



TAY CITIES  
**CLEAN GROWTH**

Be part of the  
transformation

# The home of clean growth in Scotland's Tay Cities region

Clean energy & Green  
Agri-tech event  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



TAY CITIES  
**CLEAN GROWTH**

# Iain Stirling

Owner – Arbikie Distillery

This project is supported by the Tay Cities Deal



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Welcome



TAY CITIES  
**CLEAN GROWTH**

# **Clr. Beth Whiteside**

Council Leader – Angus Council

Welcome

This project is supported by the Tay Cities Deal





TAY CITIES  
**CLEAN GROWTH**

# David Linsley-Hood

Locogen Consulting Ltd



This project is supported by the Tay Cities Deal



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Wind Turbine  
Green hydrogen  
powered distillery

# NET ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2050



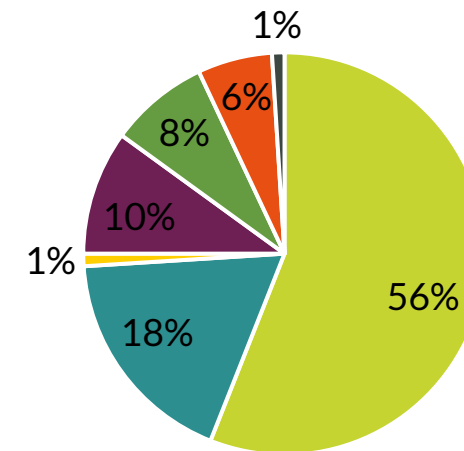
*"To be net zero, an organisation must be reducing its emissions along a 1.5°C trajectory across Scopes 1, 2 & 3"*  
Carbon Trust\*

*"Generating heat for distillation is the primary source of emissions and the key technical challenge"\*\*\**

\*<https://www.carbontrust.com/what-we-do/assurance-and-certification/carbon-neutral-certification>

\*\*<https://www.scotch-whisky.org.uk/media/1733/scotch-whisky-net-zero-report.pdf>

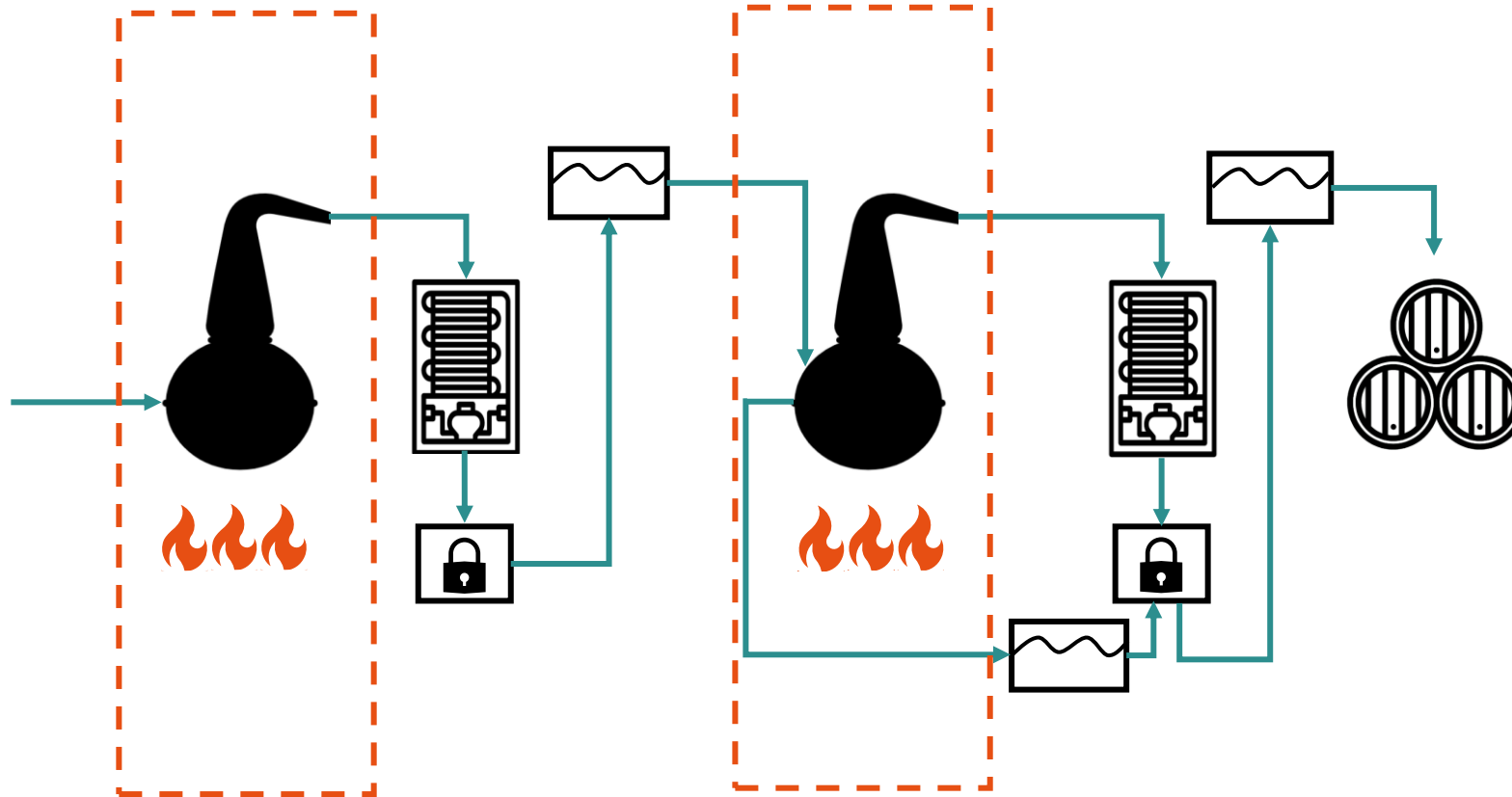
Representative distillery fuel consumption



- Natural gas
- Fossil oils
- LPG/CNG
- Grid Electricity
- Renewable heat
- Green tariff electricity
- Onsite renewable electricity

