

# The SCEPTRE project

**SCEPTRE**  
Sustainable Crop & Environment Protection  
Targeted Research for Edibles

HDC

**Welcome to SCEPTRE**

Devised by HDC in consultation with growers and researchers, the SCEPTRE project aims to address key gaps in crop production, especially those arising from loss of current pesticides due to changing EU legislation. SCEPTRE will deliver applied research to help secure label and off-label approvals for new and safer pesticides and biopesticides, and develop sustainable IPM programmes for use on edible crops.

Three cross-sector teams of crop protection specialists will focus on the pest, disease and weed problems having the greatest financial impact on the profitability of crop production and where the likelihood of achieving a crop protection solution is good. The work programme will be flexible, adjusting as necessary to take account of significant new pest problems or pesticide gaps as they arise. Target pests in 2011 include aphids on lettuce and raspberry, powdery mildew on apple and cucumber and annual broad leaf weeds in field vegetables and strawberry. As the range of major pests affecting edibles and ornamentals are similar, ornamental growers will likely benefit through more rapid identification of potentially useful novel products.

SCEPTRE was co-funded by Defra through the HortLINK scheme and is widely supported by industry.

Search SCEPTRE

LINK collaborative research

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The SCEPTRE project is addressing key gaps in crop protection on edible horticultural crops, especially those arising from the loss of current pesticides due to changing EU legislation.

Consortium members are undertaking applied research to help secure label and off-label approvals for new and safer pesticides and biopesticides, and to develop sustainable IPM programmes for use on edible crops.

<http://sceptre.hdc.org.uk/>

**Warwick Crop Centre** is undertaking research on the control of pests of field vegetables:

- **Brassica** – cabbage root fly, aphids, caterpillars and other pests
- **Lettuce** – aphids and caterpillars
- **Leek** - thrips
- **Carrot** – willow-carrot aphid, cutworm

