

WGIN : Overview and update on RRes WGIN research



Kim Hammond-Kosack
Rothamsted Research



10th WGIN Stakeholders Meeting 27th November 2012

The Defra Crop Genetic Improvement Networks

Announced July 2002

Dr Donal Murphy-Bokern

**Arable Crop Sciences & Pesticide
Safety Unit**

Science Directorate

Defra



Overall Objectives

To recreate the best of the past

- **Each Crop Genetic Improvement Network =
Virtual Plant Breeding Institute**
- **To use crop breeding for the sustainable
development of the arable sector**
- **To connect public sector science to
the private sector**

Networks established

- **Wheat (WGIN)**
- **Oilseed rape (OREGIN)**
- **Short rotation coppice (BEGIN)**
- **Pulse crops (PCGIN) 2005**
- **Miscanthus**
- **Oats**
- **Leafy Vegetables (VeGIN) 2009**

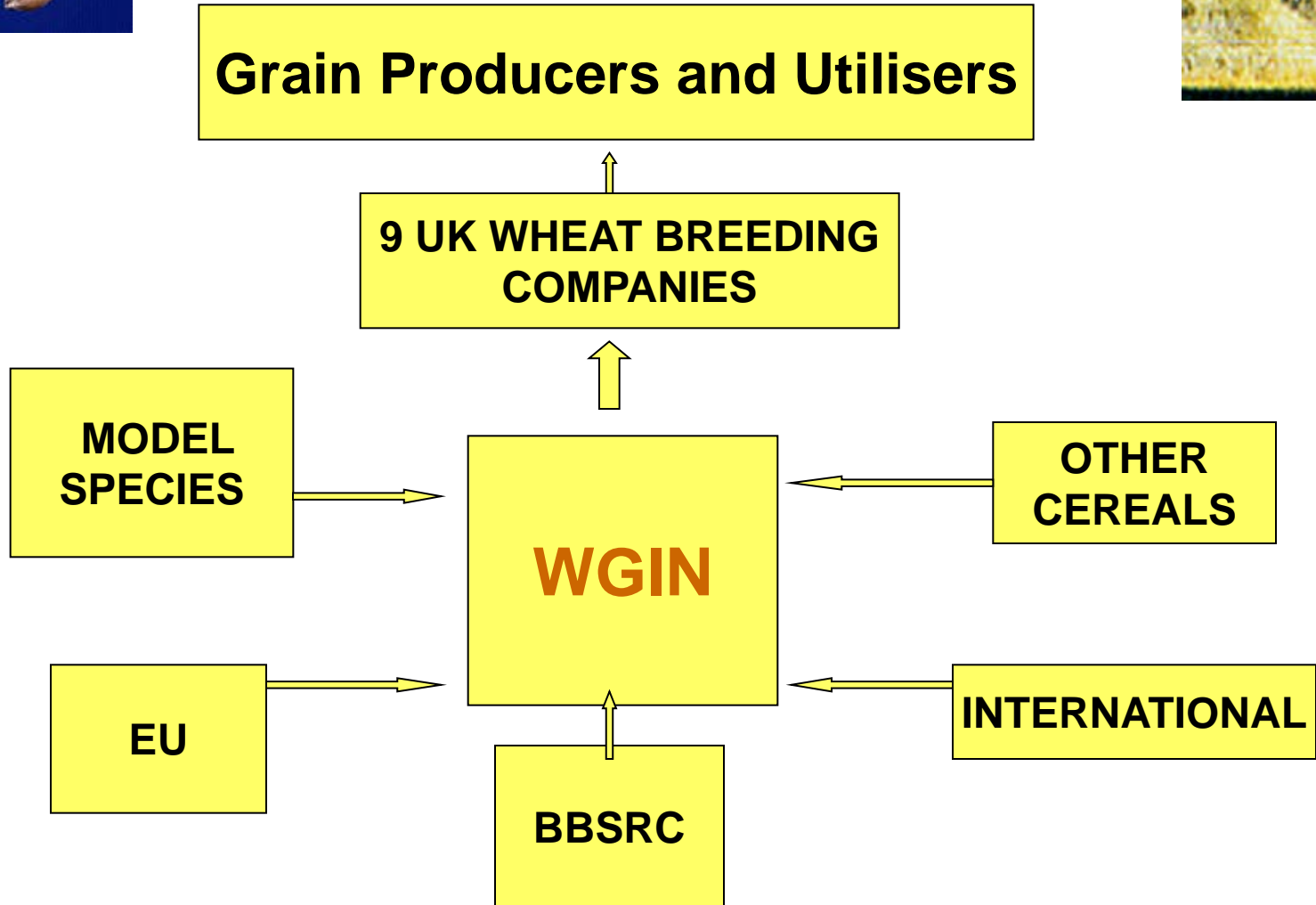


The longer-term vision