Source: Ricardo EE, 2020

# DISTILLING ACCOUNTS FOR >75% OF ENERGY USAGE



© Locogen 2021

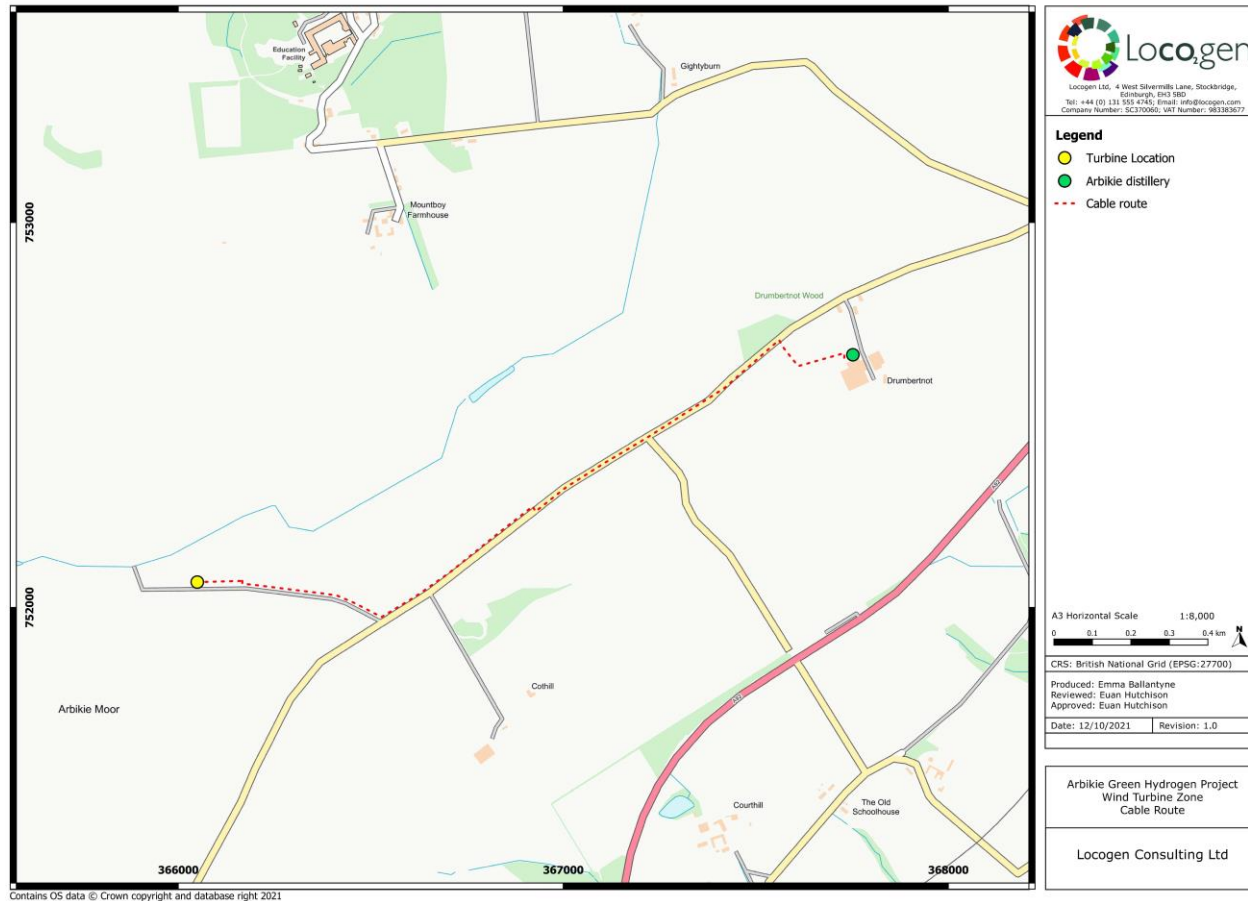


DECARBONISING THE  
DISTILLATION PROCESS VIA  
DIRECT FUEL SWITCHING FROM  
FOSSIL FUELS TO HYDROGEN

BEIS GREEN DISTILLERIES PHASE 1 – GD143  
LOCOGEN LTD



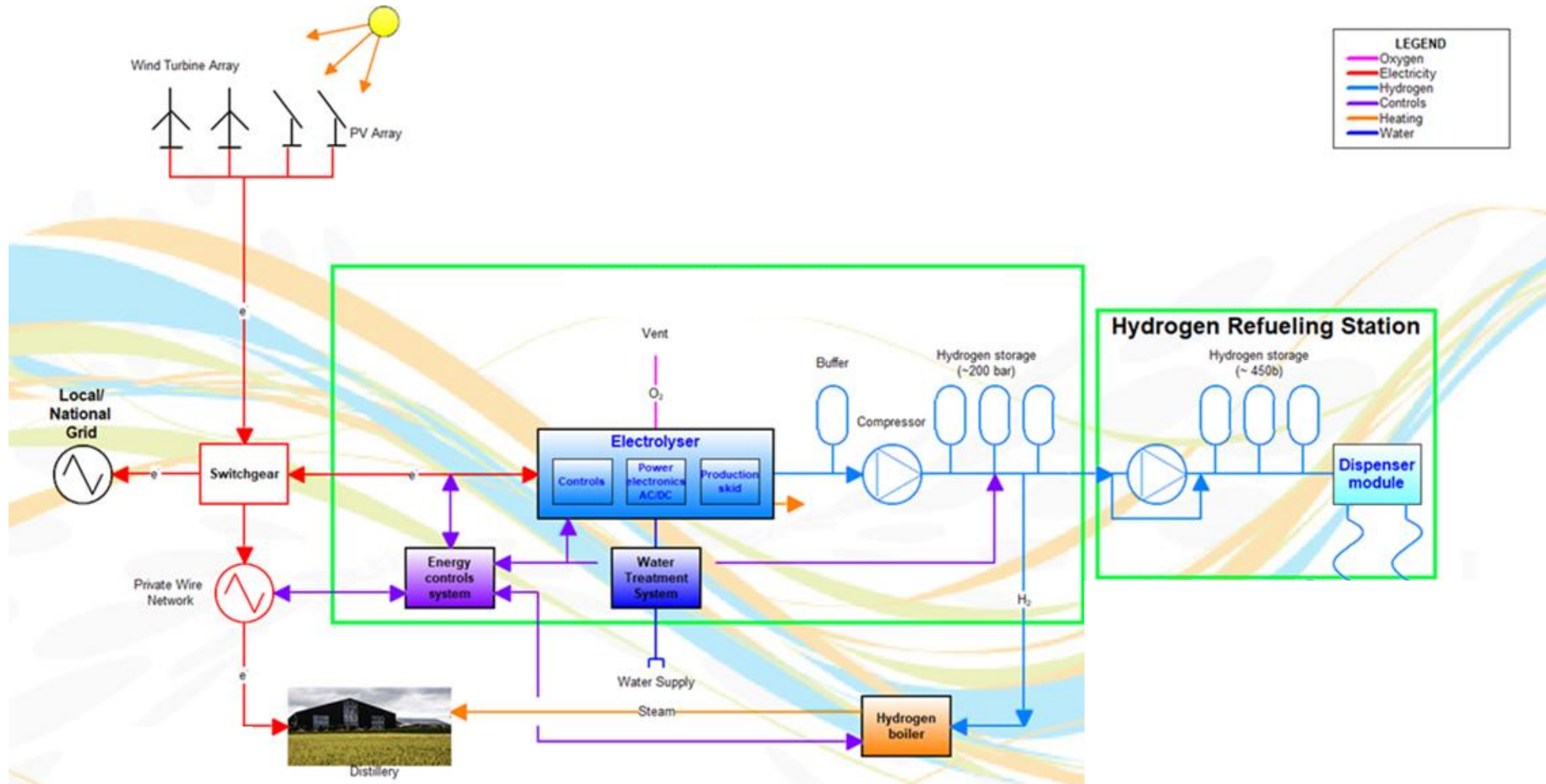
# PROJECT OVERVIEW



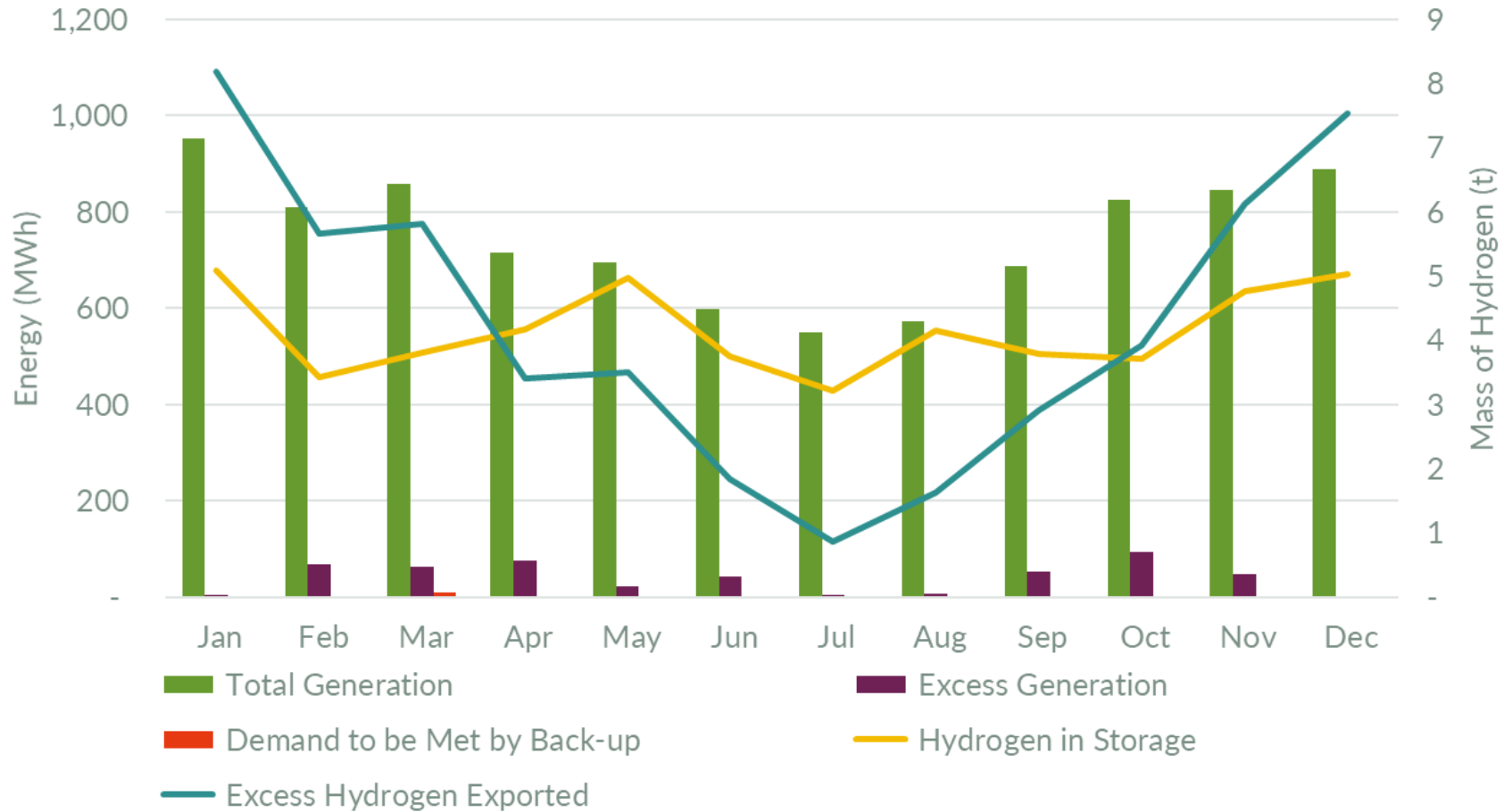
- Arbikie Distillery uses 300,000 litres of gas oil per year
- ~2.5 GWh demand
- ~800 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/a
- Replace with green hydrogen
- Wind generation with electrolysis
- 1MW wind and electrolyser provide ~50% of demand



# Hydrogen infrastructure

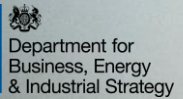


# ARBIKIE'S NET ZERO JOURNEY



[David.hood@locogen.com](mailto:David.hood@locogen.com)

*Thanks to our project partners and funders:*





# Thank you

Welcome any questions

[www.taycitiescleangrowth.scot](http://www.taycitiescleangrowth.scot)



TAY CITIES  
**CLEAN GROWTH**

# Prof Derek Stewart

The James Hutton Institute  
Director of Advanced Plant Growth Centre  
International Barley Hub

This project is supported by the Tay Cities Deal



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Green agri-tech

## Agritech Innovation in the Tay Cities Region

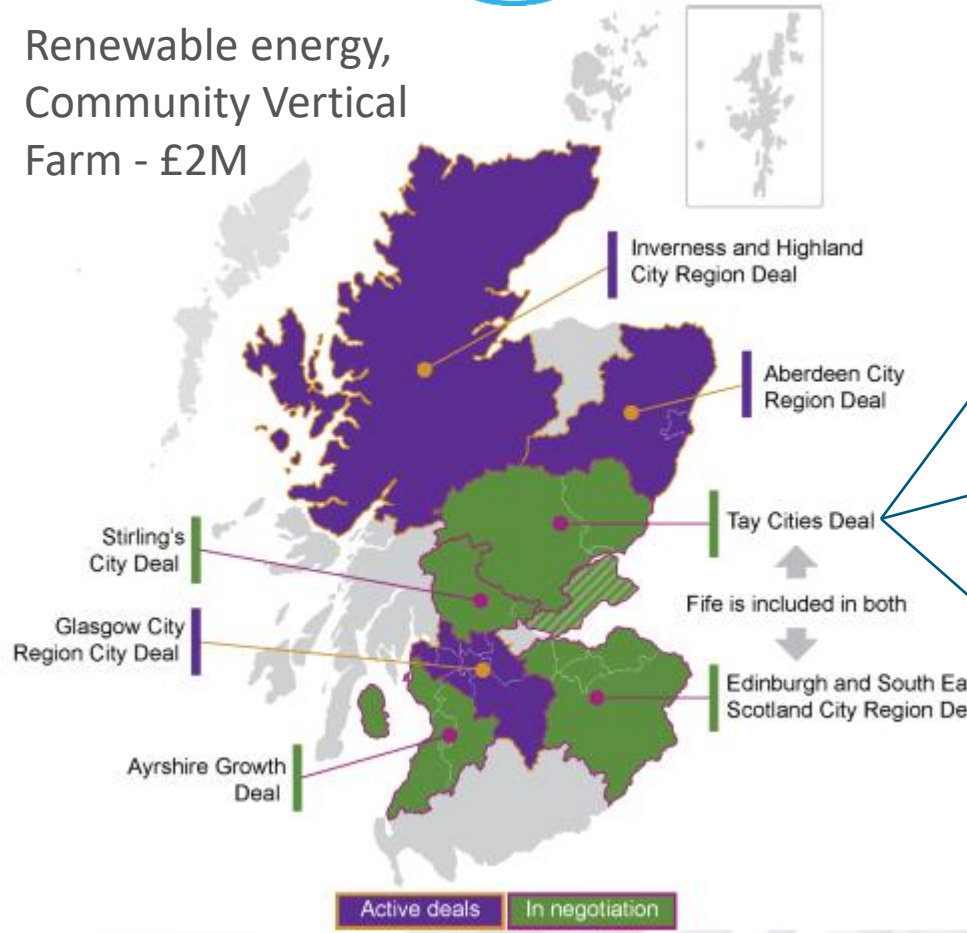
Prof. Derek Stewart  
Director of the Advanced Plant Growth Centre  
[Derek.Stewart@hutton.ac.uk](mailto:Derek.Stewart@hutton.ac.uk)



