

Agronomists' Induction: Session 8

Richard Meredith



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The future of farming: an agronomist's perspective

Patrick Stephenson, Independent Agricultural Consultant, Arable Advisor

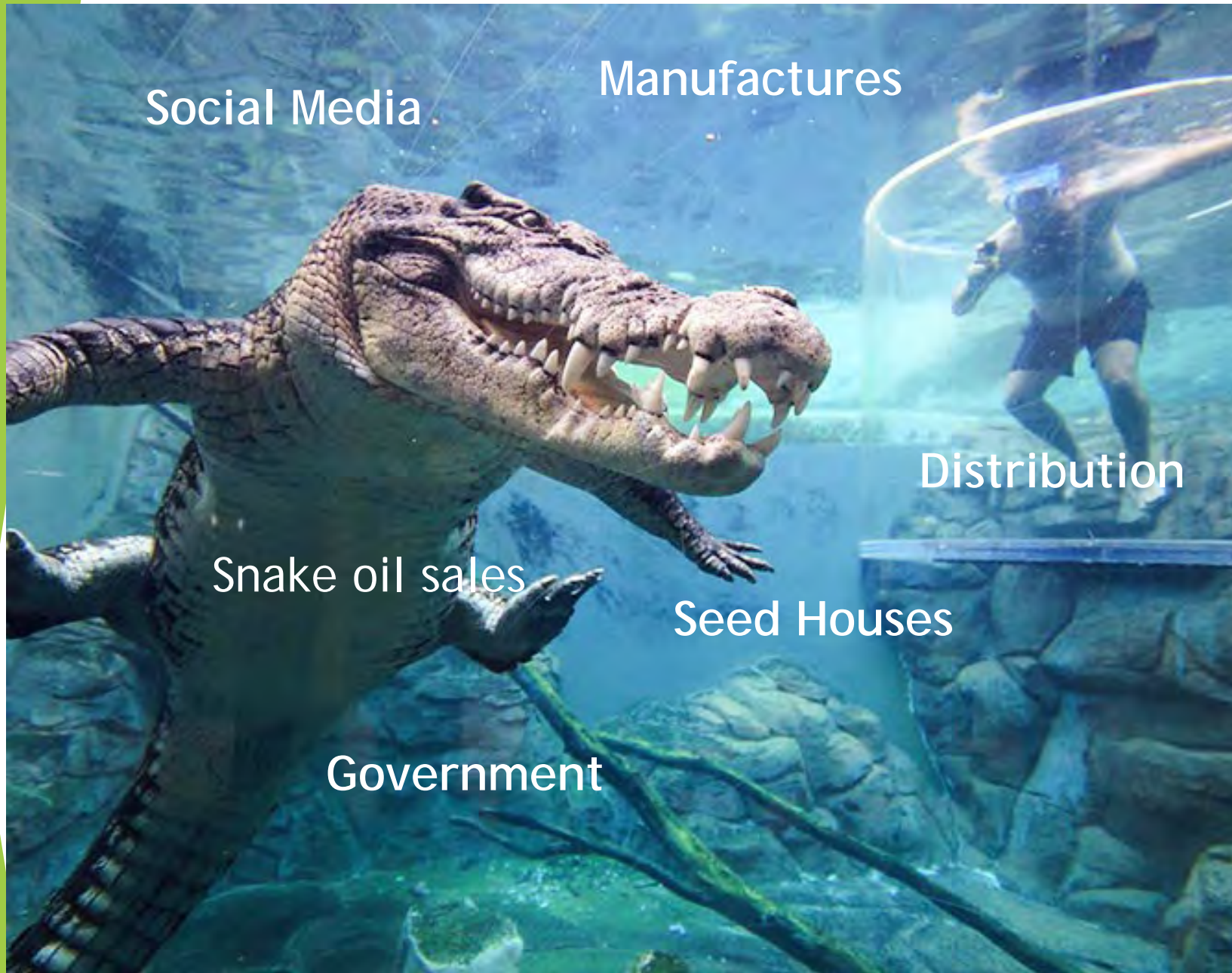
Patrick Stephenson
AICC Independent Agronomist, Cereals and
Oil Seed Board Member



What does AHDB mean to me and you?

