agriculture since 1994.

From 2001 until 2006 he was chairman of Global Environmental Change and Food Systems (GECAFS), an international research effort involved in food security. He was elected as a Fellow of the Institute of Biology in 1994 and as a Fellow of The Royal Agricultural Society of England in 2004.

He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Debrecen University, Hungary in 1999 and elected as an Honorary Life Member of the British Society of Soil Science in 2007. He is a Visiting Professor of the universities of Reading and Abertay, Dundee, and an Honorary Professor of the universities of Dundee and Glasgow.

John Bradshaw



John Bradshaw has worked as a plant breeder and geneticist on barley, brassicas (kale, swedes and turnips) and potatoes during a 32 year career at SPBS/SCRI. He therefore has experience of working with both inbreeding and outbreeding crop species and with true seed and vegetative propagation.

He is currently Head of Potato Breeding and Manager of the Potato Genetics Programme which is

funded by the Scottish Government's Rural and Environment Research and Analysis Directorate. He is also Chairperson of the Potato Section of EUCARPIA, the European Association for Research on Plant Breeding.

He has published extensively on potato breeding and genetics and is widely travelled, having presented his research at international meetings for many years.

Conference Programme

08.30 – 9.00 Registration

Session 1: International Potato Production

Chair: Jim Godfrey, Former Chairman of CIP

09.00 – 09.15 Welcome Pete Wishart, MP
SNP Westminster spokesman on Rural Affairs & International Development

09.15 – 09.45 A Global Perspective of Potato Production in Emerging Markets Dr Pamela Anderson
Director General of International Potato Center

09.45 – 10.15 Global Potato Processing Mark Pettigrew
Agricultural Development Manager
PepsiCo International

10.15 – 11.00 Coffee

11.00 – 11.10 International Co-operation Allan Stevenson
New Chair, The Potato Council Ltd.

11.10 – 11.45 The Chinese View Ms MA Shuping
Deputy Director-General,
Dept of Crop Production
Chinese Ministry of Agriculture

11.45 – 12.15 Policies and Research Priorities for Sustaining Potato Production and Consumption in Asia Pacific Dr Suman Kumar Pandey
Director, Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla

12.15 – 12.45 Future Prospects for Potato Genome Technology Professor Richard Visser
Wageningen University and Research Centre

12.45 – 13.40 Lunch

Session 2:**The Next 10 Years –
Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions****Mr David Walker, Former Chairman, British Potato Council**

13.40 – 14.00	Eurocrop - Improving EU potato crop competitiveness	Dr Mike Storey, Head of R&D at The Potato Council Ltd.
14.00 – 14.20	Potato Breeding In a Changing World	Dr John Bradshaw SCRI
14.20 – 14.40	Pest and Pathogens	Dr Ian Toth SCRI
14.40 – 15.00	The Need to Improve Resource Use by Potatoes – Water and Mineral Elements	Professor Phillip White SCRI
15.00 – 15.20	Coffee	
15.20 – 15.40	Quality and Nutritional Value	Professor Howard Davies SCRI
15.40 – 16.00	High Health Seed	Professor Gordon Machray SASA
16.00 – 16.20	Impact of Climate Change	Dr Anton Haverkort Wageningen University and Research Centre
16.20 – 16.40	Product Development	Paul Coleman Technical Director, Greenvale AP
16.40 – 17.00	Closing Remarks	Professor Peter Gregory Director of SCRI
17.00 – 17.30	Network and refreshments	
17.30	Depart	



Howard Davies

Professor Howard Davies B.Sc., Ph.D., C.Biol., F.I.Biol. obtained a first class honours degree in botany from the University of Bristol and a Ph.D. in Plant Biochemistry from the same university. After a four year post doctoral fellowship in the University of London researching the regulation of protein and lipid degradation he joined SCRI in 1981. He is currently Director of Science Co-ordination.

Professor Davies' research interests over the past 25 years have focused on various aspects of potato physiology, biochemistry and development, linking "traditional" biochemistry with transgenic biology to understand the roles of specific genes in trait development. His potato research has spanned nitrogen use efficiency, calcium-

related physiological disorders, starch and sugar metabolism and more recently the quality and nutritional value of tubers. He has considerable experience in working with transgenic plants and for the last 12 years has been heavily involved with European Commission and European Food Safety Authority GMO Panels assessing potential risks to human health and the environment associated with commercial releases of GM crops.

He has extensive research network collaborations, co-ordinating potato-based research programmes funded by the EU, Food Standards Agency and industry. He has been involved with several horizon scanning exercises with regard to potato R&D.