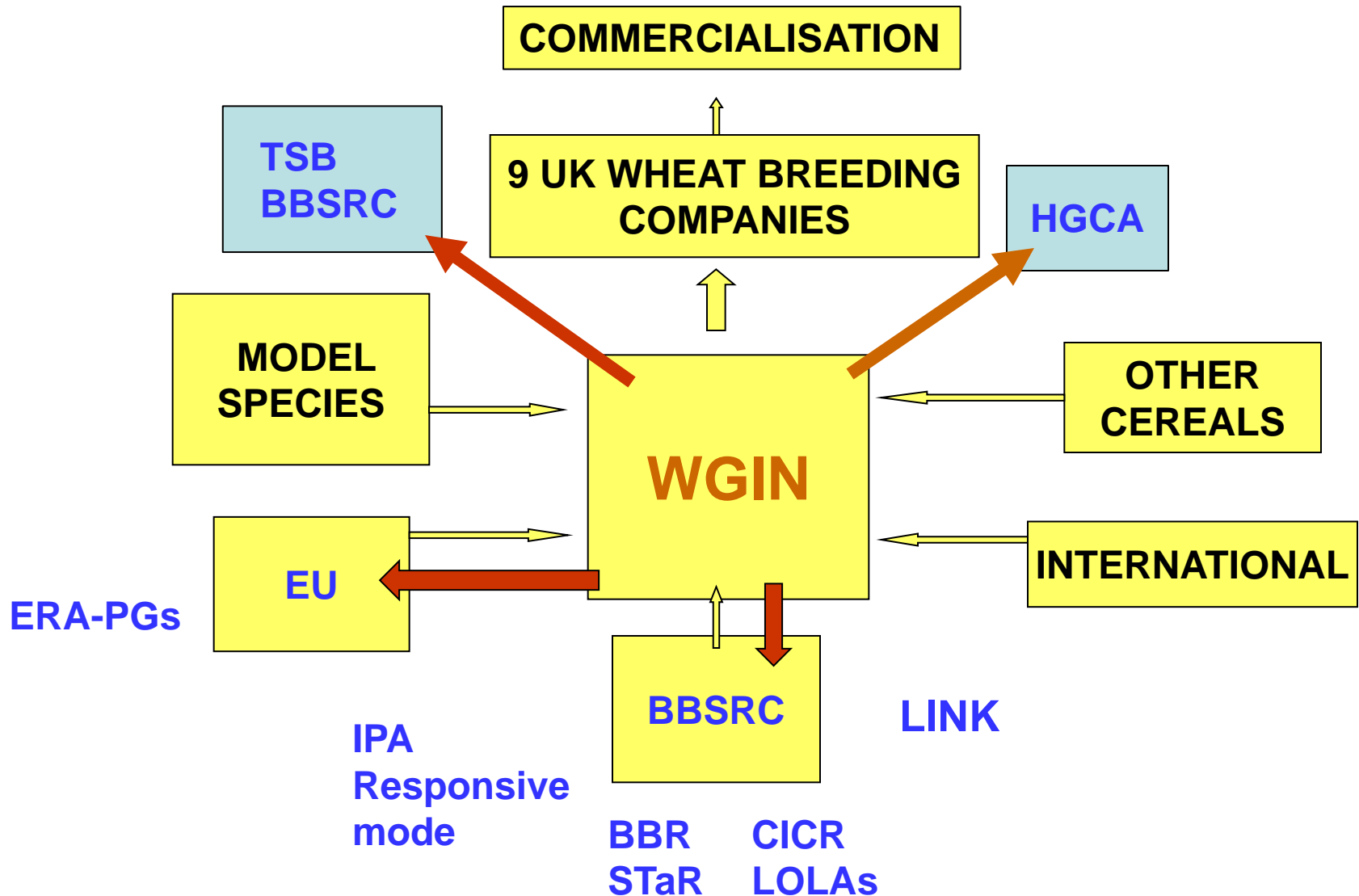
- A strong crop breeding sector deploying the best technologies science can offer
- A strong strategic and applied research base competing effectively for resources
- A strong base for international partnerships
- More resource efficient and productive crops



The Defra WGIN



The modest WGIN funds would attract additional funds to wheat research by other sponsors



Projects of 5 years duration

The WGIN 1 project (2003 – 2008) - £1.80 million

The WGIN 2 project (2008 – 2013) - £1.95 million

WGIN 2 project – funded partners

John Innes Centre

University of Nottingham

Rothamsted Research

+ 2 pilot projects (1 yr / 2 yr)

Mission statement - WGIN 2008 to 2013

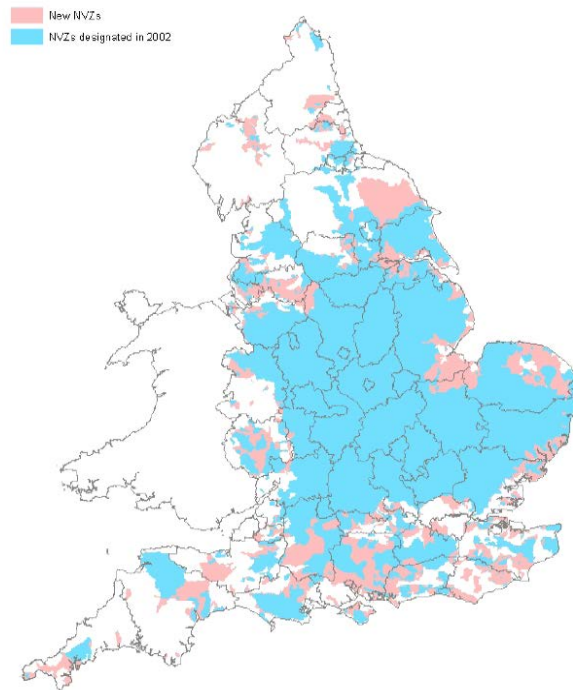
Improving the environmental footprint of farming through crop genetics and targeted traits analysis

