

SmartHort 2019

6-7 March 2019

Crowne Plaza, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire

A two-day conference examining the potential of new technologies in light of current labour shortages in UK horticulture.

6 March: Labour-saving technologies

9.15 Welcome

Jane King, CEO, AHDB

9.30 Labour in horticulture. What are the issues?

Ali Capper, NFU

9.55 What to consider when investing in new technology?

Jacob Kirwan, G's

10.20 Refreshments

11.00 The potential of labour saving technologies

Professor Simon Pearson, University of Lincoln

11.40 Robotics in horticulture. What's next?

Professor Salah Sukkarieh, University of Sydney

12.05 Panel discussion

12.40 Lunch

14.10 The role of robots and humans working together

Erik Pekkeriet, Wageningen University

14.45 The challenges for developing robots for horticulture

Professor Josse de Beardmaeker, University of Leuven

15.20 Refreshments

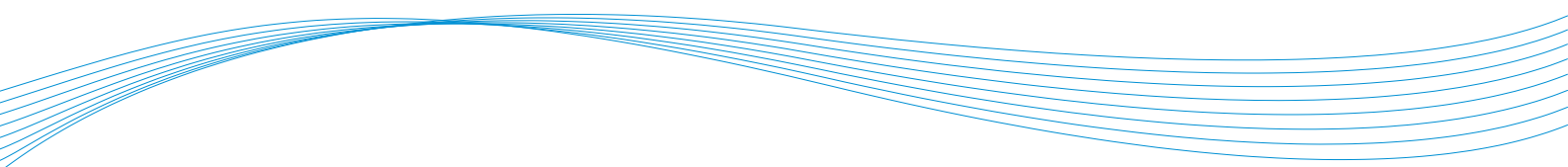
15.50 Developing the next generation of horticultural robotic experts

Matthew Howard and Aran Sena, Kings College London
Fumiya Iida and Luca Scimeca, University of Cambridge

16.30 The funding landscape and enhancing investment in innovation

Calum Murray, Innovate UK

17.00 Panel discussion



6 March: Networking dinner

19.00 Pre-dinner drinks

19.45 Dinner

21.45 Professor David Hughes, after-dinner speaker

7 March: Improving Production Systems

9.15 **Welcome**
Hayley Campbell-Gibbons, Chair, AHDB Horticulture

9.25 **Making innovation happen**
Neville Stein

9.55 **Developing a robotic strawberry harvester**
Dr Vishuu Mohan, University of Essex and Andrey Ivanov, Tiptree

10.30 Refreshments

11.00 *2 separate sessions will run concurrently*

Session 1 - Intelligent Production Systems

- Vertical Farming: Derek Stewart, James Hutton Institute
- Sensing, data use and connectivity: Antony Yousefian, 30MHz
- WET Centre: Mark Else, NIAB EMR

Session 2 - The future of crop protection

- Innovation in disease detection: Gerrit Polder, Wageningen University and Research
- Variable rate sprayer technology: Roeland Coopman, Agrifac
- Robotic and precision weeding: Harry Henderson, AHDB

13.00 Lunch

14.30 **The future of precision farming**
Lee Williams, Harper Adams / Centre for Precision Farming

15.00 **From automation to horticulture. Harnessing new expertise for our industry**
Robert Harrison, WMG

15.25 **Soft robotics and handling delicate crops**
Dr. Martin Stoelen, University of Plymouth

15.55 **How to secure funding and invest in innovation**
Drop-in sessions with Barclays, KTN and BBSRC

