

# Update on CUPGRA - R and D Committee - Research Grants-Members opportunities

*“Understanding how potatoes grow determines how to grow potatoes”*

**To help fund short and long-term independent high-quality potato research, with robust deliverables, to enable CUPGRA Members to innovate, deliver, be successful and resilient, via the translation and application of the best available science, knowledge and insights from Research.**

Debbie Winstanley, James Lee, David Almond and Mark Stalham  
with support from Sarah Roberts and Peter Craven



# CUPGRA's Vision for R & D

## **40 years linking research and growers:**

Delivering improvements in potato crop physiology, seed, variety development, variety-specific agronomy, cultivations, water use, nutrition and pest & disease control

## Strategic Research (*impact in 5-15 years*)

Cambridge Science Centre (CUPGRA Fellowship 2022 to 2027)

## Research Development (*impact in 0-5 years*) **with NIAB and with Members.**

Understanding the contribution of variety, environment and management, including the management of specific problems, individually and interactively, to improve potato production

## Future Talent

CUPGRA Partner in Collaborative Training Partnership (CTP). PhDs 2022 to 2025



# Outputs? – What..?

- Looking for '**size of the prize**' and **who** benefits i.e. which supply chains will benefit, e.g. PCN can be universal, wireworm possibly less so
- Generating the best science, to deliver a change to practices.... (This does mean laying out all the detail of the experiments...)
- Looking to avoid duplication, from other potato work, or non-potato work
- Any collaborations, e.g. with UPL last year?



# Cycles of Submissions and Review

- Reading and review can only really be done over winter
- Reporting by January, needs to go in the Annual Report! Supported work needs to be of the standard and style to publish
- New submissions, January and February. *We will look for expressions of interest from November*
- Out-of-sequence submissions are not workable
- Sarah is a precious and limited resource; we need to use her talents carefully!



# Submissions for possible funding - what are we looking for?

- A relevant and clear hypothesis
- Clear detail of trials, with randomization and replication
- Size of plots. Hand-planted or in commercial fields?
- How is the work going to be carried out?  
Who is going to do the work...have they done this sort of work before...?
- Breakdown of costings!

*An early expression of interest, as we can help:*

1. Develop the work
2. Find contractors
3. and possible collaborators



# So, what Members Grants are we supporting in 2024?

## MEMBER GRANTS i.e. in addition to the work with NIAB

### 1. Wireworm £10K

Including inclusion of Risk Assessment as an output to add value to members, variety data and companion cropping. (Lead Martyn Cox, CUPGRA supervisor DW)

### 2. Leafhoppers £7.8K

Literary review/ overview (page limit 20 max). 3 sites to ensure pest location. (Lead Graham Tomalin, CUPGRA supervisors MS/SR)

### 3. PCN £5K

for each of TPP & Produce Solutions. Total £10K. Harmonisation of the two trials in East and West. Using Nemathorin as the standard control. (Leads Nick Winmill & Bill Watts, CUPGRA supervisor DA)

### 4. Row Width £5.5K

McCain are happy to provide 50% support. 2 varieties of contrasting determinacy (Innovator (now Premiere) and Royal). Row widths to include 75cm. (Lead James Lee, CUPGRA supervisor MS)

### 5. Spraying £3K

Produce Solutions will share results from last years data as well. (Lead James Lee, CUPGRA supervisor DW)

### 6. NIAB oversee £6.6K

Trial design, execution, evaluation and review for inclusion in Annual Report

**ANNUAL MEMBER SPEND**

**£42.9K**



**CUPGRA** 