Defra's current policy priorities addressed by WGIN

- 1. Support and develop British farming and encourage sustainable food production**

Defra's current policy priorities addressed by WGIN

2. Help to enhance the environment and biodiversity to improve quality of life



Increase in England of **Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ)** due to arable activities
2002 (blue) to 2009 (pink)

Defra's current policy priorities addressed by WGIN

3. Support a strong and sustainable green economy, resilient to climate change

Wheat Genetic Improvement Network (WGIN) 2008-2013

Tools and Resources

- 2. Near Isogenic lines (NILs) *
- 3. The Avalon x Cadenza Mapping popⁿ
- 4. Paragon gamma and EMS popⁿ
- 5. AE Watkins and Gediflux collections
- 6. New mapping popⁿ for WUE (9) and 2 new popⁿ to align WGIN 2 with the international wheat genome sequencing effort

Targeted traits

- 7. Insect resistance (RRes) *
- 8. Nitrogen use efficiency (NUE) *
Quality QTLs linked to NUE (RRes)
- 9. Drought tolerance (UoN) *
- 10. Take-all disease (RRes) *
- 11. Introgression of extreme Septoria resistance from *T. monococcum* into hexaploid wheat (RRes) *
- 12. Interconnecting the three soil based traits (8,9,10)
- 13. Grain archiving

Key control points (Blue)
cross connections (Red)

Genetic mapping and marker development

- Establish a reference UK mapping population

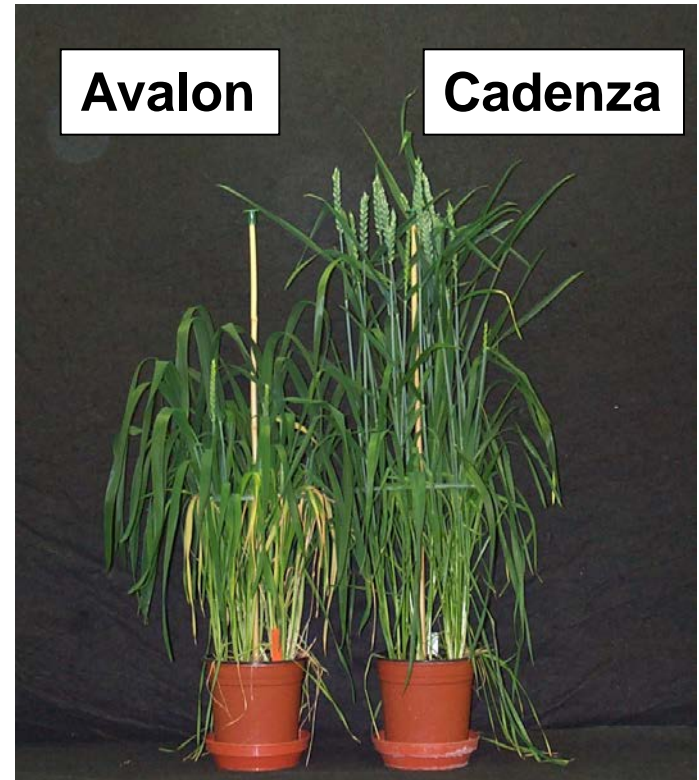
Avalon x Cadenza -

203 double haploid lines

- Switch to 'within the gene'

KASPar molecular markers

- Extended A x C population for fine mapping



Avalon x Cadenza – Near isogenic lines (NILs)

Large plot trial 2012/2013 – 3 reps

**QTLs
for
different
traits**

Avalon Background

225 No of lines

1B ear emergence

1D ear emergence

2A height

2D height

2D yield

3B height

5A yield

6A height

6B height

6B height & 7D yield

1D ear emergence & 5A
yield

7B yield

7D yield

Cadenza background

342 No of lines

1B ear emergence

1D ear emergence

2A height

2D height

3A height

3B height

3B yield

6A height

6B ear emergence &
height

Simon Griffiths, JIC

Characterisation and provision of genetic resources

The **AE Watkins** spring and winter wheat collection
(JIC)

