



Insecticide Resistance Action Group

**Agenda for the 52nd hybrid meeting
Thursday 16th May 2024
12.30pm – 4pm**

**Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB)
Middlemarch Business Park
Siskin Parkway East
Coventry
CV3 4PE**

Current members

Chris	Bean	(Zantra)
Rosemary	Collier	(WCC) (Chair)
Larissa	Collins	(Fera)
Stephen	Foster	(Res)
Rob	Graham	(SRUC)
Fiona	Highet	(SASA)
Siobhan	Hillman	(AHDB) (Secretary)
Rebecca	Hilton	(Corteva Agriscience)
Simon	Jackson	(Syngenta)
Ed	Burks	(FMC)
William	Lankford	(Adama)
Gareth	Martin	(BASF)
Pat	Croft	(CRD)
Reuben	Morris	(Frontier)
Chris	Parsons	(Bayer)
Tom	Pope	(Harper Adams)
Marion	Self	(AICC)
James	Cheesman	(Certis-Belchim)
Russell	Slater	(IRAC)
Mark	Stevens	(BBRO)
Don	Pendergrast	(Agrii)
Francis	Wamonje	(NIAB East Malling)
Duncan	Coston	(ADAS)

1. Welcome

- Duncan Costan to replace Sacha White as ADAS representative.

2. Apologies

Bill Lankford, Larissa Collins, Mark Stevens (represented by Kate Orman).

3. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising (5 mins)

4. Actions raised at the previous meeting. (5 mins)

- ALL to provide feedback for 50th anniversary paper. ACTION COMPLETE.

Paper close to publication, RC circulated a draft to members. Soon to be published.

- TP/SW/RC to continue progressing IRAG training module for BASIS. ACTION CARRIED OVER.
- RC to work on the edible brassica factsheet (forwarded for comment). ACTION COMPLETE.

Guidelines to be tidied up during meeting and then published online.

- SW/RC to complete the edits of the fact sheets by the end of January. Send these to SH to circulate. ACTION COMPLETE.
- SH to circulate edited factsheets to group before publishing online.
- SH to send out a doodle poll for dates. Next meeting will be in person. COMPLETE.
- SH to check if AHDB can host. COMPLETE.

5. Regulatory issues (PC) (15 mins)

The active renewal programme continues, in the interim CRD have carried out some work to extend actives expiring on March the 27th for 5 years. Withdrawal decision in process to withdraw the approval of Mangazeb. Awaiting publication of the NAP and outcomes of the workshops that took place in 2023. The workshop had 3 points for consideration about regulatory change which we are awaiting feedback from. CRD did a recent update on low-risk products as they will now accept reduced data when the active comes in. With the understanding that the active somehow subsequently fails low risk assessment then CRD will ask for further evidence.

RC has been in touch with Amanda Porter to ask about a DEFRA representative for IRAG but has received no response.

RC to follow this up.

SH to ask senior AHDB staff about a suitable DEFRA candidate.

6. Matrix updates (all) (15 mins)

IRAG had previously had some input on what entries may be relevant to the EPPO database. These have now been submitted to EPPO for updating but may not yet have been uploaded onto the EPPO database. This is to be discussed again at the following meeting.

RS commented to the group that the IRAG entries are in the reviewer part of the process and that they were assessed a few weeks ago. 95% of these have been approved for upload onto the database but there were some questions over some of the others. RS has been in touch with SF over willow carrot aphid as they were not able to find the supporting evidence. Pyrethroid resistance was mentioned in a few documents but there was no accompanying data. Supporting data is not critical for the case to be approved to go onto the EPPO database but it is good practice to back up the claim

SF can put a figure to support this case in the upcoming annual report that will be published on the AHDB website.

RC opened up the floor for the group to discuss if there was anything that needed to be added to the IRAG database. SF mentioned recent findings on neonicotinoid resistance in *Myzus persicae* and that it should be added. There are Flonicamid reports on resistance in sugar beet in the Netherlands, and the report of resistance in sweet peppers on the south coast of the UK. SF will need to look further into the Flonicamid case. JC mentioned that from his experience with Flonicamid suspected resistance is often due to application issue, rather than true resistance. SF responded that resistance to Flonicamid hasn't been verified as yet.

SH to double check whether the matrix has been published on the AHDB website.

7. IRAG output (30 mins)

- IRAG 50TH anniversary paper update (proof circulated).

The paper has gone to press.

- IRAG training module for BASIS points.

Acton carried over.

- IRAG fact sheets update.

Discussed in meeting. No feedback sent in from members. Comments added to fact sheets. Cereals – SF to update cereal aphid resistance section. TP to update BYDV section.

OSR – SF to update pollen beetle resistance section. DC to update the CSFB larval section and to liaise with SF on wording and data. SF commented there is no more up to date testing to be included for the DBM section.

Hort Brassicas – neonicotinoids need to stay in as approved for Brussel sprouts, SF to revisit this section. Bt resistance in DBM to be changed to say strain dependent.

Potatoes – no comments to be addressed.

General comment – MoA numbers to be added to the fact sheets.

- Other outputs?

DP – resistance in pea and bean weevil extremely topical at the moment, renewed interest with some of the SFI requirements. RC to speak with Becky Howard at PGRO about the group producing a one-page information factsheet.

SH to get guidance from AHDB on what we can release (across crops) then IRAG can come up with a schedule for what the group can do.

8. New Chair for IRAG

Tom Pope has volunteered to be the next chair. RC to chair the last meeting of 2024, TPs first meeting will be spring meeting 2025.

9. AOB (15 mins)

DC asked the group about a query received regarding efficacy testing for nematodes. One suggested approach would be that if a grower sends in a sample the sample would be tested against the full field dose only. This would be to advise growers whether it's worth applying 'x' on their crop. This idea is to speed up the time taken to currently rear up the number of nematodes required for dose response curves so there is a quicker turn around for growers. RS noted that the use of a discriminating dose is commonly used but this is dependent on baseline data, so it's important to make sure that it's based on a good set of data to guarantee that the range of susceptibility is covered in that data set.

A question was asked to the group regarding the use of silicon and biopesticides. DP has done quite a lot of work looking at physical and biological aspects of biopesticides. From a control perspective they can provide useful benefits towards management of smaller sucking pests and can be used in IPM programmes, though some may work better than others. There can't be a resistance issue but there may be questions over the level of efficacy that can be achieved. If biopesticides are used in the right place they can slow down the spread of aphids in sugar beet etc.

PC commented that biostimulants shouldn't have any claims against pest control on their labels as they're not classified as PPPs and are for nutritional benefits. The CRD enforcement team do get complaints from companies going through the proper regulations against those that don't follow it. DEFRA are writing new regulations for biostimulants to be more in line with EU regulations, but they have not been released yet.

RS remarked that anything that has a -cidal effect can get resistance so it's a question of exposure. This doesn't mean that there's no resistance risk for these products but it is unlikely that resistance may occur, use pattern may also play a role.

10. Date for next meeting.

SH to send doodle poll for winter meeting.