# Regional Development Deals



Renewable energy,  
Community Vertical  
Farm - £2M



**ADVANCED PLANT GROWTH CENTRE** £27M

**INTERNATIONAL BARLEY HUB** £35M

**CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION** £?M



# TAY CITIES CLEAN GROWTH

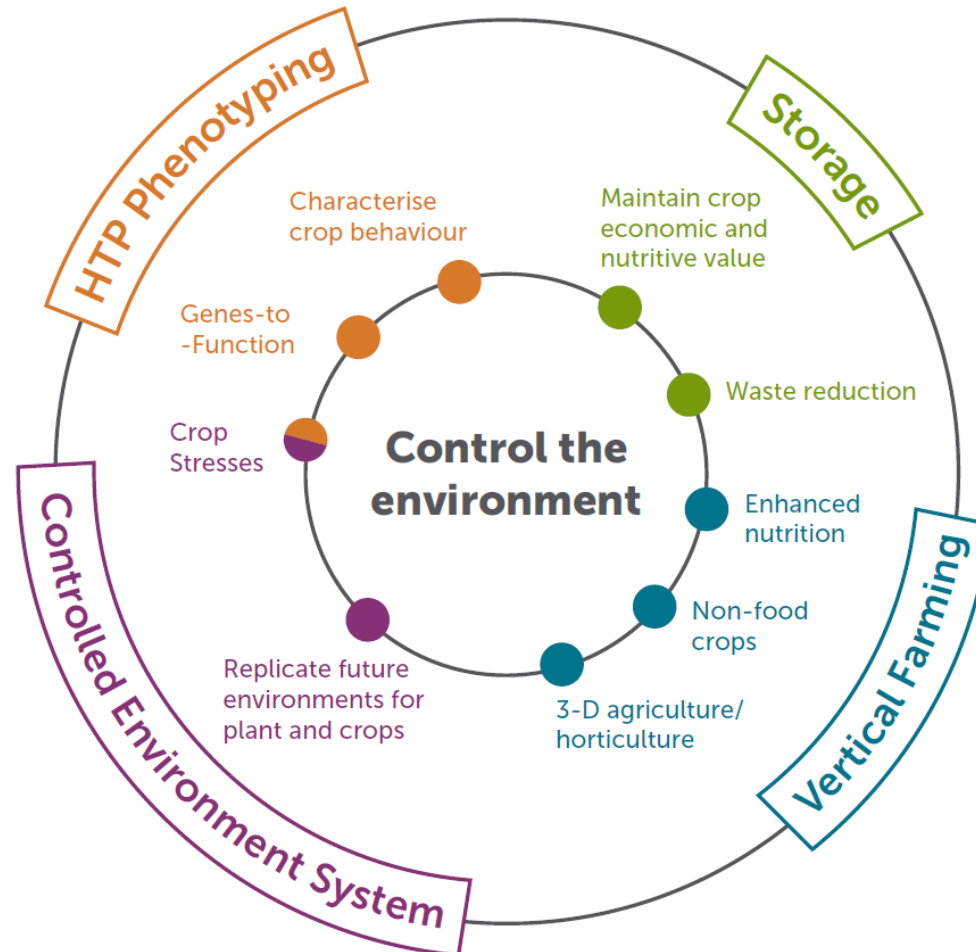


*“Deliver increased commercial, economic and environmental benefits to the agricultural, food and drink sectors in the UK and Internationally by innovative use of precision controlled environment technologies.”*





# Quadrant model – working together



## 100 years of breeding – over 200 Plant varieties bred by the James Hutton Institute, its commercial subsidiaries and predecessors



99 Potato



26 Barley



2 oats



26 Brassica,  
Turnip & Swede



1 Forage Rape



2 Kale



3 Common bean



1 Salad Rape



4 Lily



27 Blackcurrant



25 Raspberry



Plus the Tayberry and  
Tummelberry



3 Strawberry



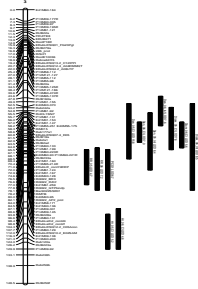
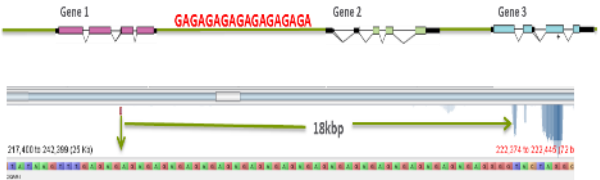
3 Blackberry



1 Gooseberry

# Development of phytophthora resistant Glen Mor using Marker Assisted Selection

Rub118 microsatellite marker:  
Moy GA<sub>25</sub> - Scaffold 17.  
Latham GA<sub>3</sub> - contig40078

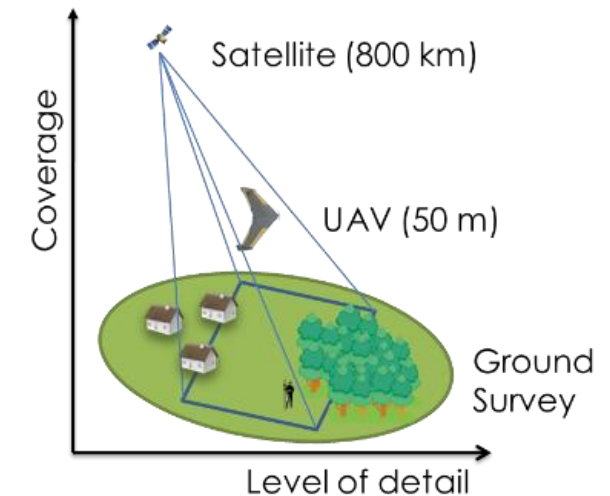


# Innovations in Agriculture

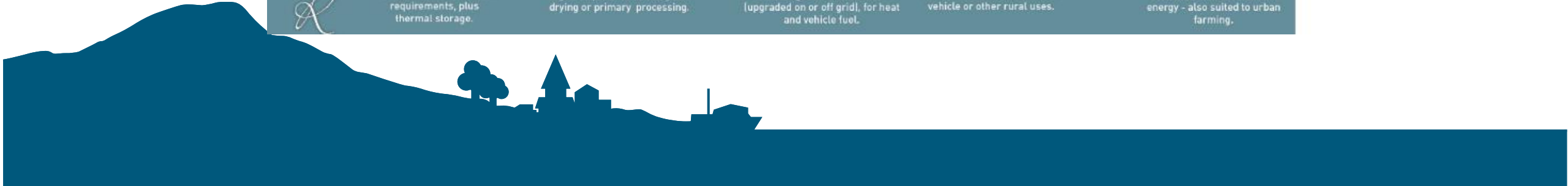
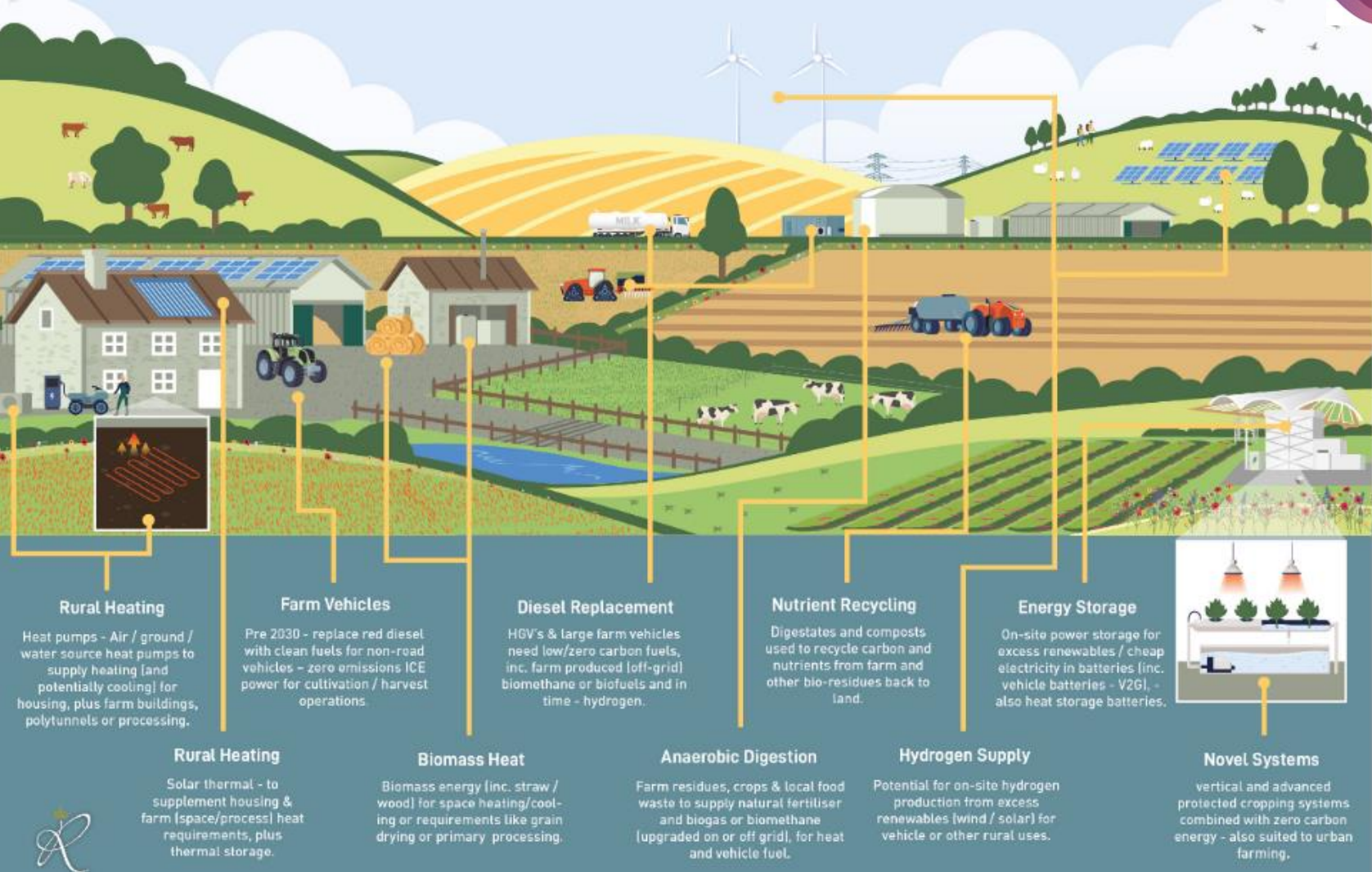
- Livestock
  - Productivity
  - GHG reduction
  - Nutrition
  - Disease/Waste
- Crops
  - Abiotic and biotics stress resistance and plasticity
  - New (old) crops, e.g., proteins crops
- Systems
  - Sustainable and regenerative agriculture
  - Microbiome (plants animals and soil)
  - Digital Agriculture and multiformat data
  - The rise of CEA/VF
  - GM and GE: a new dawn?