Anton Haverkort



Anton Haverkort is Senior Research Co-ordinator of Agricultural Systems and Secretary and co-founder of Wageningen Potato Centre (WPC) in the Netherlands.

He studied Chemistry at the State University in the Netherlands then went on to do an M.Sc. at Wageningen Agricultural University, his main study subjects being plant physiology, crop science and theoretical production ecology.

His Ph.D. was undertaken at Reading University, in the United Kingdom. It looked at the relationships between intercepted radiation and yield of potato crops under the tropical highland conditions of Central Africa.

He has worked on projects in North and West Africa, the Middle East and Latin America and is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the European Journal of Agronomy and of the Editorial Board of Potato Research.



Perthshire is a traditional and distinguished area of Scotland. As the old capital of Scotland, the area has strong royal links, including Scone Palace, the Stone of Destiny, Loch Leven and the Queen's View. It also has an elegant and historic city centre with many independent retail outlets and a range of quality eating and drinking establishments. Perthshire is also home to leading Scottish brands.

Perth and Pitlochry host theatre festivals in the summer and there are many other literary and music events to enjoy throughout the year - one of the main highlights of a huge and diverse annual events programme is T in the Park, held every July and attracting the very best international music acts.

If retail therapy is what you're looking for, Perth has an excellent range of independent and speciality shops. It

also has a monthly farmers' market where the best of Perthshire produce can be enjoyed. Other shopping attractions include the famous House of Bruar country store at Blair Atholl.

There are also a number of famous distilleries which include the Famous Grouse Experience in Crieff, Dewars World of Whisky in Aberfeldy and the Edradour Distillery in Pitlochry, the smallest distillery in Scotland.

The area has become Scotland's playground, attracting hill walkers, mountain bikers and a new breed of adventure seekers who relish the white-knuckle experiences of white water rafting and spherieing (rolling down a hill in a giant plastic ball).

Perthshire is an established business district with a close business community. The area is home to some of the countries longest



standing traditional industries who continue to supply quality products and services both nationally and internationally.

Perthshire is also forward thinking and energetic. It contains a thriving and developing city centre and is home to pioneering companies within major growth areas.

Perthshire offers many wide and diverse opportunities for new and existing businesses to realise and develop their potential, helping them to strengthen their global connections, improve and develop

their workforce and create a long-term sustainable economy.

Offering unrivalled convenience and accessibility, Perthshire is an ideal central location. Communication links within and from the area are first class with a network of fast motorways, dual carriageways and express rail services.

Perthshire's enduring natural environment has personal as well as professional advantages. The area's dramatic, stunning landscape offers a wide range of local distractions, providing a balance and quality of life second to none.



Gordon Machray

Professor Gordon Machray is Head of the Scottish Agricultural Science Agency (SASA), a Division of the Scottish Government. SASA provides expert scientific and technical advice and information on agricultural crops, horticultural crops and aspects of the environment and

conducts statutory and regulatory work in relation to national, EU and other international legislation in these areas. A molecular biologist by training, Professor Machray worked as a research scientist and lecturer prior to his current scientific policy and management role.

Richard Visser



Richard Visser is Head of Wageningen UR Plant Breeding. His main personal interest lies in developmental biology and complex carbohydrate biosynthesis.

He is co-organiser of different Symposia including the Plant Polysaccharide Symposium (2000), Pectins and Pectinase symposium (2001 and 2008), the 4th International Potato Molecular Biology Symposium (1995), the International Scientific Meetings of the CBN in Indonesia

(1994), Uganda (1996), Brazil (1998) and USA (2001).

He is also an Evaluator of research projects for EPS, SLW/NWO, USDA, Irish Research Foundation, Mistra and BBSRC and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (Grand Challenges).

He is a contributor to and editor of several scientific journals including Euphytica, Annals of Applied Biology, Molecular Breeding and Potato Research and Plant Molecular Biology.

