



CIRC • CROP IMPROVEMENT RESEARCH CLUB

Crop Improvement Research Club: Progress so far, an update for WGIN

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CIRC Co-ordination

Biosciences KTN



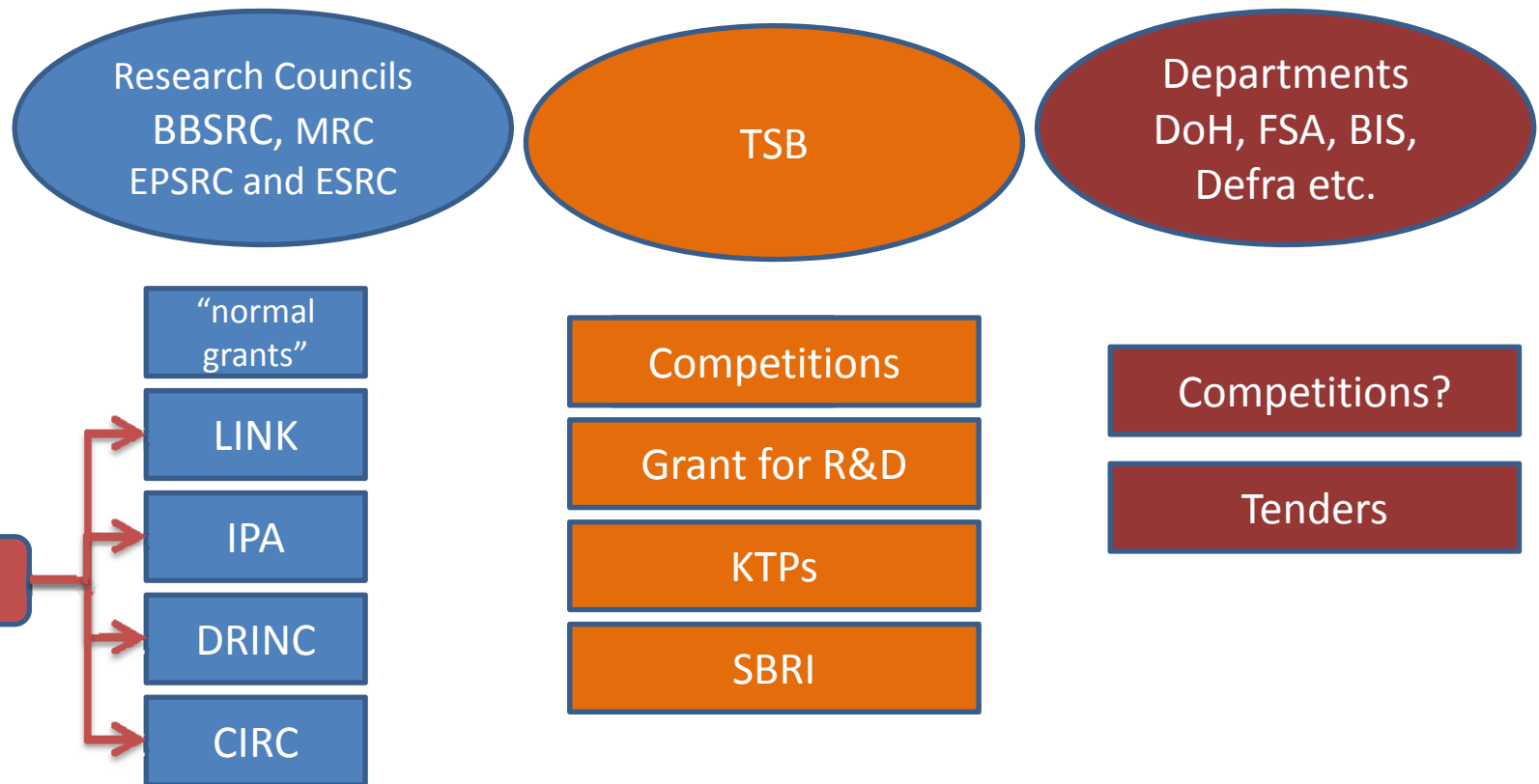
Crop Club in Context

- Global challenges of food security and climate change
- UK strategy for food security
 - www.foodsecurity.ac.uk
 - BBSRC leads for research councils
- Drive towards greater translation of research results
 - Impact agenda
 - Partnerships with industry

