

Herb production in the UK

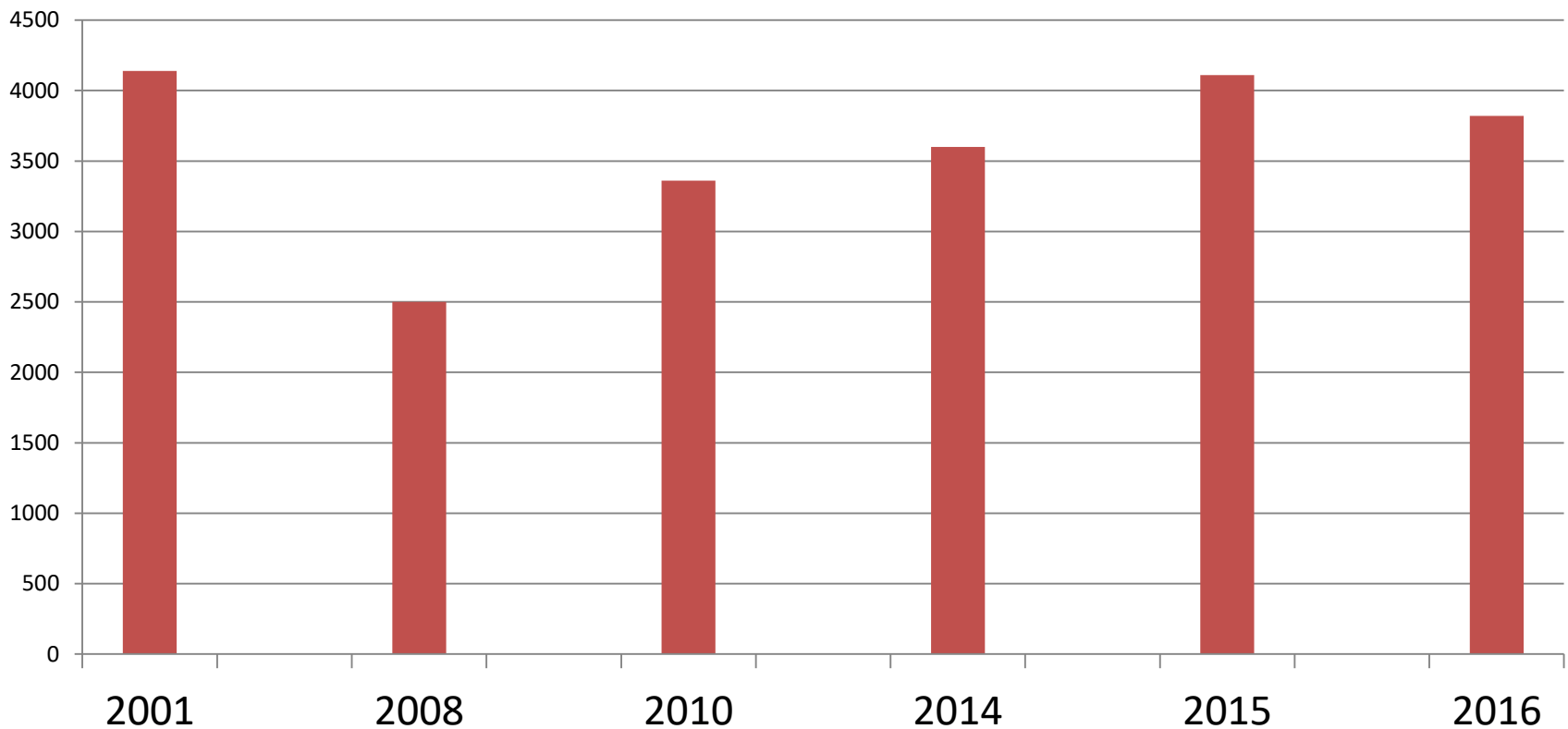
Claire Donkin

British Herbs

