



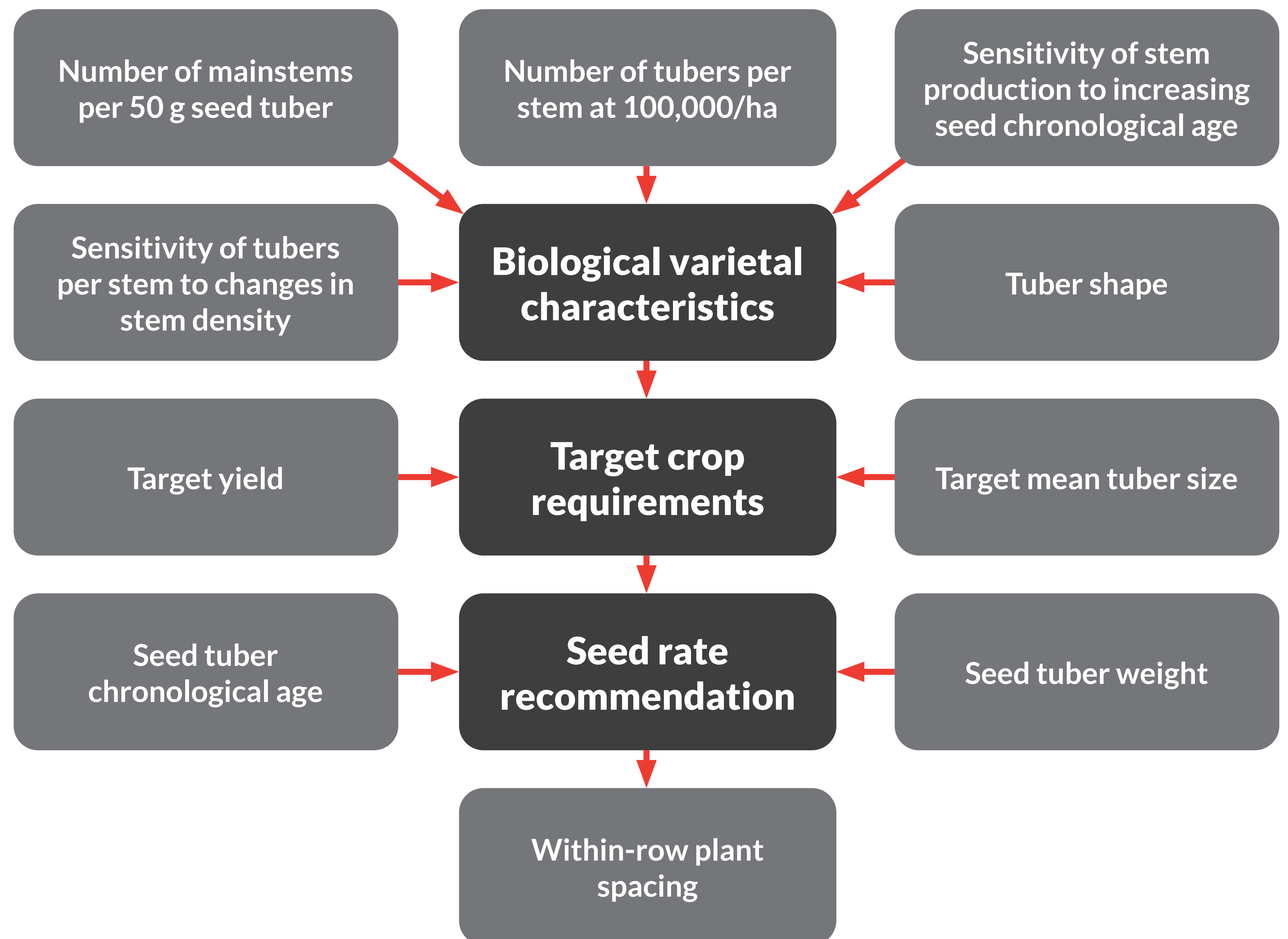
Seed rate recommendations

RESEARCH FOCUS

The right seed rate is essential to achieving the desired plant, stem and tuber population of any potato crop, helping growers maximise marketable yield. Many factors influence the size distribution of tubers in a crop including inherent biological characteristics of the variety, plant spacing, seed size and seed chronological age.

The general relationship between each of these factors has been distilled by NIAB, in research funded firstly by CUPGRA, then by AHDB Potatoes.

Now parameters for the seed rate model can be derived for individual varieties using experiments which measure a set of key factors (stem population, tuber population, yield and mean tuber size). This enables reliable, variety-specific recommendations of within-row spacing for given seed sizes to be made.



CUPGRA promotes the interchange of scientific research and field practice for innovative, sound commercial production of potatoes through its association with NIAB and other research organisations, funding independent, high-quality research.