BBSRC: Industry Clubs

- Industry club funds leveraged by BBSRC
 - Research agenda tailored with club members
 - Science base attacks the research challenges
 - Strong co-ordination and networking
- Successful model
 - BRIC, DRINC, IBTI
 - Crop Improvement Club has additional funding from Scottish Government

UK Funding Landscape for AgriFood



Crop Improvement Club



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Research Challenges

- Crops: Wheat, Barley, Oilseed Rape
- Targets: Productivity
 - Sustainable high yields with lower inputs
- Targets: Quality
 - Wheat, barley functionality and consistency

Benefits to research groups

- Basic research with translation in mind
 - BBSRC quality standards and processes
- Additional studentships available to successful grantholders
- Network building
 - Industry links within the club
 - Co-ordination and dissemination externally
 - Biosciences KTN Plant Sector
 - Support to access follow-on funding sources

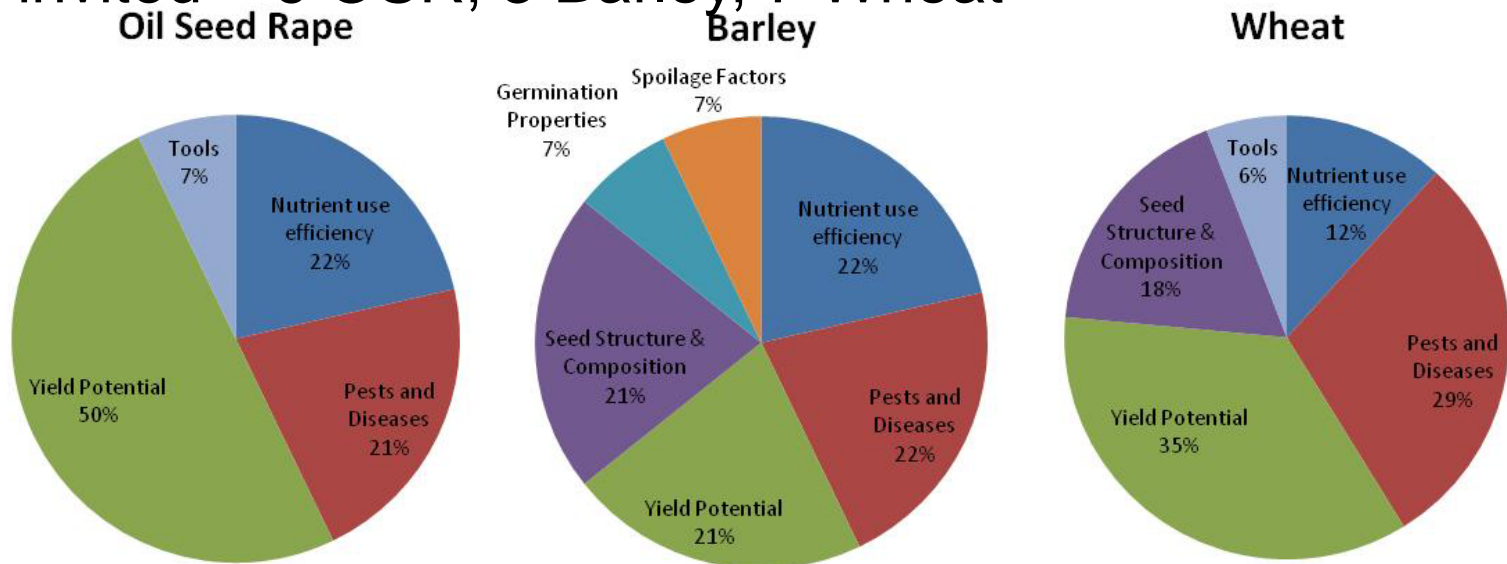
Part of the bigger picture

- Business engagement with research
 - ◆ Industry Partnership Awards (BBSRC)
 - ◆ Knowledge transfer partnerships (TSB)
 - ◆ Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Platform (TSB)
- Training and skills
 - ◆ Advanced Training Partnerships (BBSRC)
- Culture change towards translation of research