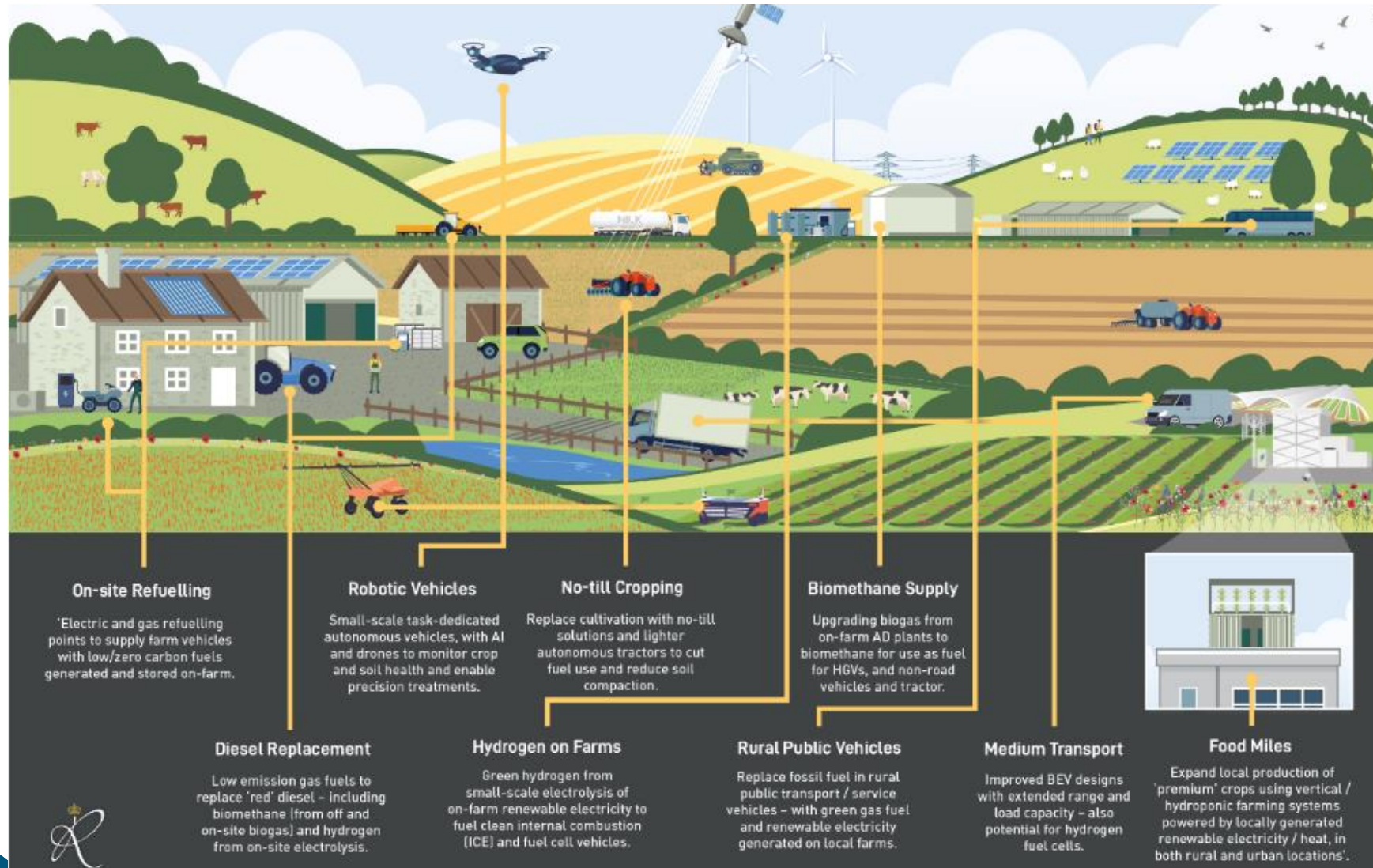
Source: GAO. | GAO-20-478SP



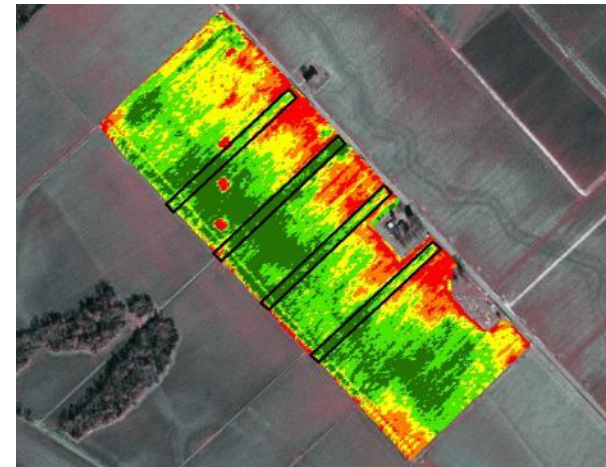
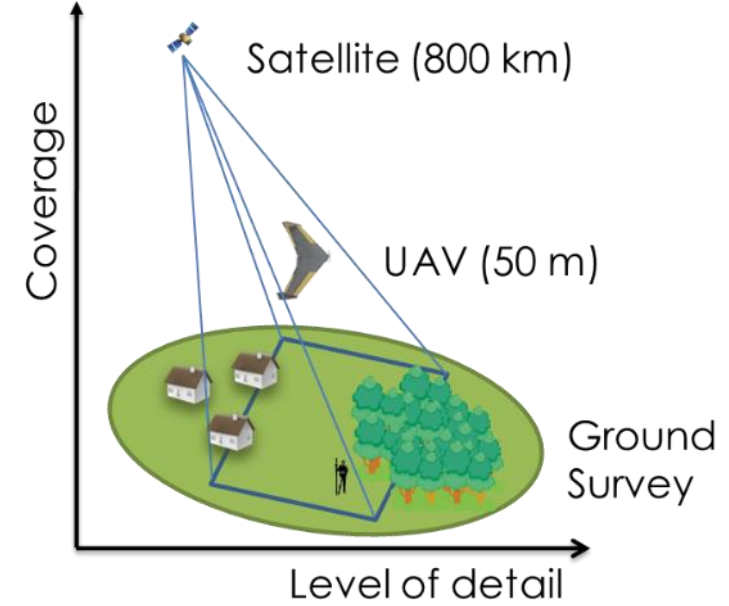
# The Evolving Agritech System



# The Evolving Agritech System

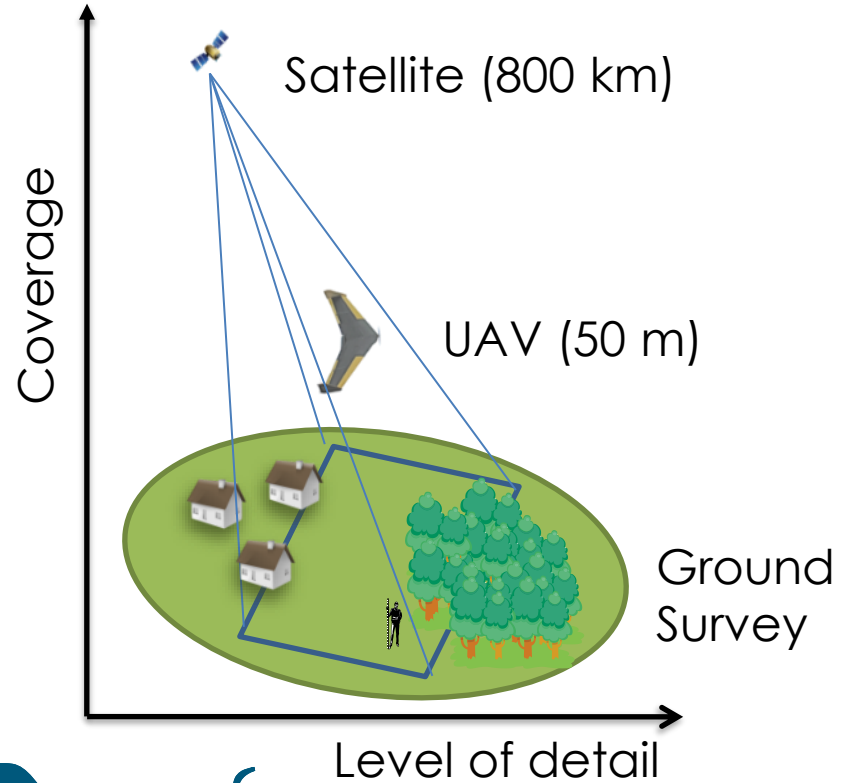


# AgriTech and Production



# Opti-Oat Remote Sensing

Year 1 and 2 remote sensing data captured from UAV to achieve high spatial detail. Year 3 will also explore satellite for wider area coverage at lower spatial detail



**Platform:** Rotary UAV

**Sensors:** RGB & Multispectral

**Altitude:** 50m (160 ft)

**Area:** 4 ha

**Duration:** 10 – 15 min

**Resolution:** +/- 1 cm RGB, +/- 5 cm Multispectral

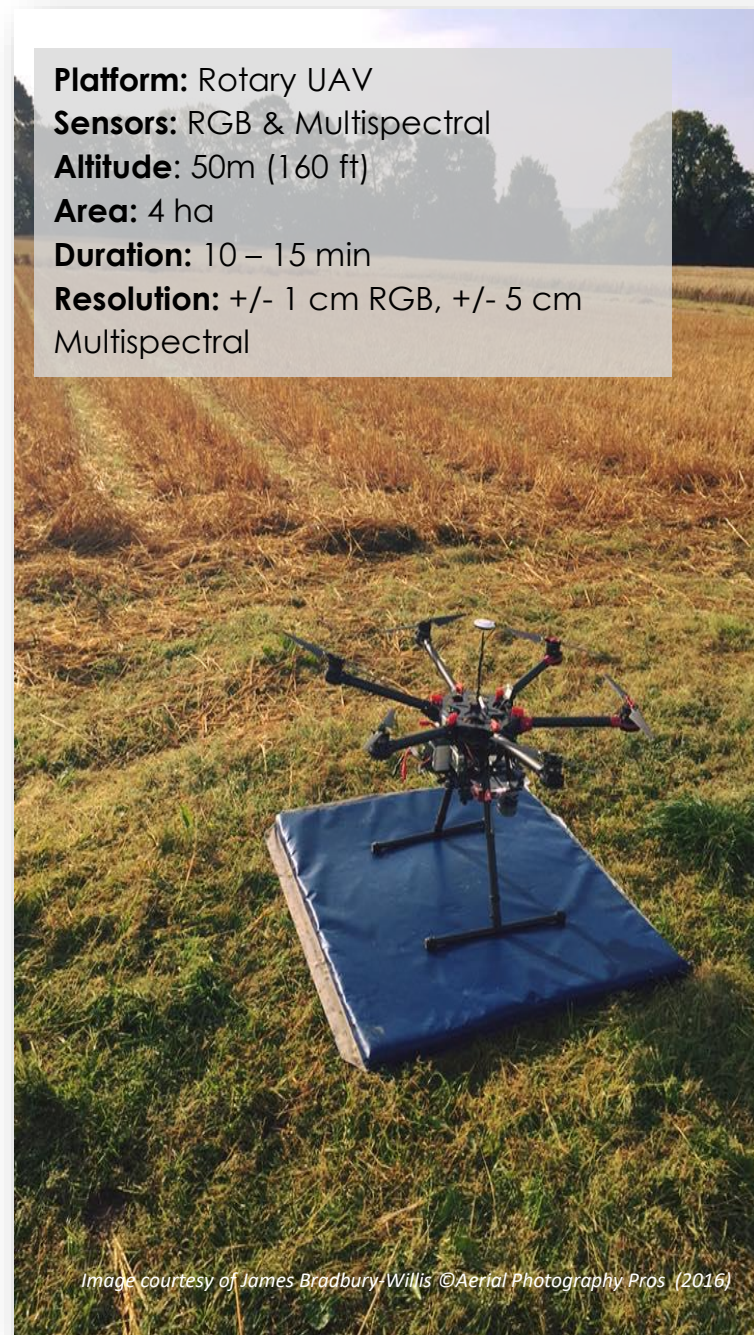


Image courtesy of James Bradbury-Willis ©Aerial Photography Pros (2016)



# AgriTech and Production


Carrier 2:19 PM

Field name North home Select variety Desiree

Enter dig details Weight: 4.50, length: 2.00, width: 0.75

Select the crop Main Choose date/time 06/10/16 14:19

First test on Thursday



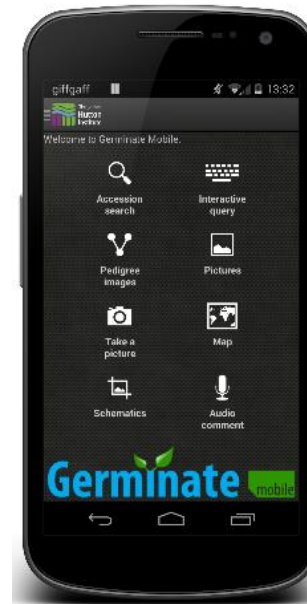
Use existing photo

Continue... Save defaults Load defaults

Back to previous

Germinal Scan

name	area	volume	weight
16/06/16 14:19	1.5000	0.0000	0.0000
16/06/16 14:19	1.5000	0.0000	0.0000
16/06/16 14:19	1.5000	0.0000	0.0000
16/06/16 14:19	1.5000	0.0000	0.0000
16/06/16 14:19	1.5000	0.0000	0.0000
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16/06/16 14:19	1.5000	0.0000	0.0000