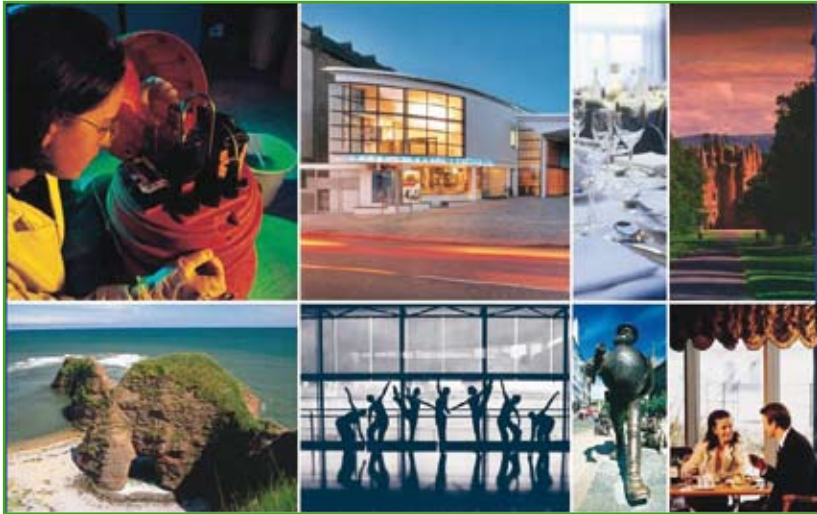


A contemporary and vibrant city with a great depth of history and an eclectic array of modern culture, Dundee is ideally located in the heart of Scotland. Ninety minutes from 90 percent of the Scottish population and only a short drive from the relaxing countryside and breathtaking scenery of the Angus area, Dundee is a perfectly placed and exceptional destination offering all the requirements of a conference venue. Aptly known as the City of Discovery, reflecting the academic accomplishments and intriguing heritage which layers Dundee's history, there is a wealth of activities and facilities on offer in the area for visitors to explore.

Dundee has a deserved and prospering reputation as a city which is continuously pushing the boundaries in terms of academic

research. Historically acclaimed as the city responsible for the discovery of a range of medical breakthroughs including aspirin and keyhole surgery, pioneering research continues to play a major role gaining accolades for the city to this day. It hosts one of the largest research communities in Europe. Over 2500 life scientists from more than 52 countries are currently working in the area whilst the University of Dundee is internationally acknowledged to be leading the way in important research work in fields such as diabetes, cancer and neurosciences. New and thriving industries include biotechnology, high tech manufacturing, digital media and customer services.

A culturally spirited region, the Dundee and Angus area is famous for its unique blend of cutting edge art, award winning theatre and



exciting and inspiring heritage.

Dundee boasts award winning visitor attractions such as Discovery Point where the celebrated RRS Discovery resides and an array of excellent galleries, museums and retail parks. The Angus area is a haven for those wishing to explore the great Scottish outdoors or discover some of the worlds most famous golf courses with St Andrews and Carnoustie both ideally placed for experienced or aspiring golfers.

The Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau provides a dedicated and professional service that will assist with organising a conference,

promoting a conference and providing additional destination support to ensure a successful conference. Services include: venue finding, destination site inspections, online accommodation booking service, online coach transfer service, online tailored tour booking service, conference planning and promotion and destination support and hospitality.

For more information about the Dundee & Angus Convention Bureau telephone 01382 527531 or visit: www.conventiondundeeandangus.co.uk.



Suman Kumar Pandey

Dr Suman Kumar Pandey obtained his Ph.D. from the Institute of Advanced Studies, CS University, Meerut in 1993. He joined the Central Potato Research Institute in 1971 and devoted his entire career to the research and development of this crop. Presently, he is Director of the Institute, which is a leading potato research centre in the Asia-Pacific region.

During his long research career, Dr Pandey contributed significantly in the area of potato breeding, especially for disease resistance, processing, heat tolerance and True Potato Seed (TPS) technology. His dynamic leadership in the field of breeding for processing grade varieties resulted in the development of a number of suitable varieties and technologies for production of processing grade potatoes under sub-tropical conditions, which started a revolution

in the potato processing sector in India.

He also actively participated in the development of the first ever heat tolerant variety, Kufri Surya, which has the potential to mitigate the ill effects of global warming on potato cultivation. He has also identified and registered several elite potato germplasm and patented a technology for micro-tuber production.

He has published research papers in national and international journals, proceedings of seminars/symposia and popular scientific magazines and has authored/edited nine books.

He is a fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the Indian Potato Association and the Horticultural Society of India. Currently he is the President of the Indian Potato Association.

Jim Godfrey



Jim Godfrey is a director of a group of family farming companies in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire who grow a range of arable crops, including potatoes, in combination with breeding and rearing pigs.

He is a former chairman of the International Potato Centre (CIP) in Peru, one of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) centres working to reduce poverty and improve health and nutrition in the developing world. He is a former chairman of the Alliance of the 15 CGIAR Centres which he represented with Governments, the United Nations and the World Bank.

He is a Trustee of the Roslin Research Institute, Council Member of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, a member of the Court

of the University of Reading and a member of the Institute of Directors professional review panel.

