Coordinating innovation for UK horticulture: Scoping Workshop

Wednesday 11th March 2026 0930 to 1530

Warwick Crop Centre, Innovation Campus, Wellesbourne, CV35 9EF (Directions here)

Register here

Background: Building on discussions held in 2025, the Warwick Crop Centre team began collating ideas for a potential initiative to improve coordination of innovation across UK horticulture. By broadening the definition of innovation and recognising the sector's reach, we aim to strengthen the contribution of fresh produce production to UK health, food security and economic resilience.

Project Aim: To shape and establish a 5-year initiative for coordinating innovation for UK commercial Horticulture.

Objectives of the scoping workshop:

- To build on the engagement and discussions held with a wide range of stakeholders across horticulture in recent months
- To discuss and map the current innovation landscape and identify pinch points and opportunities for strengthening connections
- Share ideas and prioritise features of the initiative

Attendees: growers and representative bodies, funders, supply chain and policy stakeholders and researchers.

The day will be led by Rosemary Collier and Richard Napier with a range of external stakeholder speakers.

0930 – 1000	*Arrival and refreshments*
1000 - 1015	**Welcome and Introduction**
1015 – 1100	**The need for coordination**
1100 – 1130	**International inspiration**
1130 – 1145	*Break*
1145 – 1245	**Roundtable 1:** Towards a shared understanding of the current innovation landscape, successes and challenges
1245 – 1330	*Lunch*
1330 – 1430	**Roundtable 2:** Co-designing a functional outline of the initiative and agreeing priorities
1430 – 1445	*Break*
1445 – 1515	**Next steps:** what, who, when, how, where?
1515 – 1530	**Closing remarks**
1530	*Depart*

Travelling to Warwick Crop Centre, Innovation Campus, near Wellesbourne

School of Life Sciences, University of Warwick, Innovation Campus, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV35 9EF

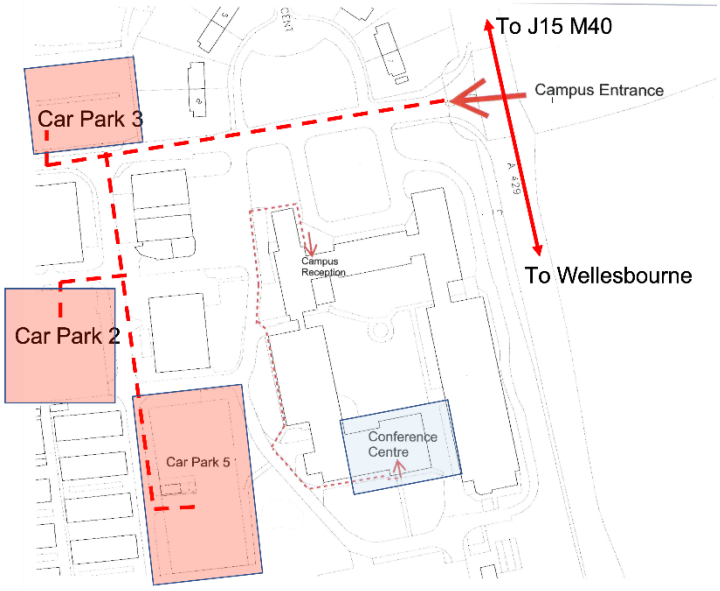
By car:

Please note that some satellite navigation systems may not bring you directly to the site using our postcode. If you experience difficulties, please use the alternative postcode **CV35 9EQ**

Please use **Car Park 5**, nearest to the conference centre, parking is free

From Junction 15, M40:
Follow signs for Wellesbourne and Cirencester along the A429. The Innovation Campus is on the right after 3 miles, just before Wellesbourne village.

From Stratford Upon Avon:
Take the B4086 (first on the left after the River Avon) to Wellesbourne. After 5 miles, just before the village, turn left onto the A429. The Innovation Campus is on the left.



By public transport:

Local railway stations are at Warwick Parkway, Warwick, Stratford Upon Avon, Leamington Spa, and Coventry.

(Directions here)

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Please do inform us of any dietary needs ahead of the workshop. rosina.borrelli@warwick.ac.uk

If you get stuck on the day, please text or call Rosina Borrelli on 07815 846414

Register here