1930s collection from markets in 32 countries

Seed now available for > 1000 'purified' lines

**Represents germplasm never used in
UK wheat breeding programmes**

Simon Griffiths

Trait identification

1. Improved nitrogen use efficiency (NUE)
2. Grain quality (QTLs) linked to NUE
3. Improved water use efficiency (WUE)

Consecutive years of field trials



Malcolm Hawkesford, RRes



John Foulkes, U Nott

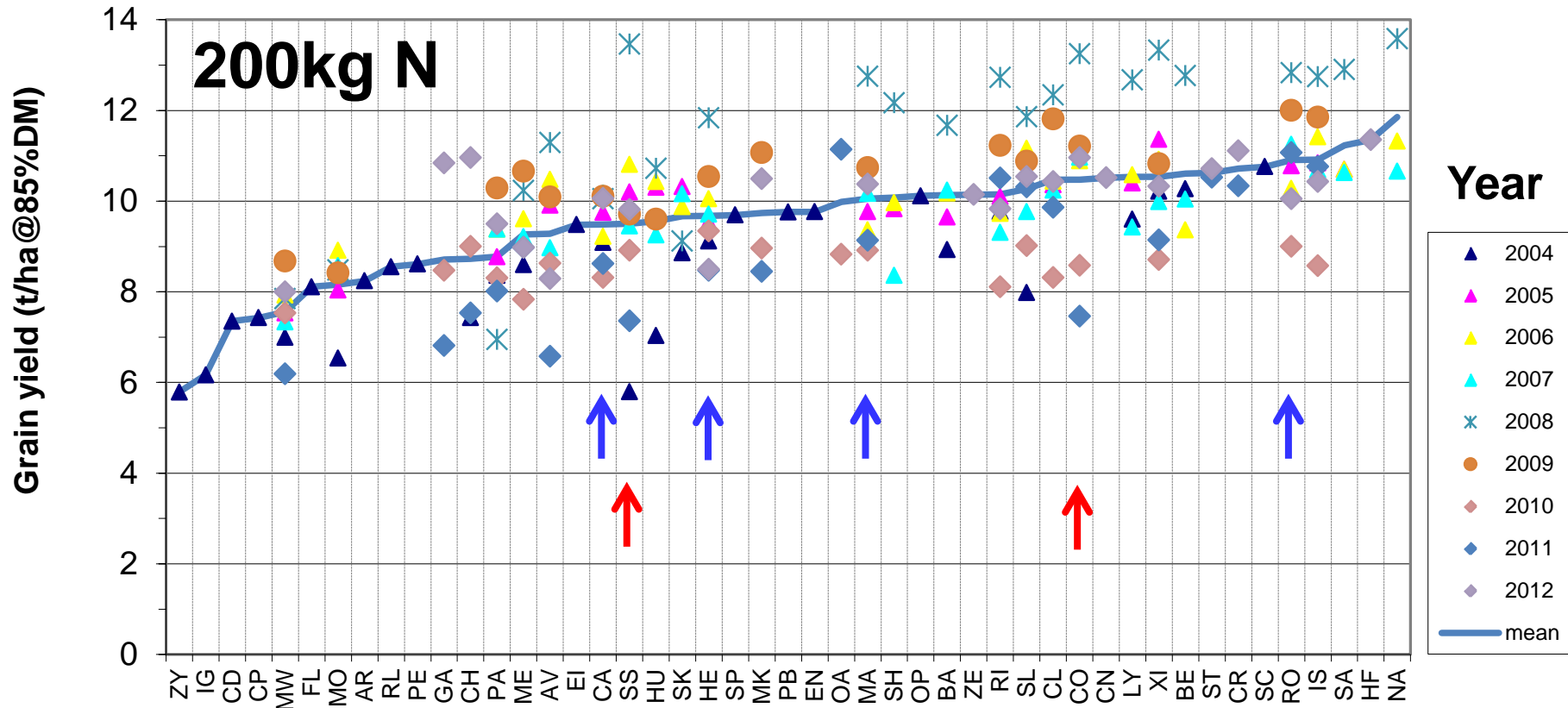
Diversity NUE trial history

Trial	Year	Varieties (core of 9)	N-levels	kg N/ha	
1	2004	32	4	0,50,200,350	Blackhorse
2	2005	20	2	0,200	Fosters
3	2006	24	3	0,100,200	Meadow
4	2007	24	4	0,100,200,350	Blackhorse
5	2008	24	4	0,100,200,350	Meadow
6	2009	24 (include 6 x A x Cs)	4	0,100,200,350	Summerdells
7	2010	25 (include 6 x A x Cs)	4	0,100,200,350	Blackhorse
8	2011	25 (include 4 x A x Cs)	4	0,100,200,350	Meadow
9	2012	25 (include WUE/take-all)	4	0,100,200,350	Summerdells
10	2013	25 (include WUE/take-all)	4	0,100,200,350	Blackhorse

Rothamsted WGIN-N200

Combine Grain Yield (2004-12)

47 varieties + some A x C lines



Yield stability -  **very poor**  **very good**

Trait identification – RRes

2. Reducing pest and disease pressure

Aphids



***Septoria* leaf blotch**



Take-all fungus



Annually all crops at high risk

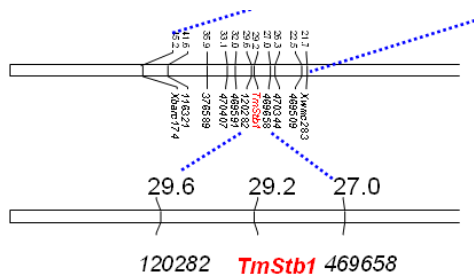
**A major problem
for 2nd / 3rd wheat
crops**