EE 11:46

Back Home

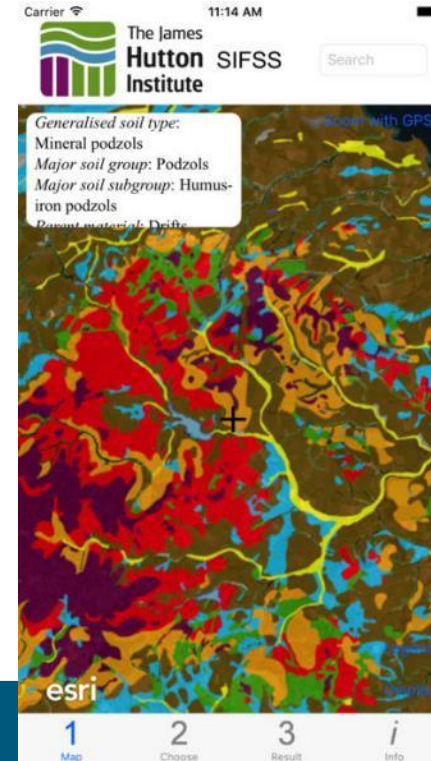
Take a new photo or choose an existing one from your library

Camera OFF

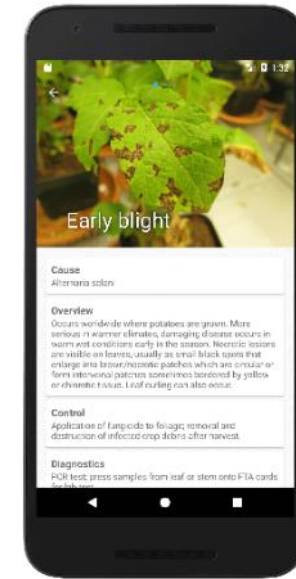
Choose/take photo Send it



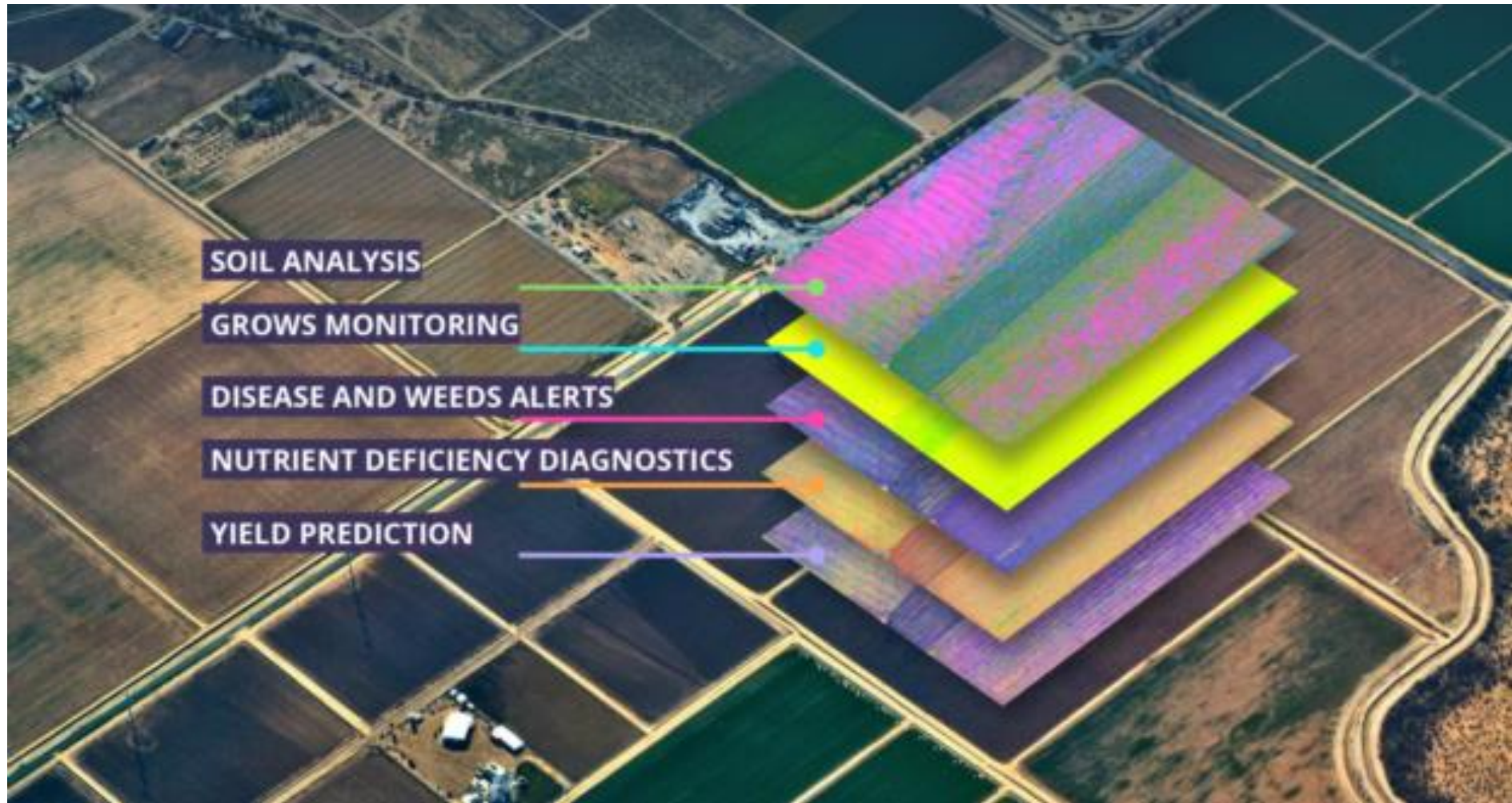
56.8902, -2.5418



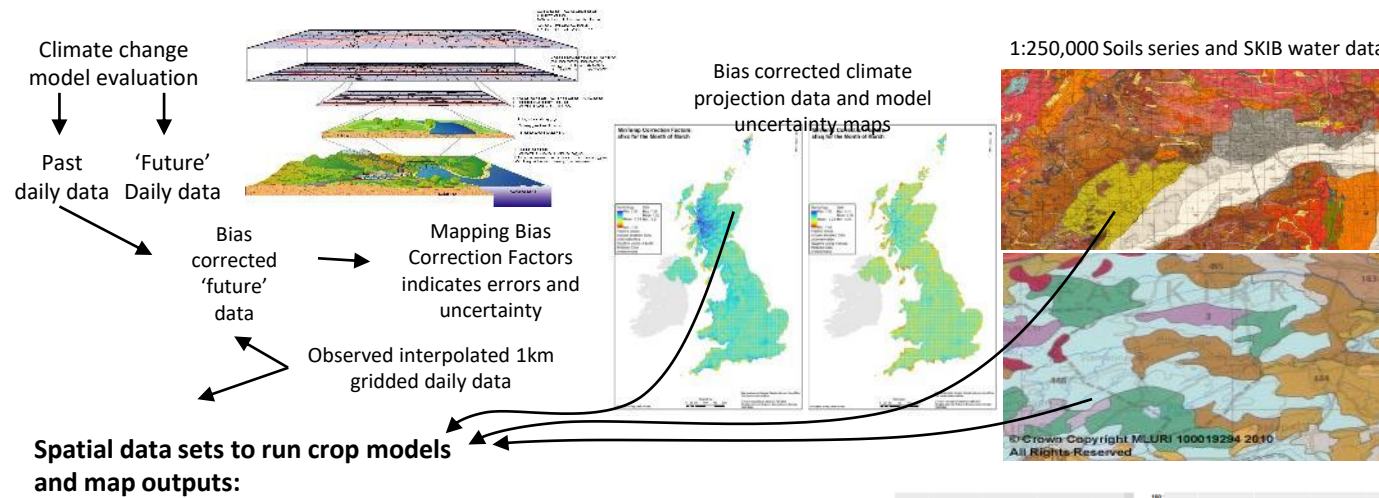
## Buntata



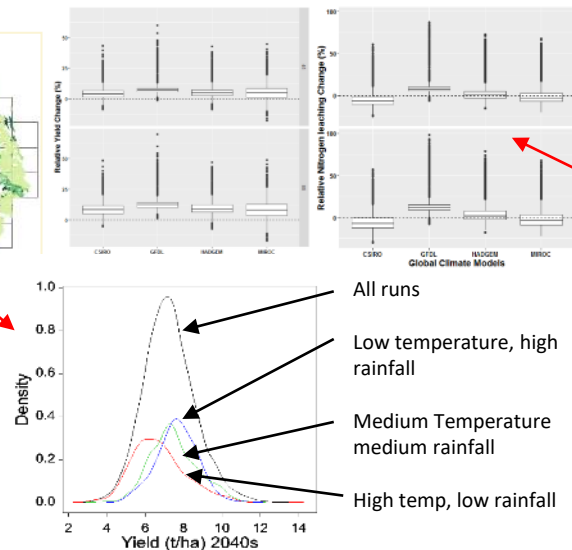
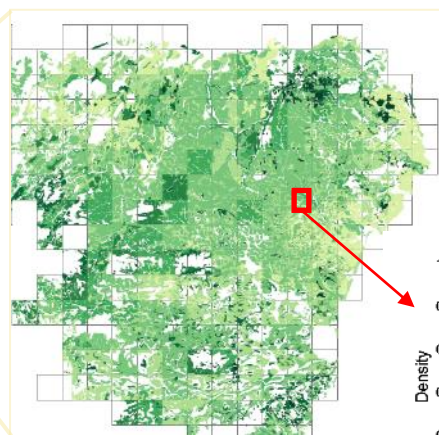
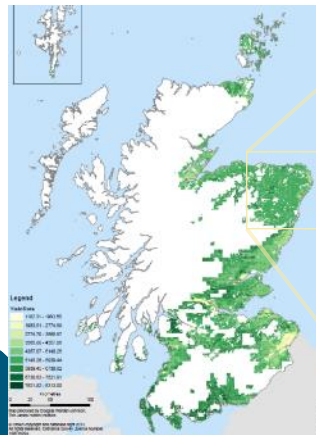
# Crop Monitoring using Satellite Imagery



# Spatial Crop Modelling: Barley



Integrated modelling framework to combine data sets at different spatial scales and use as input into a spatially applied crop model (DSSAT) at a 1km resolution = **57,209 unique soil-weather combinations** for arable area of Scotland



Estimates made by the model (yield, water and N use, phenology, soil water balance and many more) available on a daily basis for every unique soil-weather combination

# APGC – Core Facilities

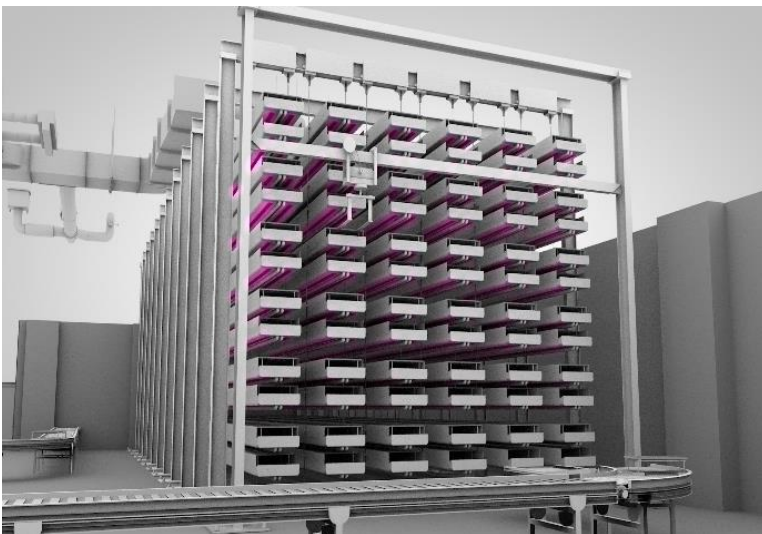


## Vertical Growing

- High throughput growth/phenotyping platform
- Plants grown on multiple trays under LED lighting
- Fully independent control of RGB (+UV)
- Controlled temperature, humidity, mineral nutrition
- Allows for growth of thousands of plants on a tiny footprint (8 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Optimised growing environment to accelerate year-round plant growth