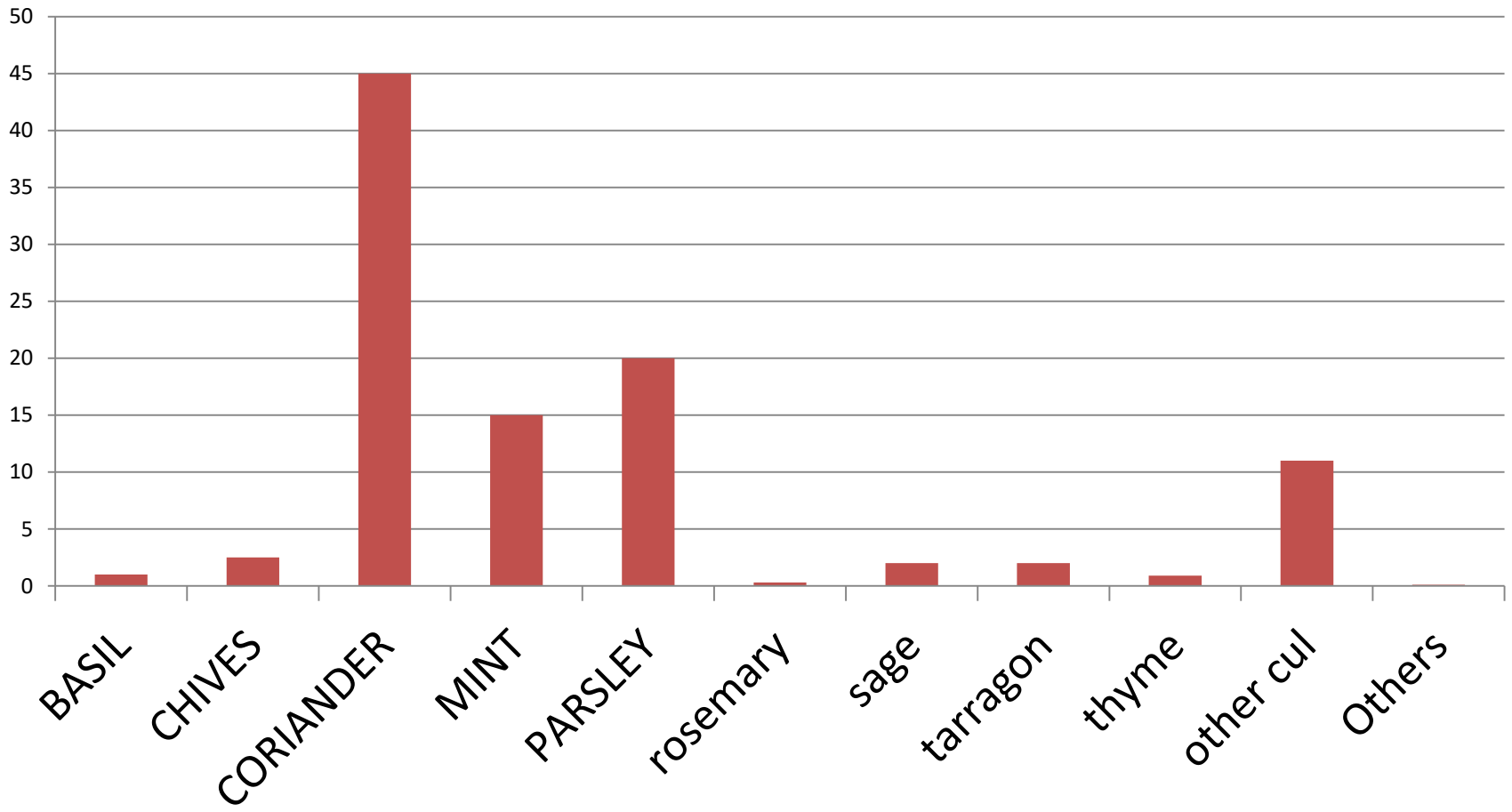


British Culinary Herb Production

Trend in est UK Herb area (ha)
[based on BHTA surveys]