2nd wheat syndrome

Septoria resistance



Field assessment over 5 years

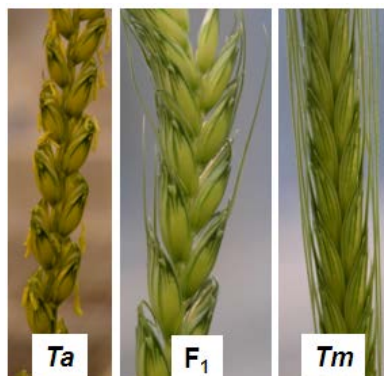


Fine mapped locus to Chr7A

Introgression breeding

Pairing locus mutant *ph1*

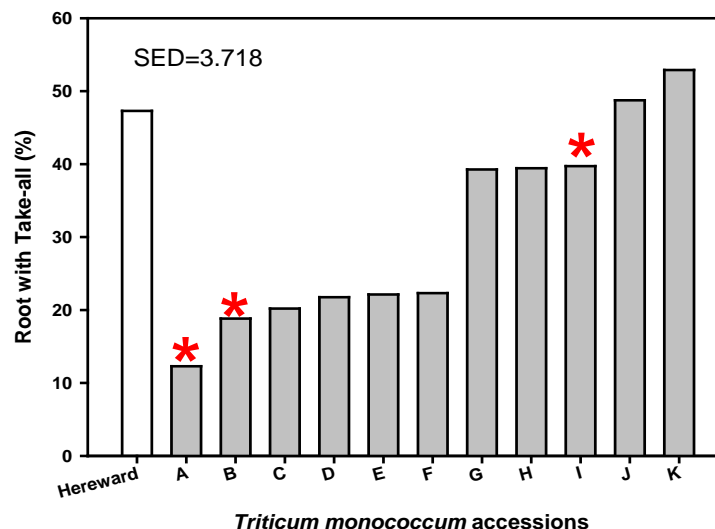
cvs Chinese Spring, Paragon



Take-all resistance in *T. monococcum*

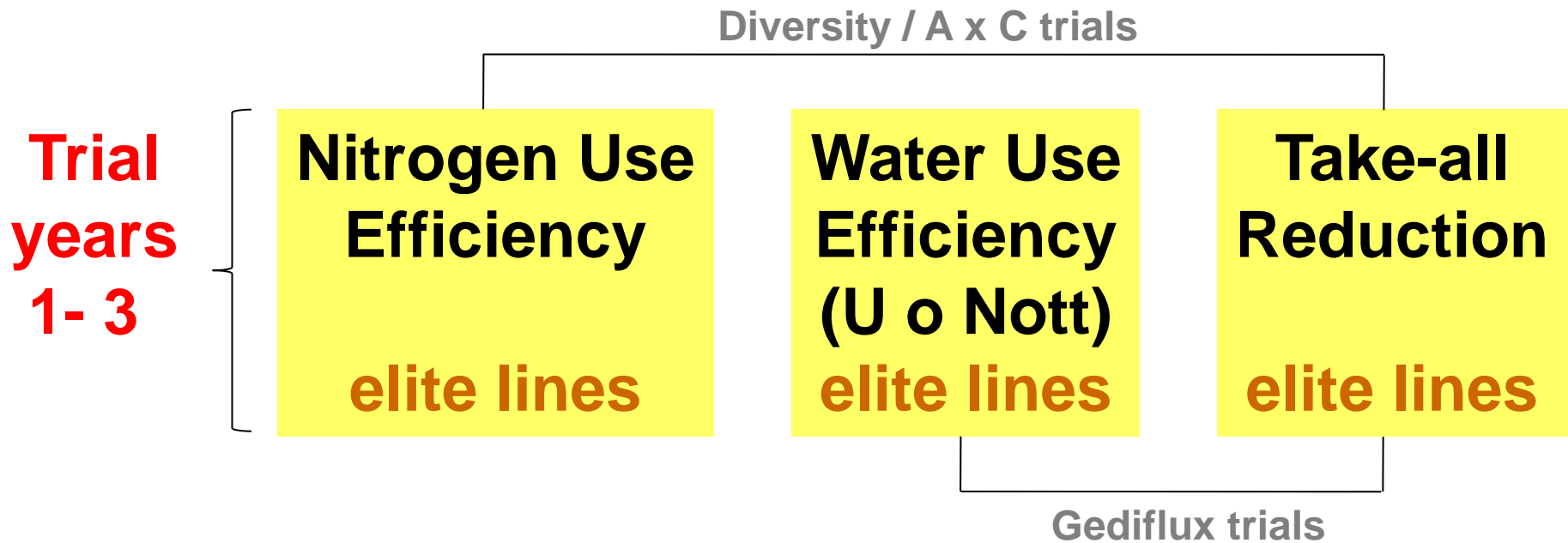


infected roots



Three mapping populations produced and F₆ populations to be screened in 2013

WGIN 2 Interconnecting the three soil based traits



Aim: To identify the lines with good tolerance to multiple stresses (years 4 – 5)

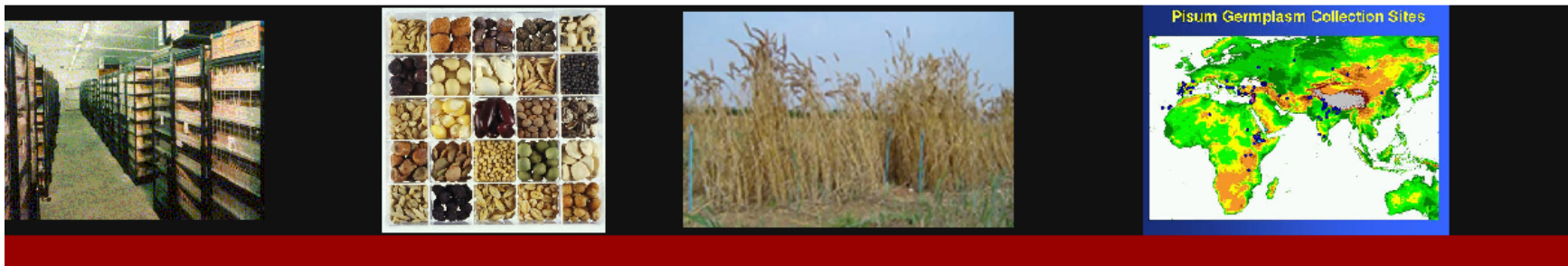
What are the similarities / differences between the three traits ?