## Applications

- Crop propagation (e.g. strawberry; native species)
- Optimised production of crops with consistent quality (e.g. baby leaf salads)
- Speed breeding (multiple rounds of progeny selection each year)
- Improved crop functionality
- Pharmaceuticals



# Controlled Environment Agriculture/Vertical Farming Food Production 2.0



The James  
**Hutton**  
Institute

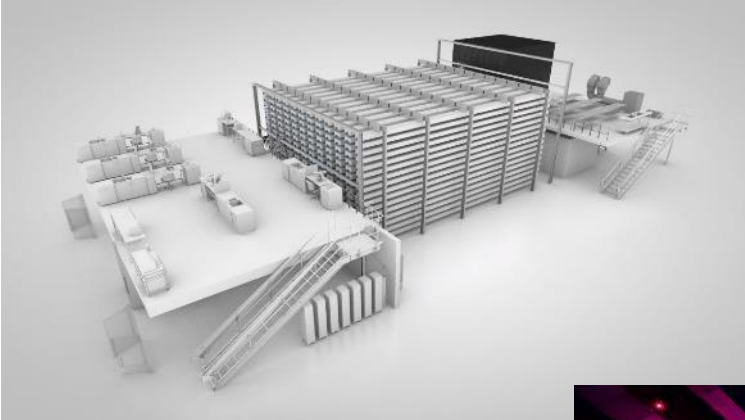
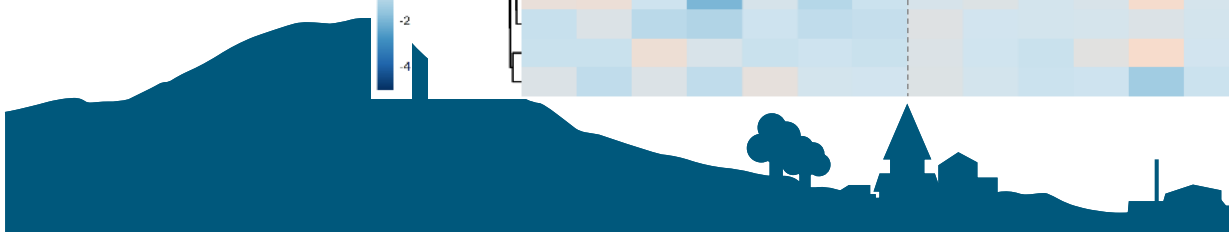
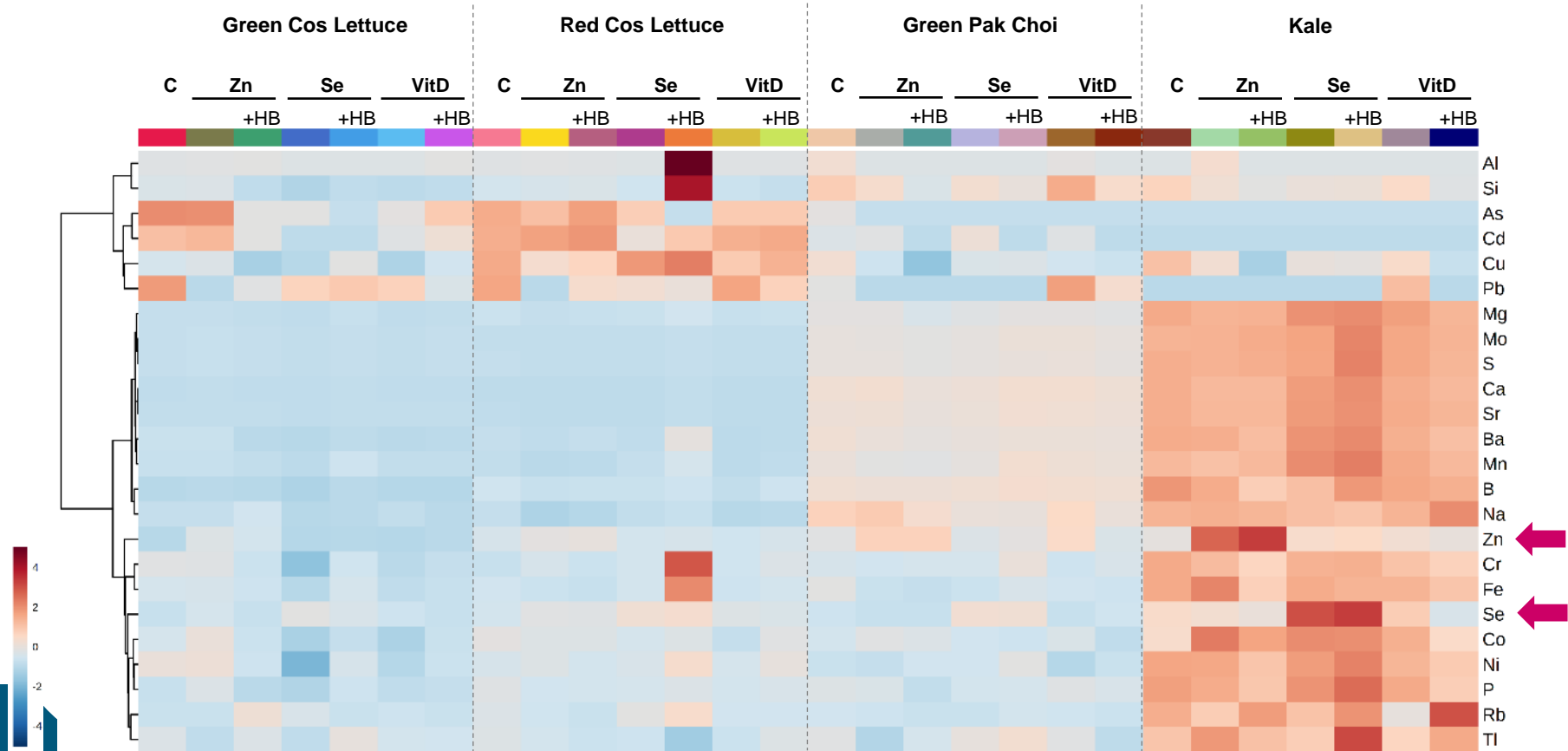


Photo Credit: Magnit

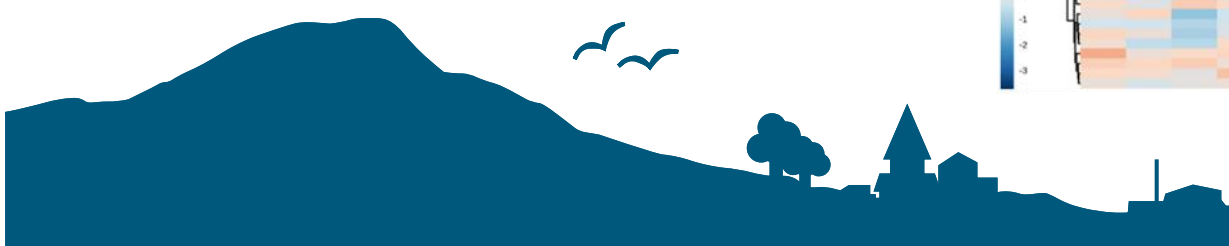
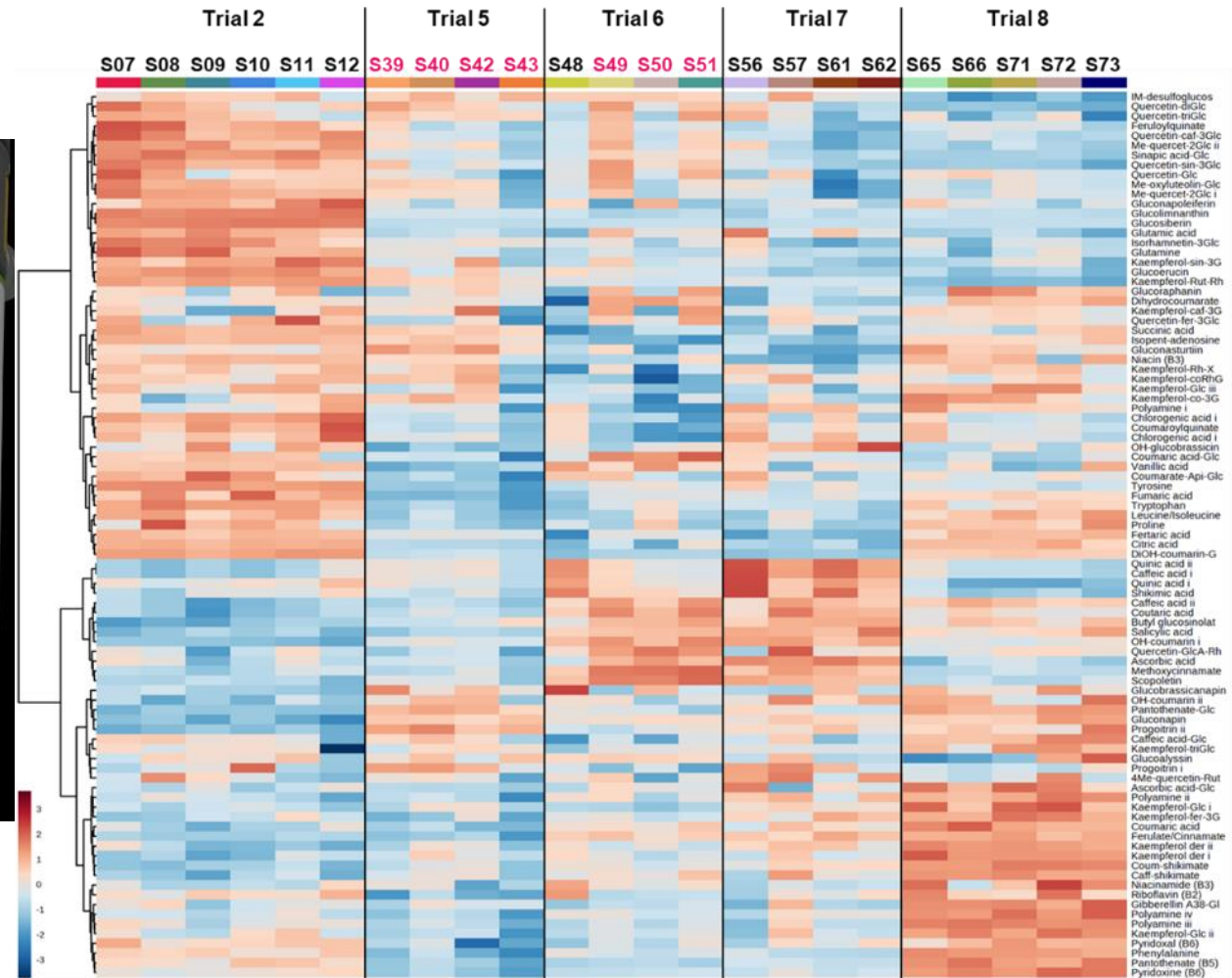
# Dosing experiment: Impact on mineral content

Heatmap auto-scaled by feature (mineral content to be compared across samples only)