Relative areas



Poppy and Medicinal Crops



UK Herb Market

Growth YOY £

Total Fresh Herbs £

7.0%

Cut

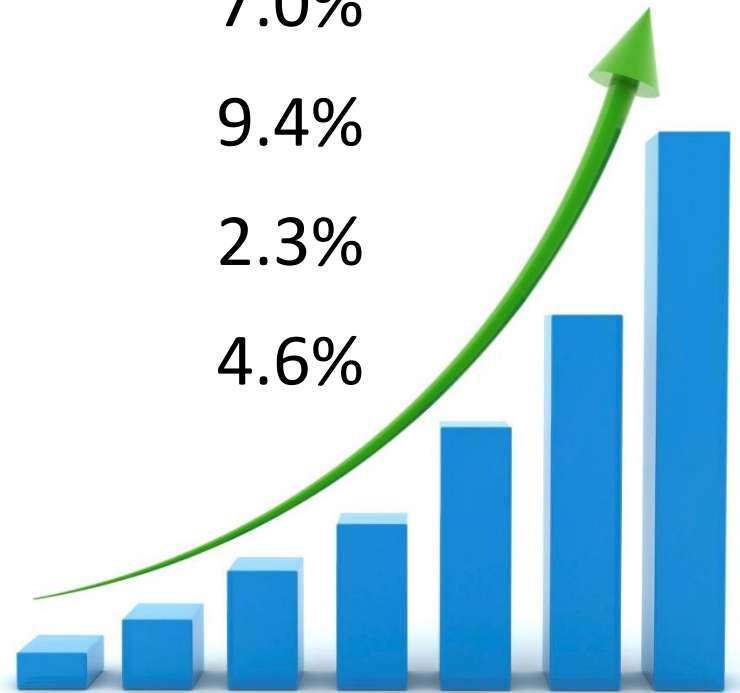
9.4%

Growing

2.3%

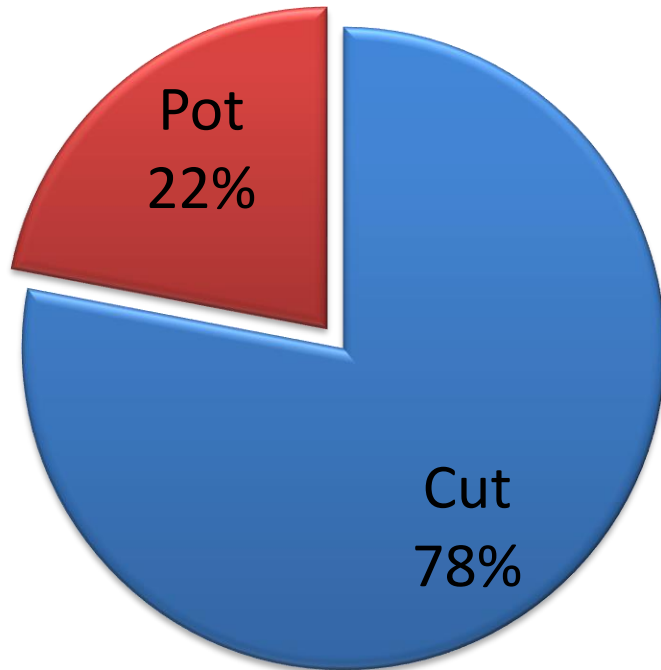
Bunched

4.6%

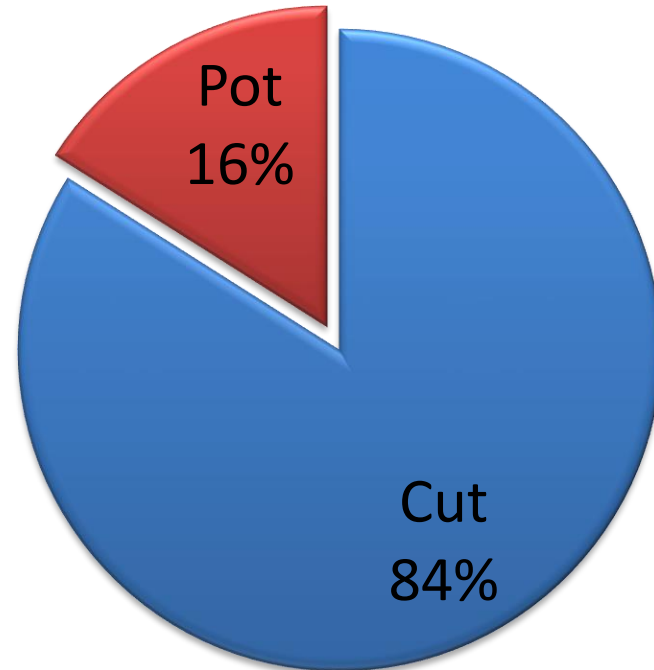


Retail Market £116m.