First Call- Outline Applications

46 total- 14 OSR, 14 Barley, 17 Wheat

16 invited – 6 OSR, 3 Barley, 7 Wheat



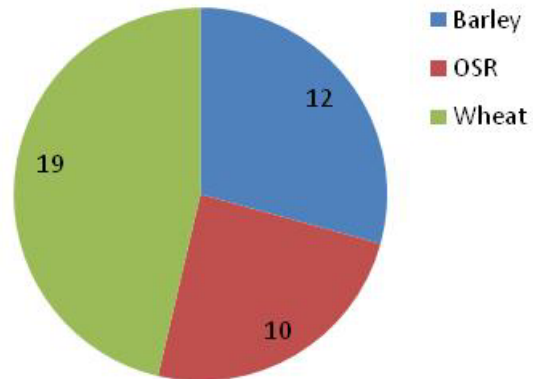
The applications received were assigned categories (for interest and information only) based on crop and research priority- these graphs represent the applications received, no quotas!

First Call- 6 projects funded

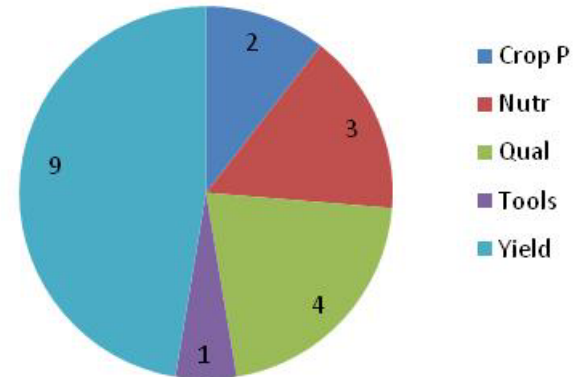
- **Development and validation of a flexible genotyping platform for wheat**
PI: Keith Edwards, University of Bristol & JIC
- **Manipulation of photosynthetic carbon metabolism in wheat to improve yield**
PI: Martin Parry, Rothamsted Research & University of Essex
- **Increased pest resistance in oilseed rape mediated by an enhanced UV-B response**
PI: Gareth Jenkins, University of Glasgow
- **Exploring knowledge of gene function to combat pod shatter in oilseed rape**
PI: Lars Østergaard, John Innes Centre
- **Glucosidase inhibitors: new approaches to malting efficiency**
PI: Alison Smith, John Innes Centre, University of Nottingham, The Hutton Institute
- **Exploiting sources of resistance to Turnip yellows virus for deployment in oilseed rape**
PI: John Walsh, University of Warwick