He is a former chairman of SCRI, The Potato Marketing Board, Sentry Farming Group plc and Dream Direct Group plc; and a former member of The Centre for Agricultural Strategy (University of Reading) and The Rural Economy Group of the House of Lords.

In 2002 he was awarded the OBE for services to agricultural research in Scotland and in 2006 the World Potato Congress Industry Award for his contribution to the development of the global potato industry. He is a Fellow of both the Institute of Directors and the Royal Agricultural Societies.



The potato industry in Great Britain invests in its own future, through the Potato Council Ltd to improve competitiveness and increase demand for British potatoes.

The Potato Council forms part of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, a non departmental public body which

is responsible to Government Ministers within the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs.

A levy is paid by growers and purchasers which goes to the Potato Council to fund research and development, knowledge transfer, marketing, seed export marketing and market statistics.





The council uses this to present information and analysis to assist industry to achieve the twin goals above and to shape its future.

The two primary factors which will affect the future success of the potato industry are continued demand for potatoes and potato products and the ability of the industry in the United Kingdom (as opposed to those from global competitors) to fulfil that demand competitively.

In order to become more competitive vis-à-vis Europe, to improve growers'

profitability, and ensure economic sustainability, scientific research and communication activities will continue to be undertaken by the Potato Council that can reduce input costs, reduce defects and improve marketable yield.

A vital role for the council is to ensure that there is enough knowledge about this important food source to make it worthwhile for the potato industry to continue to supply it and for the consumer to want to buy it.



Ian Toth

Ian Toth did a Ph.D. at Warwick University in England in 1991 focussing on the blackleg pathogen *Erwinia carotovora*. Following his Ph.D. he remained at the university to work on the biology of soil bacteria investigating the spread of antibiotic resistance in *Streptomyces* populations, and in 1994 spent a year in Copenhagen, Denmark, working for the large biotechnology company Novo Nordisk in the enzyme discovery division.

He began working at SCRI in 1995, returning to his main interest of bacteria pathogenesis - specifically *Erwinia* and blackleg disease. In 2006 he became the co-ordinator for Government funded research on plant pathogens at SCRI and currently has honorary academic positions at the universities of Dundee, Aberdeen and Pretoria, South Africa.

David Walker



With a background in agriculture, David Walker has extensive business experience in the agrochemical industry, previously being Commercial Manager of Shell Chemical UK's Agriculture Division and subsequently Managing Director of Cyanamid Agriculture Limited.

A former Chairman of the British Agrochemical Association, David has wide experience of the challenges involved in trade associations and collaborations within market sectors.

Having been Chairman of the British Potato Council from its inception in May 1997 until March 2008 he has overseen its transformation into a customer focussed body fully engaged with and responding to the needs of levy payers. Having instigated international co-operation between similar bodies he now feels privileged to have been introduced to many sides of the potato industry – enough at least to know why growing potatoes is an enduring challenge and that the marketing of them induces great passion!



China-Britain Business Council

英中贸易协会

The China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) is the UK's leading source of practical services to British companies doing business in China. CBBC supports British companies of all sizes - new entrants and established operations - through providing business services, practical in-market assistance and industry initiatives.

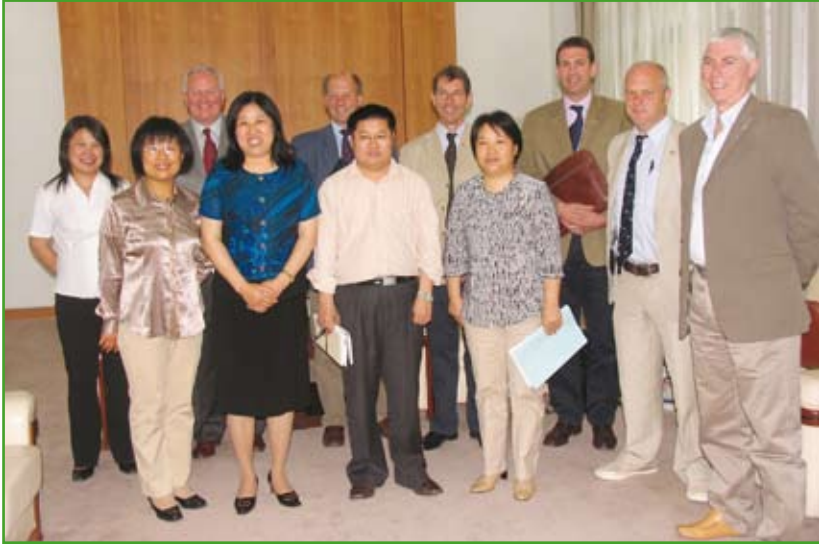


We deliver a range of practical, comprehensive services to British companies wishing to export goods and services, invest in China or establish collaborative partnerships with Chinese companies. Our practical in-market assistance includes market research, “Representative Office”, “Launchpad” and “Hot Desk” facilities, trade missions and exhibitions, event

management and translation services. CBBC is a partner of the UK government, for whom we deliver OMIS (Overseas Market Introduction Service) products in China.