Accessing the WGIN germplasm

Two routes:

RRes – by E. mailing directly to WGIN

JIC - Genetic Resources Unit



Collections /
Databases

Genetic Resources Unit

What's New

The Centre is custodian of a number of key germplasm collections which serve academic, industrial and non-industrial groups both within the UK and internationally. They are the subject of research in their own right as well as being involved in a range of collaborative programmes. The collections housed within a purpose built facility maintained at 1.5 °C and 10%RH with some 600m³ of storage capacity.

People

GRU
Publications

Links

Material from the collections is available on request to research, academic and commercial communities subject to availability. A material transfer agreement is required before seed is released. Please email for details of the agreement.

Return to
Genetic
Resources

For further information relating to the collections please contact: Mike Ambrose
John Innes Centre, Norwich Research Park Colney Lane, Norwich, NR4 7UH.
TEL: +01603 450630 EMAIL: JIC.geneticresources@bbsrc.ac.uk

**Accession numbers
over 40,000 for
RRes WGIN
accessions**

Mike Ambrose

Central storage of grain from the field trials

8 years of field trials

The stored samples - 500 g / 1 kg grain at - 20 C

~ 7,000 samples with associated metadata

**Key biological resources for new projects
and / or pilot studies**

The Networking objectives

8 of the 20 activities

The Defra WGIN: Dissemination, Liaison and Communication

Annual “Stakeholders’ Forum” (Nov)

Focussed Workshop – 2009, 2013 ‘A x C mapping popⁿ’
2010 – DArT marker analysis

Workshops with overseas partner organisations:
CIMMYT, INRA, 2010 – Serbia / Eastern Europe
2011- Brazil, 2013 ?

Web Site (www.WGIN.org.UK)

Six Monthly Electronic Newsletter

Scientific publications

Annual displays at ‘Cereals’

E. mail:wgin.defra@bbsrc.ac.uk



ABOUT

INFORMATION

RESOURCES

STAKEHOLDERS

HOME >

Welcome to WGIN 2nd Phase (2009-2013)

Defra Wheat Genetic Improvement Network - Improving the environmental footprint of farming through crop genetics and targeted traits analysis

Background

The UK government is committed to more sustainable agriculture but this vision is facing an ever expanding range of environmental, energy and climate change challenges. Wheat is grown on a larger area and is more valuable than any other arable crop in the UK. Established in 2003, the Wheat Genetic Improvement Network (WGIN) arose directly from a realisation in the early 2000s that over the preceding two decades there had been a widening disconnection between commercial plant breeding activities and publicly funded plant and crop research. The overall aim of WGIN is to generate pre-breeding material carrying novel traits for the UK breeding companies and to deliver accessible technologies, thereby ensuring the means are available to produce new, improved varieties. An integrated scientific 'core' which combines underpinning work on molecular markers, genetic and genomic research, together with novel trait identification, are being pursued to achieve this goal.



RECENT UPDATES

OLD Site - [The old site is still available here.](#)

Disclaimer: WGIN is a publicly funded project and the data and resources it generates are freely available to the research community, providing that the use of any WGIN data and resources are acknowledged.

site guide

The site is grouped into the following four sections:

ABOUT - for general information about WGIN, including news items and contacts.

INFORMATION - for more detailed information about WGIN, including reports and information tools.

RESOURCES - for experimental resources and research related tools

STAKEHOLDERS - for information on the Stakeholders Forum

Please use our interactive dropdown menus, the side menus, or the link tracker to navigate the site.