2nd Call 2011/2

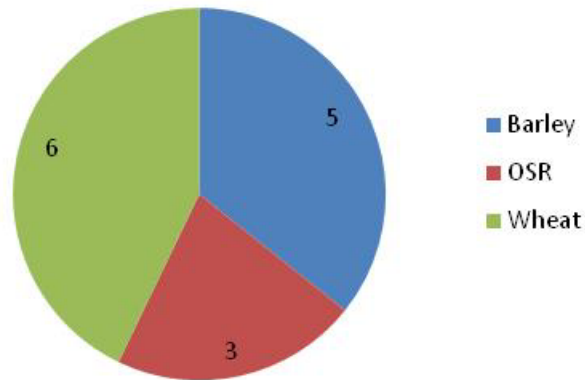
Applications by Crop



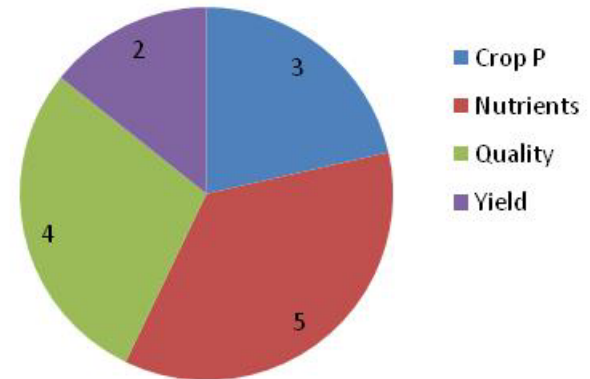
Wheat Applications by Category



Full Proposals Invited by Crop



Full Proposals by Category



Second call- full applications

- Early November deadline for full applications
- Feedback from referees Jan 2012
- Committee 9th March 2012
- April award date
- 2nd Dissemination event for 1st call grants: 25/26th April

Research Technology Clubs

- Community- based with input from industrial members
- New faces into research communities
- Dissemination events to encourage interactions between researchers and academia / industry (6 months)
- Strong skills + underpinning support agenda
- Managed differently from responsive mode grants
- Proposals selected on basis of scientific excellence PLUS strategic relevance to club aims by equal measure
- Coordination team interacts with academic and industrial members



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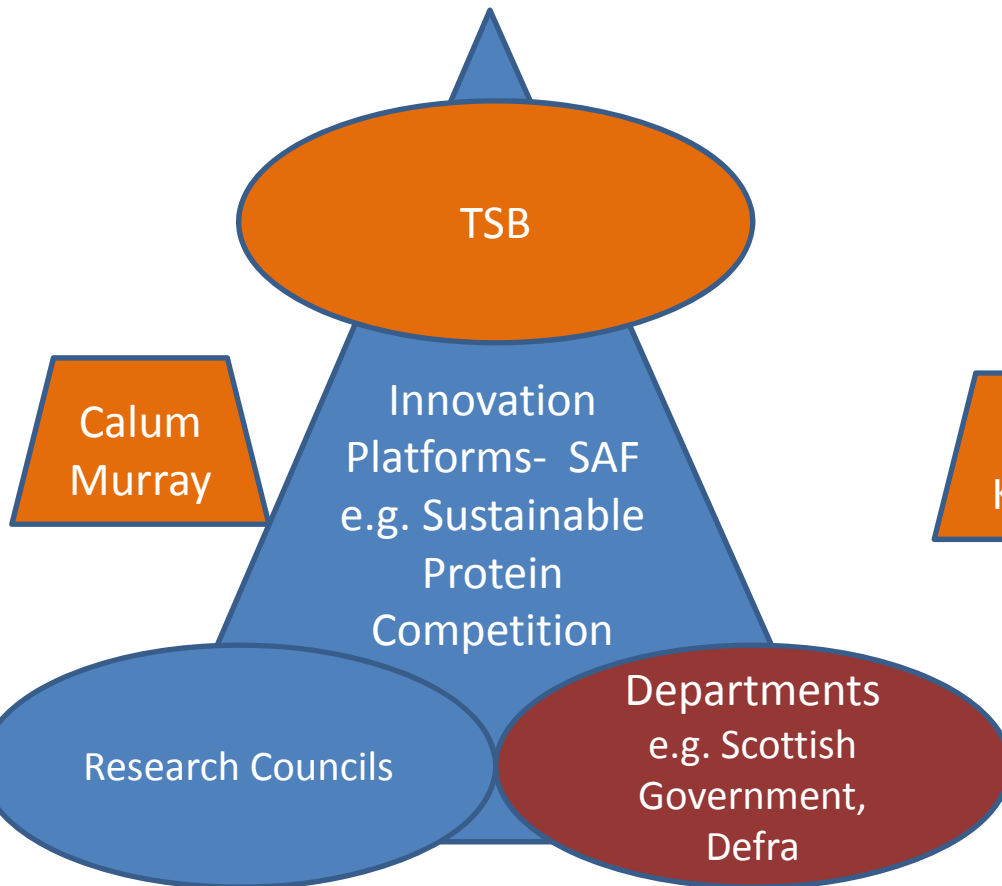
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TSB funding: Challenge-led or technology driven?

Challenge-Led Innovation



Technology Inspired Innovation