CBBC has also set up a number of key industry initiatives focusing on key sectors within the UK and China market as well as vital subjects relating to business practice in China that are common to all industries. These initiatives currently include an innovation and technology forum, financial services, education and training, agribusiness and energy and environment sector initiatives.

We have a proven track record of developing British trade in China, dating back to the 1950s which is widely recognised and respected at the highest level of both Chinese and British governments. We organise many high level business events with trade related government ministers from both countries. In partnership with the Potato Council, we organised the largest international delegation to visit the World Potato



Congress in Kunming, China (2004) and we hosted a dinner in honour of the Chinese Minister of Agriculture on his last visit to the UK. In recent years CBBC has worked closely with DEFRA, RERAD and the Embassy in Beijing to facilitate negotiations to lift the ban on seed potato exports to China – a task which we continue to focus on.

In the UK, CBBC delivers its services through its head office in London and regional offices in Scotland, East of England, East Midlands, North West, Yorkshire and Humber and Cardiff. CBBC has a presence in 11 cities in China established in strategic locations across the market in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen,

Qingdao, Wuhan, Chengdu, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Shenyang, Chongqing and Guangzhou.

Many of CBBC's UK staff speak fluent Chinese and have lived and worked in China. They have China business and sectoral expertise and are experienced in taking British companies to the market. CBBC's China based staff are bilingual and have a reliable network of government and business contacts and extensive expertise in helping British companies achieve their business objectives in China.

For more information on CBBC's work visit: www.cbbsc.org or e-mail: claire.urry@cbbsc.org



Philip White

Professor Philip White leads the Environment Plant Interactions Programme at SCRI. He graduated from Oxford University with a B.A. in Biochemistry in 1983 and was awarded a Ph.D. in Natural Sciences (Botany) from the University of Manchester in 1987. He has worked at the universities of Edinburgh and Cambridge and from 1992 to 2006, was employed by Horticulture Research International. He is a Special Professor in Plant Ion Transport at the University of Nottingham, and a Visiting Associate Professor at the Comenius University,

Bratislava. He is Convenor of the Plant Transport Group of the Society of Experimental Biology and a member of the International Council on Plant Nutrition. He serves on the Editorial Advisory Boards of several periodicals and has edited five Special Issues of Journal of Experimental Botany and books on Plant Nutritional Genomics (Blackwells, 2005) and on The Ecophysiology of Plant-Phosphorus Interactions (Springer, 2008).

He is currently engaged on projects addressing plant mineral nutrition, from the genes to the harvest.



Mylnefield Research Services (MRS) Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of SCRI. It was established in 1989 to commercialise the intellectual property, expertise and resources of SCRI. Profits are transferred to SCRI for reinvestment in plant and environmental science research.

MRS is one of the UK's leading breeding companies, and together with commercial partners has active programmes for potatoes for the fresh and processing (both crisps and French fries) markets as well as programmes for blackcurrants, raspberries, blackberries and brassicas. MRS has a portfolio of about 50 varieties that are protected by plant variety rights and licensed to growers and propagators in 30 countries around the world.

The success of our potato breeding programmes can be seen by the number of named varieties currently on sale in the UK, including the UK's


number one organic variety, Lady Balfour, the celebrity chefs' favourite Mayan Gold, as well as highly promising new varieties such as Vales Emerald and Vales Sovereign.

For many years now MRS has been active in China, the world's largest grower of potatoes and has developed important relationships within this rapidly growing market. MRS was the founder member of Scottish Potato Technology, a joint venture between the leading Scottish potato companies working together to develop commercial opportunities in China and other markets. We played a central role in discussions with the Chinese Government that culminated in the decision that permits the UK to export micropropagated seed potatoes to China. MRS has also established trial sites in China where a range of our varieties are being evaluated for their potential for growing under local conditions.



Scottish Crop Research Institute,
Invergowrie, Dundee, UK
www.scri.ac.uk



Improving International Potato Production is a major conference celebrating the UN International Year of the Potato sponsored by  **Greenvale AP**

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