--see [site-map](#) for overview

Maintained by
Suzanne Thrussell
Project assistant

Soon to include
a dedicated
DATA section

Accessible via the
MONOGRAM
website

Economic impact of WGIN

Special focus Newsletter May 2008

- £4.3 M new grants + £2.95 M existing grants

The cost of WGIN 1 was £1.8 M over 5 years

2nd WGIN project impact audit done in late 2011

- 20 new projects described in Nov 2011 Newsletter

- £15 M new grants

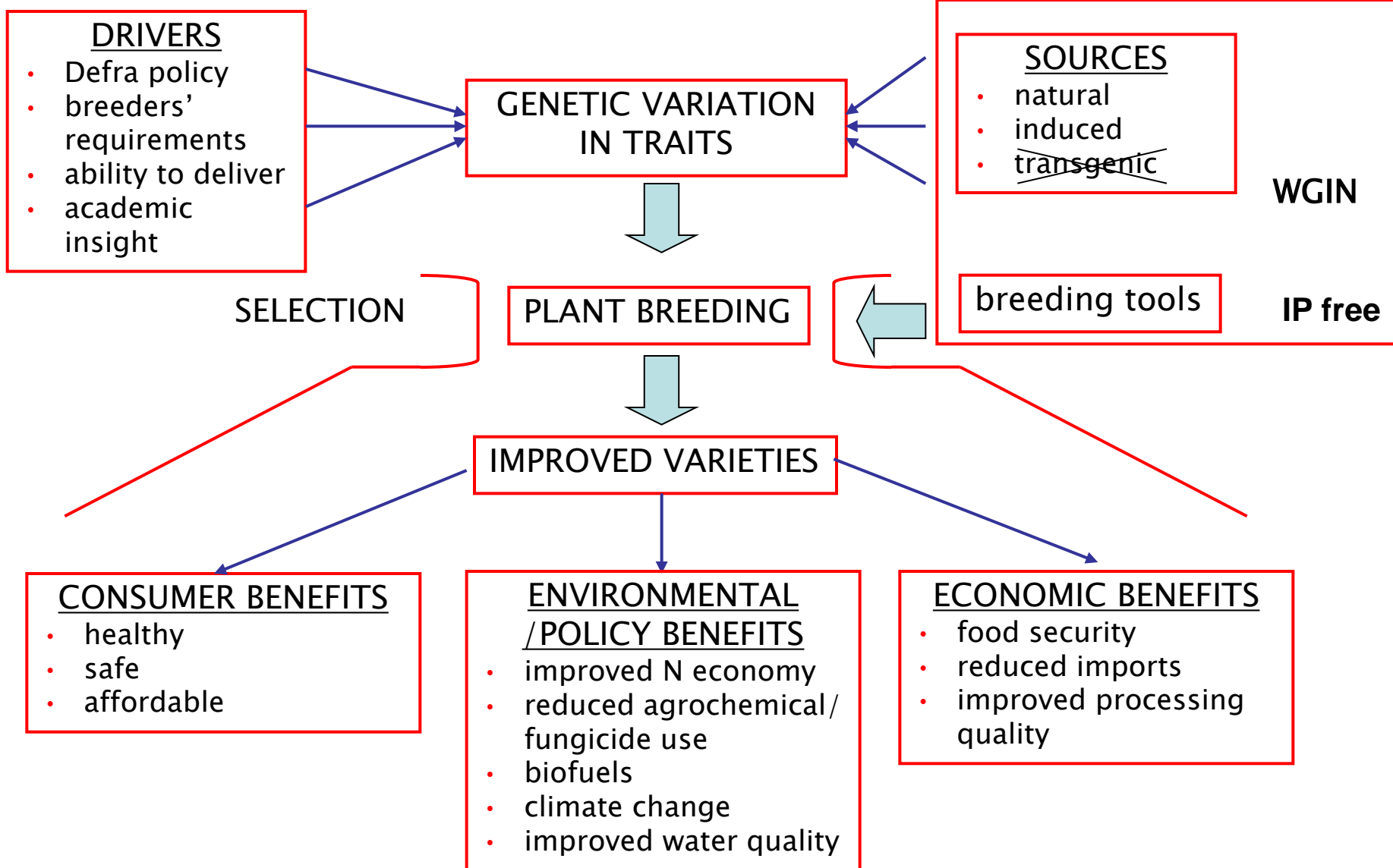
14 projects partially industry funded

BBSRC, HGCA, Defra, Technology Strategy Board, Scottish Government, EU Lawes Trust, Rothamsted International, John Oldacre Foundation

+ many PhD student projects

The cost of WGIN 2 is £1.95 M over 5 years

WGIN in the wider context



Defra

**Donal Murphy-Bokern, Bruno Viegas, Kath Bainbridge,
Farhana Amin and David Cooper**

WGIN (present)

**RRes - Peter Shewry
Kim Hammond-Kosack
Malcolm Hawkesford
Vanessa McMillan
Kostya Kanyuka
Suzanne Thrussell**

WGIN (past)

**RRes – Andy Phillips Lesley Smart
Katie Tearall Ruth Gordon-Weeks
Peter Barraclough Elke Anzinger
Hai-Chun Jing Richard Gutteridge

Carlos Bayon
Sam Irving**

**JIC – Simon Griffiths
Susan Freeman
Cathy Mumford**

**JIC - John Snape Simon Orford
Robert Koebner Michelle Leverington
Liz Sayers
Christian Rogers
Pauline Stephenson
Leodie Alibert**