Value £



Volume '00



Challenges



Customers

ASDA

TESCO




Morrisons
Since 1899

M&S
EST. 1884



Sainsbury's

Waitrose

The co-operative

Industry Challenges



Pesticide residues and maximum residue levels (mg/kg)

Code number	Groups and examples of individual products to which the MRLs apply (a)	Reg. (EU) No 777/2013	Reg. (EU) No 750/2010
0256010	Chervil	0.05	0.05*
0256020	Chives	0.05	0.05*
0256030	Celery leaves	0.05	0.05*
0256040	Parsley	0.05	0.05*
0256050	Sage	0.05	0.05*
0256060	Rosemary	0.05	0.05*
0256070	Thyme	0.05	0.05*
0256080	Basil and edible flowers	0.05	0.05*
0256090	Laurel/bay leaves	0.05	0.05*
0256100	Tarragon	0.05	0.05*
0256990	Others (2)	0.05	0.05*



Weeds

70% report weeds > problem
than pest and disease



Pests

1



2



3



Diseases





New Threats



New Threats

- *Xylella fastidiosa* rosemary
- *P. belbahrii* Basil





KEEP
CALM
AND
MAKE
TEA



Working Together

Collective
lobbying for
labour access
post EU



Fresh produce could be left unharvested if labour solution is not found

We recently released our annual labour survey in graphical form for the first time. It clearly shows that 'seasonal labour' is a misnomer when it comes to describing the overall demand across the industry.

When you see the demand for labour across the fresh produce industry laid out like this, it makes you realise that there are many parts of the industry which need labour all year around. If there is not a readily available supply, then we are going to have real problems growing, harvesting and packing many crops.

Increasingly there are parts of the industry where we face the very real threat that crops could be left in the field because there is no one to harvest