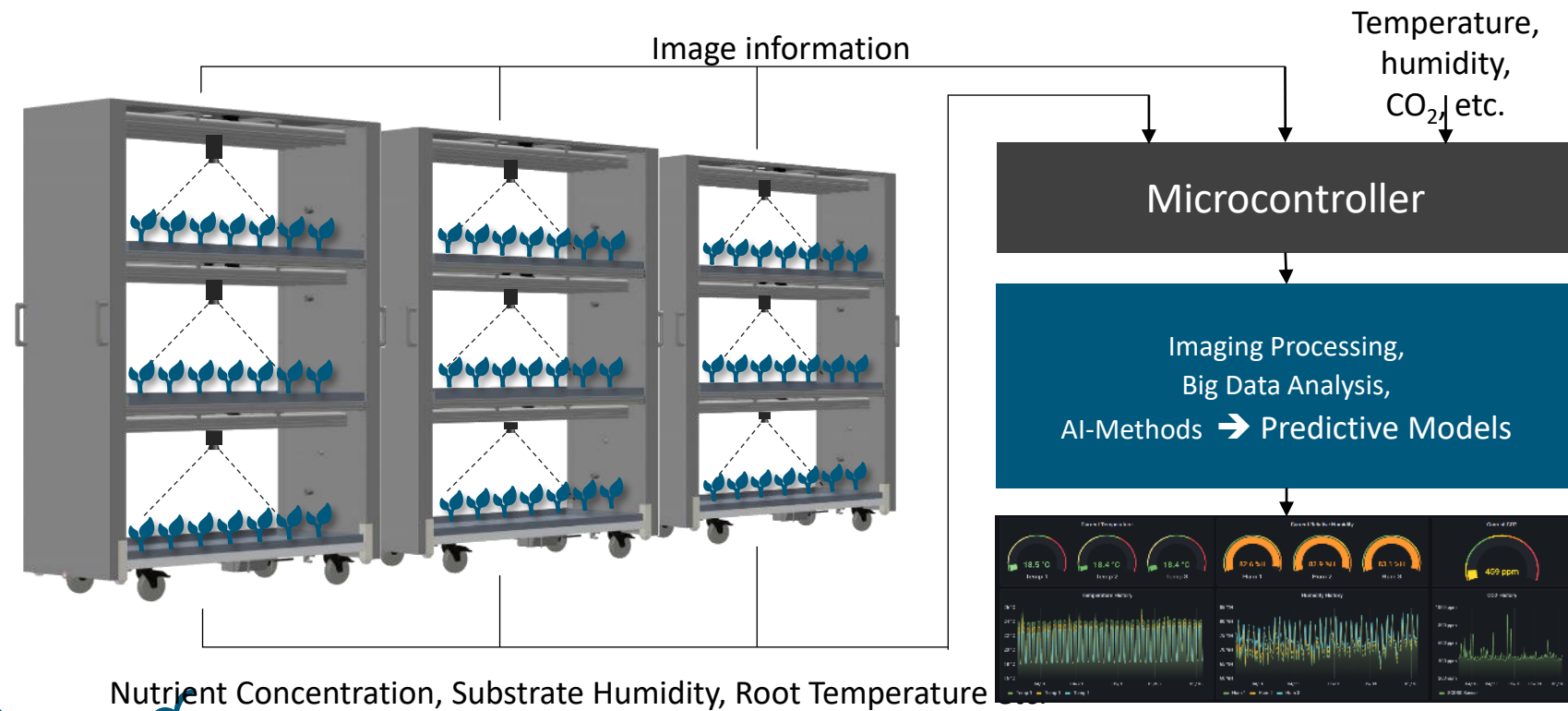
C = control  
HB = hydrobubbles  
VitD = vitamin D2



# Sensor development

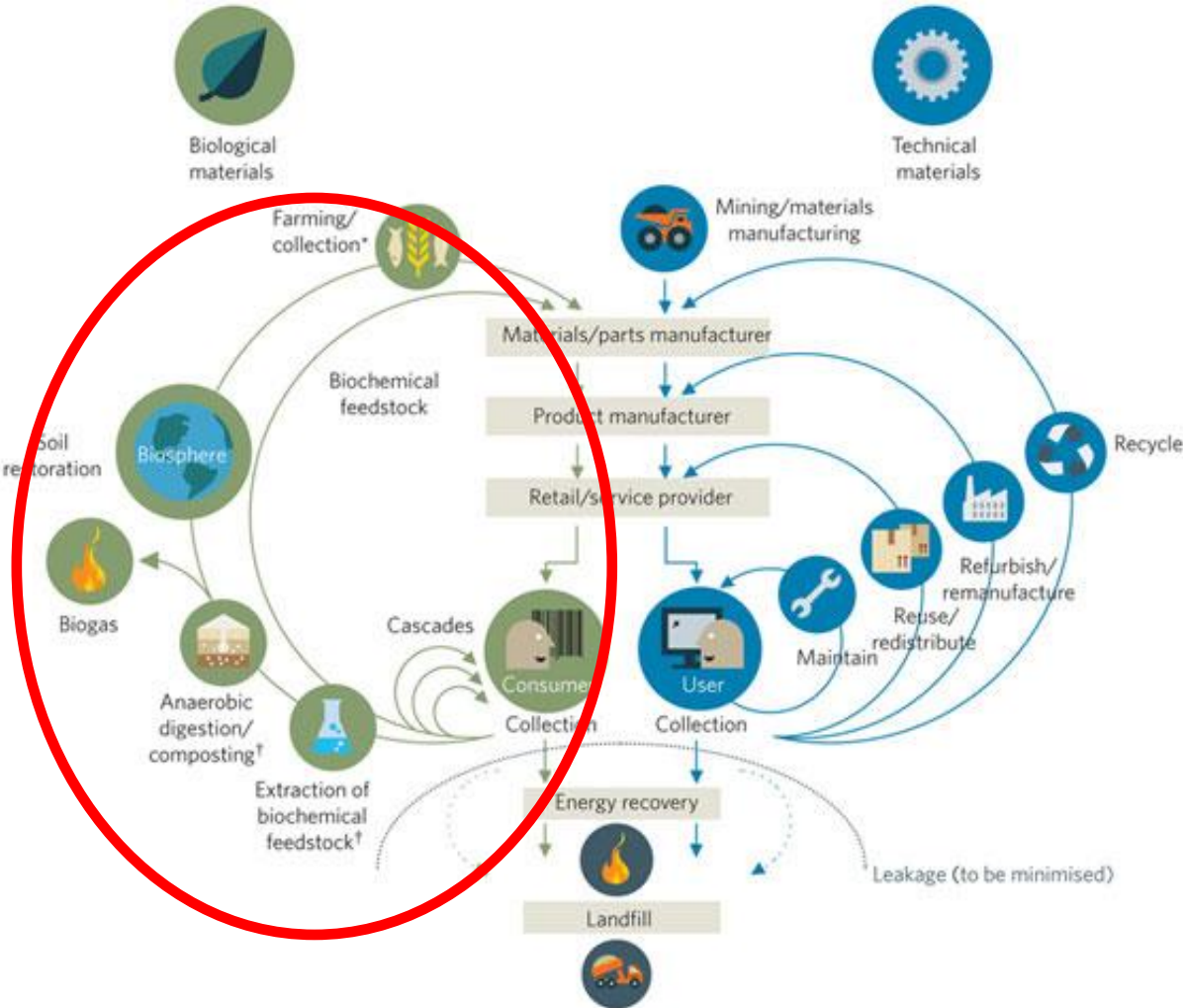


# Internet of Plants (IoP)

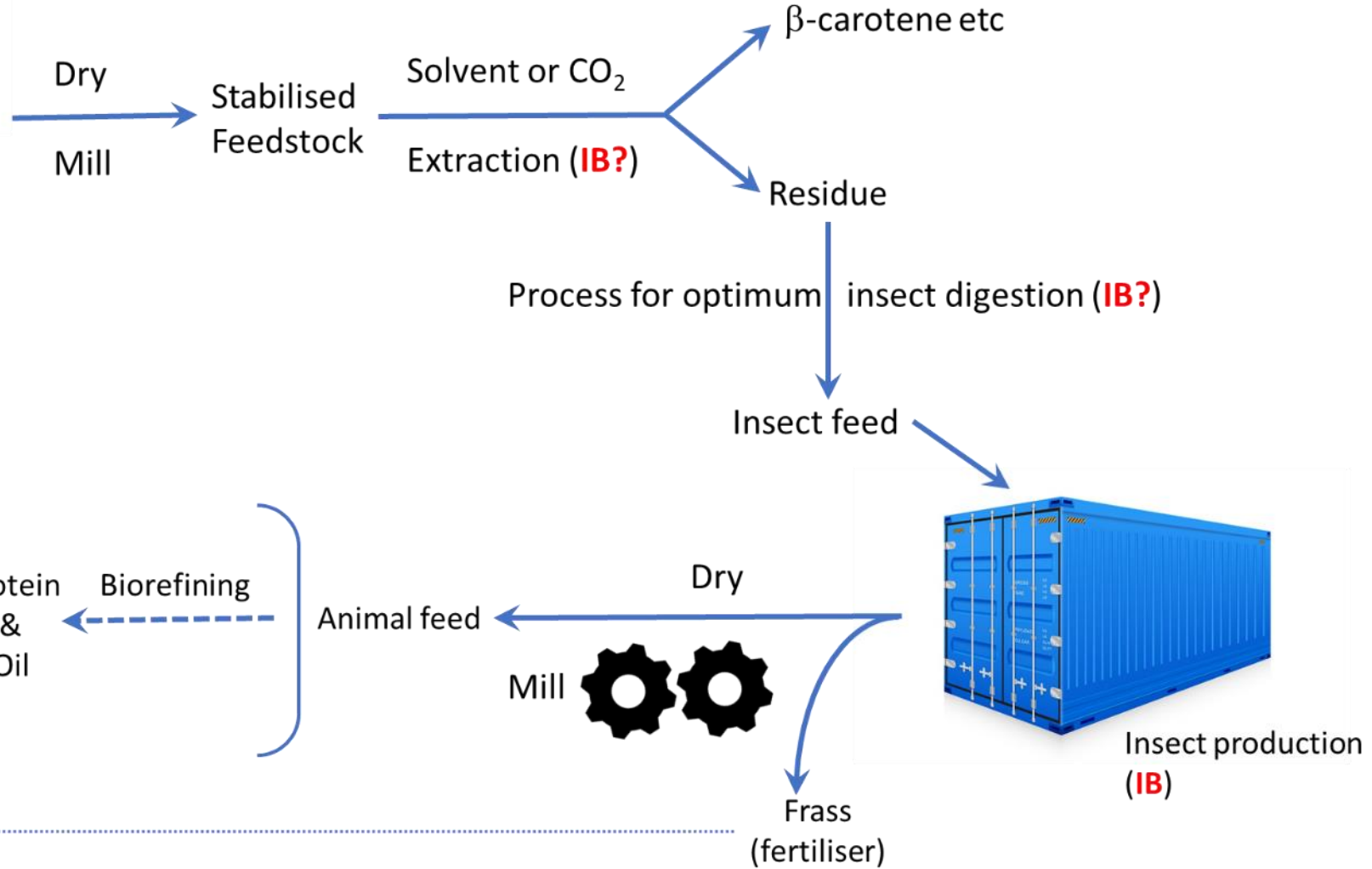




# The Circular BioEconomy



# Crop co-products valorisation





# Thank you

Welcome any questions

[www.taycitiescleangrowth.scot](http://www.taycitiescleangrowth.scot)



TAY CITIES  
**CLEAN GROWTH**

# Prof Rob Brooker

The James Hutton Institute  
Head of Ecological Sciences

This project is supported by the Tay Cities Deal



Agri innovation  
CO<sub>2</sub> reduction  
Commercialisation

# Plant Ecology & "Soft Agri-tech"

Ecology – the study of the interactions between organisms, and between organisms and their environment

How can plant ecology deliver green agri-tech?