**UoN - John Foulkes
Jayalath DeSilva**

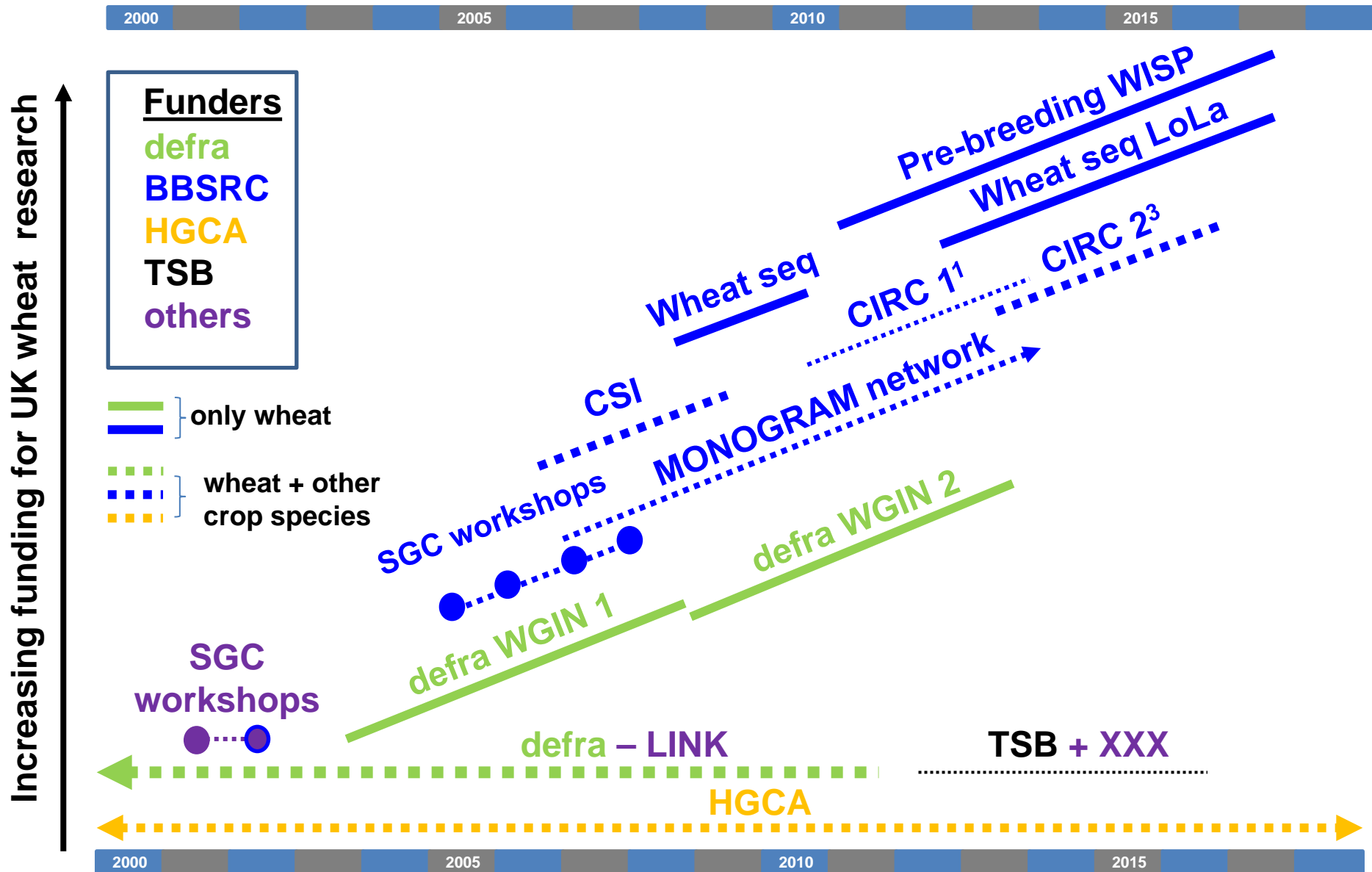
The farm / trials staff at all the sites used

**The Plant Breeders
The Management team**

www.WGIN.org.UK



The relationship between WGIN and the major funding initiatives supporting UK wheat research (2000-2017)



The WGIN disclaimer

WGIN is a publicly funded project and the **data and resources it generates are freely available to the research community, providing that the **use** of any WGIN data and resources are **acknowledged**.**

In grant applications as well as final publications

We developed in early 2010 : A generic statement on data and resource use by others

Please use this statement and inform us of all successful activities

Three Defra's current policy priorities addressed by WGIN

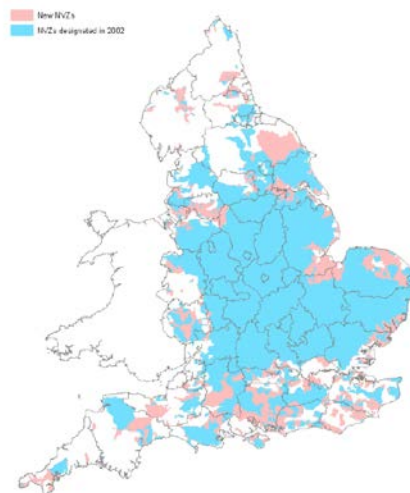
1. Support and develop British farming and encourage sustainable food production

Help to enhance the competitiveness and resilience of the whole food chain, including farms and the fish industry, to help ensure a secure, environmentally sustainable and healthy supply of food with improved standards of animal welfare

Three Defra's current policy priorities addressed by WGIN

2. Help to enhance the environment and biodiversity to improve quality of life

Enhance and protect the natural environment, including biodiversity and the marine environment, by reducing pollution, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and preventing habitat loss and degradation



Increase in England of Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ) due to arable activities 2002 (blue) to 2009 (pink)

Three Defra's current policy priorities addressed by WGIN

3. Support a strong and sustainable green economy, resilient to climate change

Help to create the conditions in which businesses can innovate, invest and grow; encourage businesses, people and communities to manage and use natural resources sustainably and to reduce waste; work to ensure that the UK economy is resilient to climate change; and enhance rural communities

Great Harpenden I - Full A x C mapping population



2010 - 2011