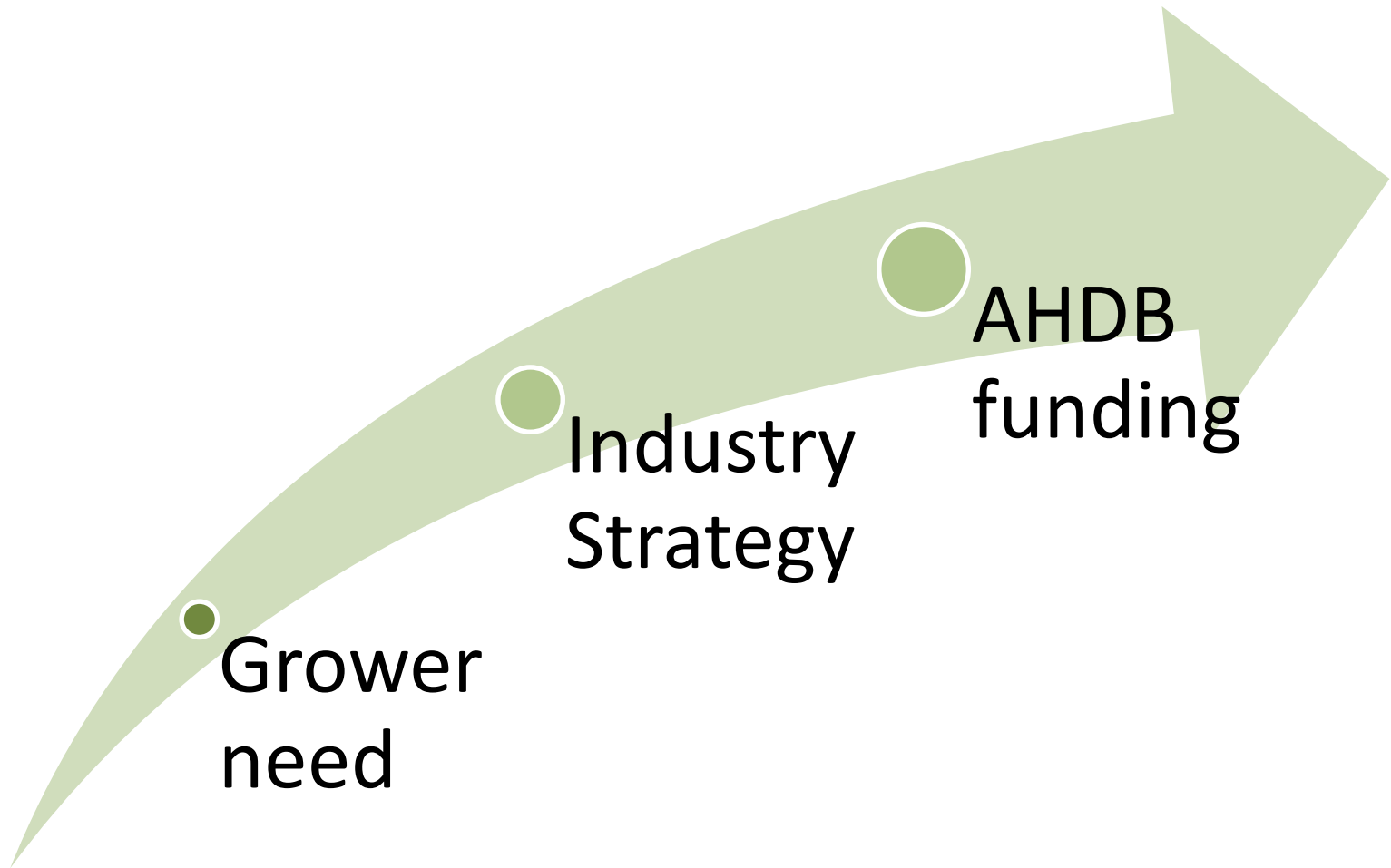
or pack them. Since the advent of the Living Wage many seasonal workers are finding that they reach the threshold of the amount they want to earn much quicker than before. In which case they go home, leaving employers with severe staff shortages.

As mentioned elsewhere, we urgently need a practical solution for seasonal working as part of the Brexit deal. Ongoing lack of certainty is the last

thing businesses need if they are going to make a success of Brexit. The date for the UK's exit from the EU is getting ever closer but we are still no closer to a solution.



Targeted Research



EAMU not EMU

Extension of Authorisation for minor use
85% of current products available



SCEPTREPLUS

£1.4m
AHDB
investment

4 year
programme
: 2017-
2021



134 products
being evaluated

- 104 conventional products
- 11 biologicals
- 8 biopesticides
- 12 botanicals



on priority crop
protection
problems in year 1:

- 8 weed trials
- 6 pest trials
- 4 disease trials



Crop protection
companies have
contributed
financially or in-kind



different test
crops selected



Model crop trial approach
with 6 different targets:
onion thrips; aphids;
western flower thrips;
downy mildew; bacterial
diseases and Pythium root
rot



EAMU
applications
already
submitted to
CRD



HORTICULTURE

AMBER

Application & Management of Biopesticides for Efficacy and Reliability

4 year project starting 2017

Supported by crop protection companies

19 trials in 2017



Aim to support UK growers success in using
biopesticide products in commercial integrated
pest and disease management



HORTICULTURE

AMBER

Application & Management of Biopesticides for Efficacy and Reliability



Herbicides

7 trials - focus is loss of Linuron - carrots & parsnips, herbs, sweetcorn, celery, outdoor cucurbits, rhubarb and narcissus.

Pest Management

8 pest trials. Generic and Specific

Disease

4 trials. generic i.e. downy mildew trialling with lettuce as a model/example crop and specific trials i.e. botrytis control in stored cabbage, bacterial canker in cherry and *Pythium aphanidermatum* in cucumber.