National Agriculture Service





The loss of Independent research, scrutiny and review threw the industry to the predators

Progress



Accurate, timely and
independent data you can trust

AHDB

What do I use as a practising Agronomist?

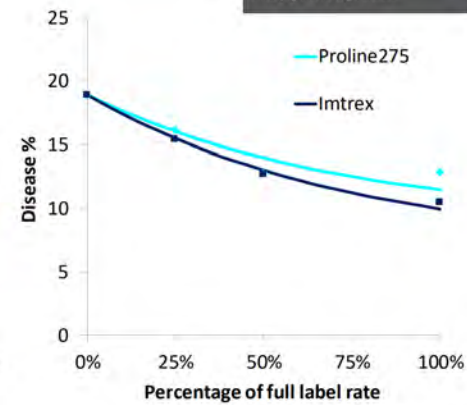
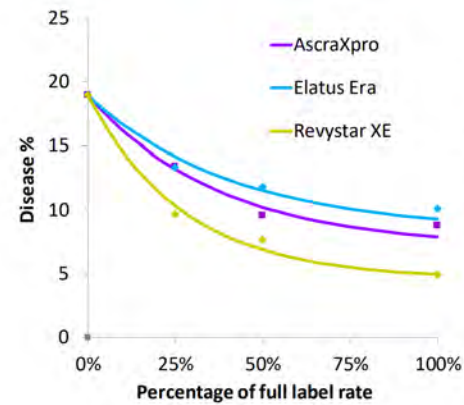


RECOMMENDED LISTS
2021/22 highlights



Septoria eradicant 2018–20 (8 trials)

AHDB



Use Imtrex only in mixture with at least one fungicide with an alternative mode of action that has efficacy against the target disease.

- RB 209
- Insect Survey
- Disease risk forecast
- Report summaries
- Market Reports

What about the future?



On the Cusp of Change?



We have lived through a generation where there was a can solution for every problem. We immediately turned to pesticides as the only answer

Are we on the cusp of a change with crop management.

- ▶ **Loss of Actives**
- ▶ Chlorpyrifos
- ▶ Chlorothalonil
- ▶ Epoxiconazole
- ▶ Neonics
- ▶ **Resistance**
- ▶ CSFB resistance
- ▶ Aphid resistance
- ▶ Disease resistance
- ▶ Weed resistance
- ▶ **Environment Incentives**
- ▶ Regen Agriculture
- ▶ Re-wilding

Learn from History!



Varietal Features Assessed by AHDB for the Recommended List

▶ Traits

- ▶ WOSR-Turnip yellows, Club root, Clearfield, HEAR HOLL
- ▶ Barley- Mosaic, BYDV tolerance.
- ▶ Wheat- Orange Blossom Midge, BYDV tolerance
- ▶ Genetic editing

▶ Agronomic

- ▶ Disease Ratings
- ▶ Standing Power
- ▶ Yield
- ▶ Harvest characteristics

ALL ASSESSED OVER A 5 YEAR PERIOD IN REPLICATED TRIALS THOROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

A Brave New Dawn to Manage Risk

- ▶ No longer lip service to Integrated pest management (IPM)
- ▶ Breeders will accelerate the development of positive traits eg insect resistance
- ▶ The arrival of more and more sophisticated models predicting disease and pest thresholds
- ▶ Rotations will become longer and inevitably more flexible
- ▶ The rise of regenerative agriculture fuelled by margin benefits and potentially funding
- ▶ The long awaited benefits of precision farming will start to appear.
- ▶ The potential use of Gene Editing.

The Recommended Lists Help You Pick
The Right-

Crop

Variety

Result

The future is exciting

- ▶ Natural capital
- ▶ Carbon trading
- ▶ Regenerative agriculture
- ▶ Pest and disease monitoring and prediction
- ▶ Robotics
- ▶ The social need for accountability
- ▶ Agriculture has the oldest average age of any profession

AHDB can help you

- ▶ Envirobench
- ▶ Strategic farms
- ▶ Market monitoring
- ▶ Independent analysis
- ▶ Recommended lists
- ▶ The art of good agronomy is not to know everything but to know somebody who does!

This is a great industry be part of it!



Agronomists' Conference 2021

7 December 2021

Peterborough Marriott Hotel & Online

ahdb.org.uk/events

