



EU.Fruit – WP2
Feli Fernandez



National Institute of Agricultural Botany

A major international centre for plant science, crop evaluation and agronomy

- **1913 – EMRS was funded in Kent**
- **1919** – NIAB established, responding to the need for quality seed and improved varieties in safeguarding food supplies post-WW1, ‘better seeds, better crops’
- **1996** – NIAB privatisation
- **2004 – EMR privatisation**
- **2005** – NIAB Development of genetic research & pre-breeding capabilities.
- **2012 – EMR expands research capability with UoR and UoG**
- **2010** – Integration of TAG to extend coverage and capabilities in applied agronomy research and KT onto farm
- **2010** – NIAB Innovation Farm opened to showcase plant genetic innovation
- **2014** – CUF Potato Agronomy Unit moves to NIAB
- **2015** – Alliance with University of Cambridge to develop the Cambridge Centre of Crop Science (3CS) at NIAB
- **2016 – Integration of East Malling Research.**





GROUP



Crop genetics & pre-breeding research
Variety evaluation & seed certification
Analytical Services
NIAB Ventures
NIAB International



Crops & agronomy research (incl membership, training, field trials)



Potato agronomy research

NIAB EMR

Horticultural crop & environmental research



*Farmers (incl farm staff,
farming co's, landowners)*

Plant breeders

Processors

Manufacturers

*Researchers (academic,
independent, commercial)*

Members

**NIAB
working with...**

*Government
(national, EU &
international)*

*Advisers, agronomists
and consultants
(independent and distributors)*

*Independent
research funders
(levy boards, charities)*

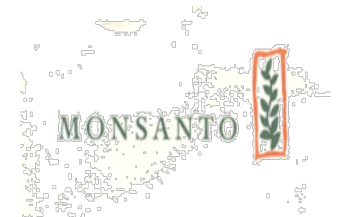
*International
stakeholders*

*Merchants &
distributors*

*Media (trade,
local, national)*

Retailers

*General
public*



The combined organisation, employing more than 300 staff and with turnover in excess of £22 million, will provide long-term stability, scale and capacity for investment.

Of those at the EM site:

~ 95 permanent or fix term contract staff

~ 10 – 20 seasonal staff and interns

~ 10 – 12 PhD students



EM site:

~ 100 ha

~ GH facilities

~ refurbished root lab

~ JMB: storage research lab (with UoG)

A major step forward in NIAB's plans to lead the in crop innovation, and to grow to become a £40 million turnover business by 2025.



Who's who...



Tina Barsby
Chief Executive
NIAB



David Neill
Managing Director
NIAB EMR

Who's who...



Dr Mark Else
Programme Leader
Resource Efficiency for Crop Production
NIAB EMR



Dr Xiangming Xu
Programme Leader
Genetics & Crop Improvement
NIAB EMR



Prof Jerry Cross
Programme Leader
Pest & Pathogen Ecology for Sustainable Crop
Management
NIAB EMR

EMS...

Provides competitive advantage to all levels of the global horticulture supply chain, based on the profitable application of world-class research and development.



Dr Roger Carline
Managing Director
EMS



Ross Newham
Head of Sales & Marketing
EMS

Trialling / Advisory:

Former government:

- ADAS

Private:

- FAST

Mixed:

- EMS

- Producer organizations /
Marketing Desks:
 - Club
 - Heritage
 - Ass. breeding programmes

Apple and Pear cultivars - scanning

- Main cultivars:
 - Braeburn
 - Gala
 - Cox
 - Bramley
 - Club cultivars:
 - Cameo
 - Kanzi
 - Rubens
 - Junami
 - Cider cultivars
- Main cultivars:
 - Conference
 - (Concorde and Comice)
 - Perry cultivars

Trials

- Mostly carried out by PO
- Proprietary / Club cultivars
- Marketing strategy is more/as important as performance
- Interest in heritage cv (niche)



Key desired traits:

- Regular and high yield
- Good colouring
- P&D:
 - Scab
 - Canker
- **USP**