HORTICULTURE

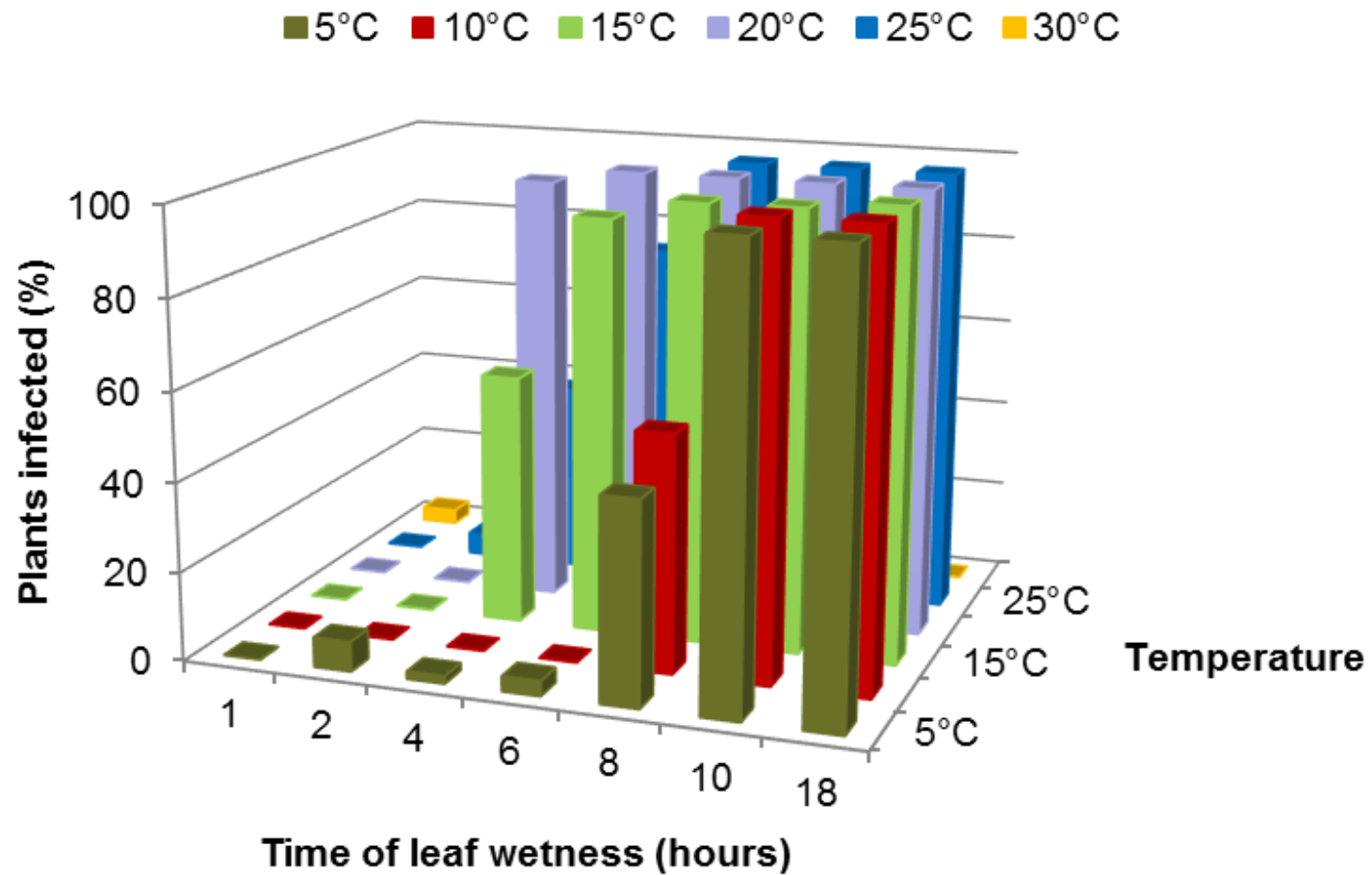
Share



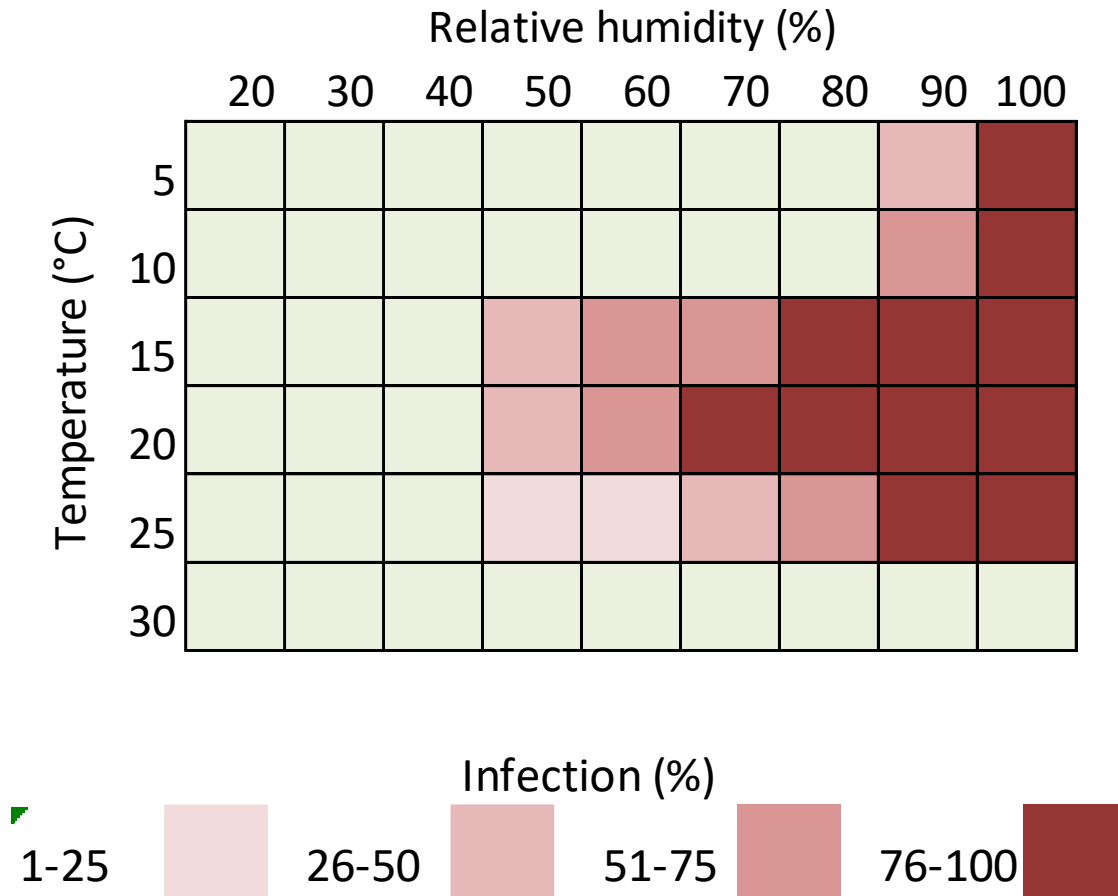
PE024 – Basil: Improving knowledge and Control of Downy Mildew in protected and outdoor crops

- AHDB funded project between
- STC, NIAB and FERA Science Ltd
- Investigating the epidemiology, alternate hosts and control options for basil DM.

Infection Risk



Infection Risk Grid (protected crops)



Summary

- *Peronospora belbahrii* DNA was detected in over 90% of seed samples tested
- No downy mildew infection was observed from contaminated seed
- Oospores have not been observed
- Conidia did not appear to survive longer than 72 h
- Infection occurred between 5 and 25°C, with infection requiring a minimum of 4 hours of leaf wetness at temperatures between 15 and 25°C
- The gap between fungicide sprays should not exceed 10 days
- Resistance to metalaxyl-M has been highlighted within the UK population of *P. belbahrii*.
- Night break lighting appeared to reduce disease severity, but results were inconclusive.

Into Practice



- ✓ Hygiene to remove infective material
- ✓ 7 day fungicide program to prevent further infection, avoiding metalaxyl
- ✓ Break lighting to prevent sporulation



Thanks



SCEPTREPLUS  **British Herbs**



Coral Russell and Brooke Lovelock from British Herbs
Kim Parker from AHDB Horticulture
Dr Phil Jennings from FERA for the PE024 project
AMBER and Sceptre Plus project teams