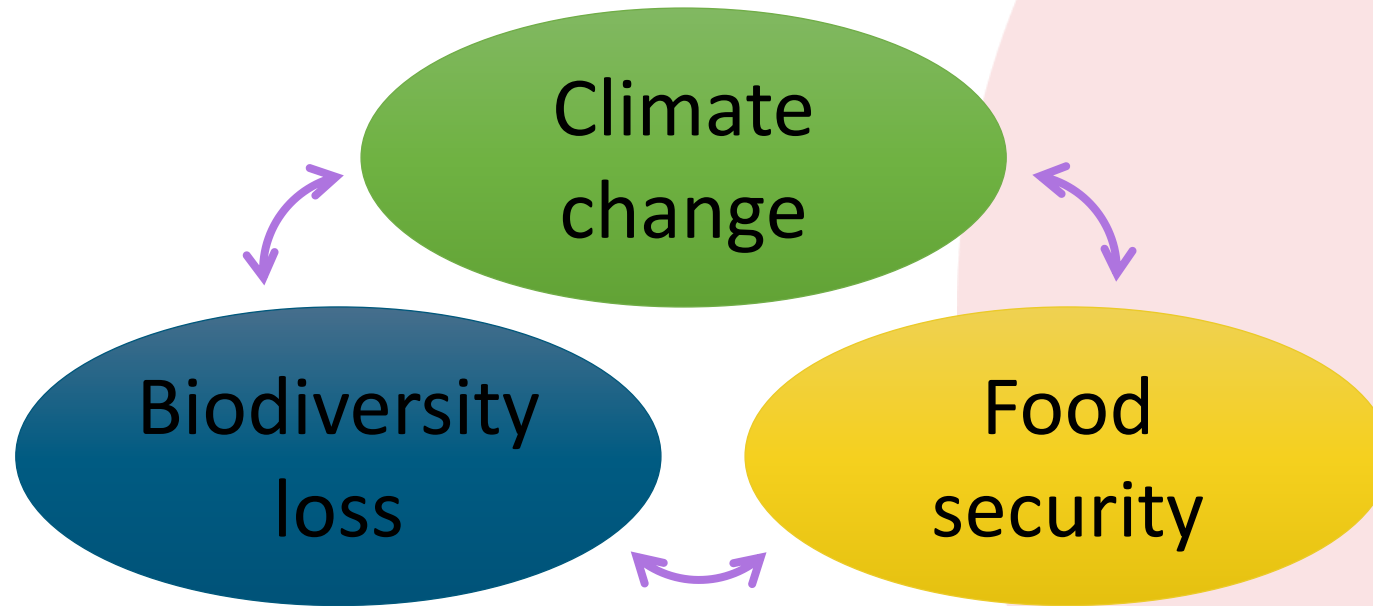
- Agri-tech: the **application of technology** to produce more food with less inputs
- Technology: the **application of knowledge** for achieving practical goals in a reproducible way, as well as the tools that stem from this.

**Soft Agri-tech** - manipulation of ecosystems for food with reduced inputs and impacts

**Win-Win-Wins?**



# Soft Agri-tech & Win-win-wins



Ideal solutions tackle all three simultaneously

Soft agri-tech - combining ecology, crop science, plant breeding to move beyond a “zero sum game” approach



# Nàdar pea-based spirits

## Reduced inputs

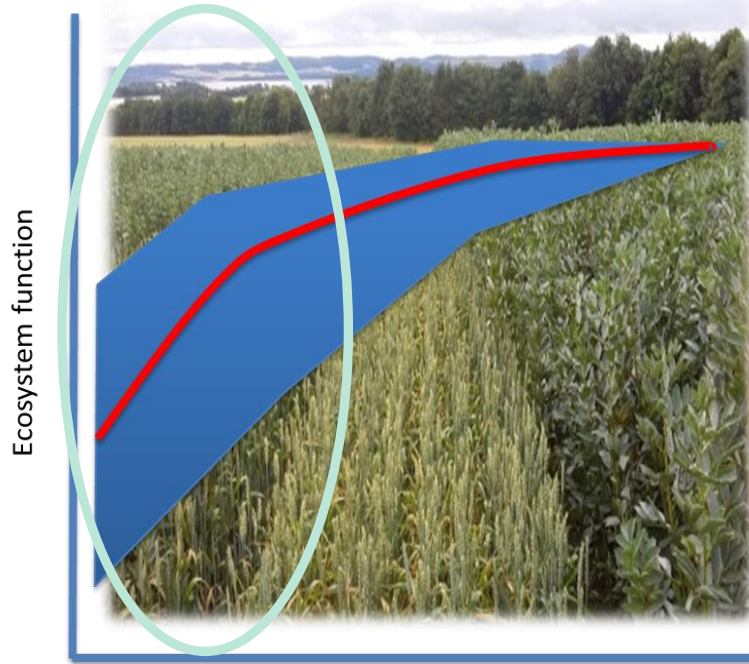
- Reduced C emissions from farm machinery
- Reduced run-off (biodiversity and energy benefits)
- Reduced NPK inputs (energy benefits)

Benefits are local and global - global reduced imports of feed protein (use of pot ale)

Developments - older lines of peas with lower protein?



# Biodiversity in the mix



Biological diversity (variation in genes, species, functional traits)

Cardinale et al. (2012)  
*Nature*

Increase biodiversity in crop system



Increase ecosystem functions



Increase ecosystem services



Win-win-wins?

## Intercrops

- Two or more crop species (or genotypes) **growing together and coexisting**
- Common for unmechanised subsistence agriculture
- Often low input

[www.taycitiescleangrowth.scot](http://www.taycitiescleangrowth.scot)



# Biodiversity in the mix

## Challenges for intercrops

- Optimising for local conditions
- Provision of advice and guidance
- Cultural challenges around acceptability and demand



SEAMS- Develop, promote and implement crop species mixtures as:

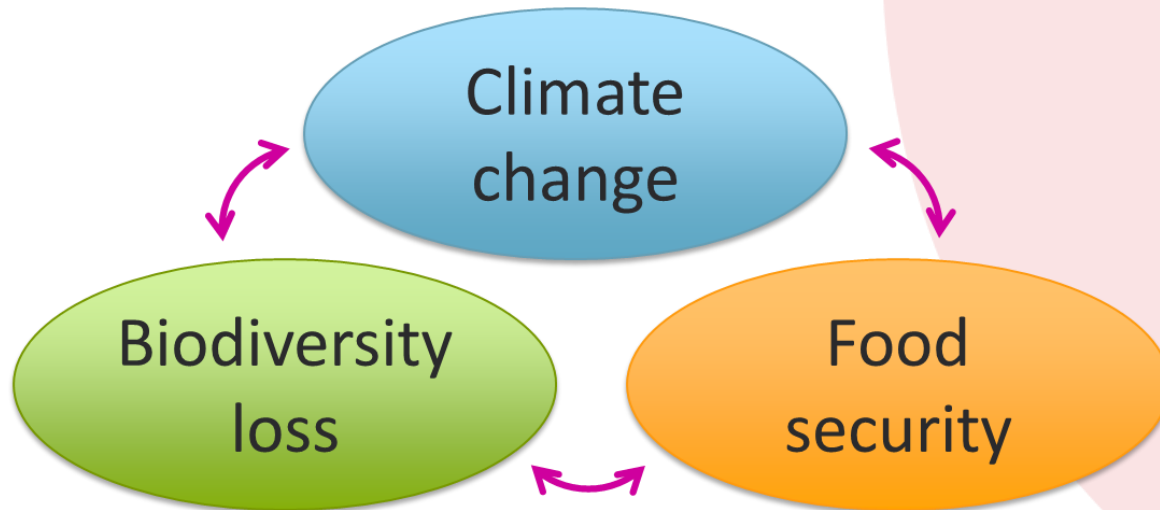
- A sustainable crop production system for Scotland
- A resource for knowledge exchange on food production, agricultural ecology and environmental sustainability to a wider audience including school groups



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# Biodiversity in the mix

- Enhanced/maintained yields
- Reduced inputs
- Benefits for some components of biodiversity
- Impacts on C balance – more work to do...



It's not just about the biology...



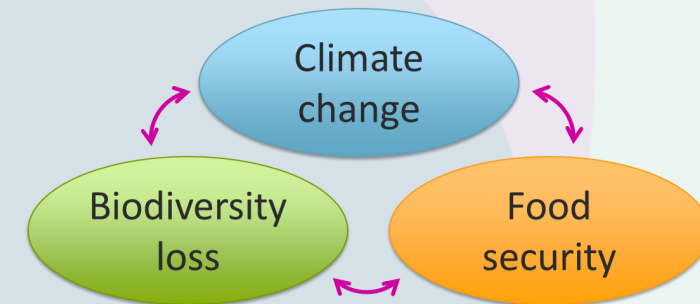
# Soft Agri-tech - The road ahead

Targeted action from e.g. crop breeding – what

- Traits for mixtures and novel uses?
- Breeding for resilience and productivity – maybe mixtures are a way out of the dilemma?

Whole systems approach –

- Linking hard and soft agri-tech for sustainable farming systems –
- Options through IBH, APGC, CASI and other initiatives



# Thank you

<https://arbikie.com/pages/nadar-collection>

Crop mixtures:

<https://www.hutton.ac.uk/research/projects/seams-sustainability-education-and-agriculture-using-mixtures>

[https://www.hutton.ac.uk/sites/default/files/files/SEAMS%20final%20report\\_final%20version.pdf](https://www.hutton.ac.uk/sites/default/files/files/SEAMS%20final%20report_final%20version.pdf)

<https://plant-teams.org/#guidestoolboxes>





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# Mark Richardson

Ristol Consulting

Clean Growth Initiative member

This project is supported by the Tay Cities Deal



Scottish Government  
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Summary  
CGI  
Tours

# Summary

Showcased the **innovation, capabilities and strength** of the Tay Region in delivering transformative change in decarbonising our economy.

Seen **world class projects** that are being delivered in the Tay Region through collaboration and partnership, focused on sharing experiences to support wider application and commercialisation.

This approach will enable us to **building a regional skill set and profile** that can deliver scalable economic, investment and training opportunities.

# Benefits of CGI

**Builds a regional profile** to attract investment and develop skills and career opportunities, as projects evolve.

Strengthens the **opportunity for collaboration and partnership** within the public, private and academic sectors to support the delivery of clean growth projects.

Provides a **platform** of scale and breadth to share experiences and coordinate positive action, signpost funding opportunities and identify research programmes.

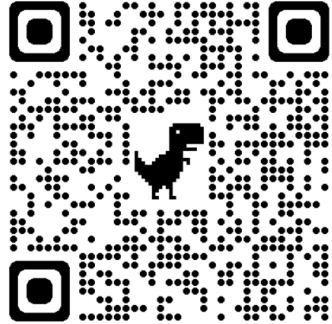
Register as a member



Click

Connect

Collaborate



Tag partners and members on your social media

#  
@



# Tours

1. Wind to green hydrogen at Arbikie – led by Locogen (David)
2. Green agri-tech – led by James Hutton Institute (Derek)
3. Agri innovation at Arbikie – led by James Hutton Institute (Rob)

# Bon appetit!

Please follow the events team upstairs for the networking lunch.

Please reach out to fellow attendees to find synergies.

See you at 1pm for the tours