



Horticultural  
Development  
Company

# New Project

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## **FV 355**

Broad beans: fungicide  
programme for chocolate spot  
control

**Project Number:** FV 355

**Title:** Broad beans: fungicide programme for chocolate spot control

**Start and end dates:** 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010

**Project Leader:** Dr Anthony Biddle, Processors and Growers Research Organisation

**Project Co-ordinator:** Tim Mudge, PVGA

**Location:**

1. PGRO, The Research Station, Great North Road, Thornhaugh, Peterborough, PE8 6HJ
2. Swayfield Growers, Southburn Offices, Southburn, Driffield, East Yorkshire, YO25 9RD.
3. Carrington Viners, The Estate Office, Beeches Lane, Carrington, Boston, Lincs, PE22 7HD.
4. Anglia Processors, Watton, Norfolk (bean growers)

## **Background and project objectives**

Broad beans for processing and for fresh market are produced in several areas of the country including Kent, Worcestershire, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, the Borders and Eastern Scotland. In 2007/8 around 1000ha were grown for the fresh market and 900 ha for processing. Because chocolate spot, caused by *Botrytis cinerea* and *B. fabae*, is encouraged by overcast and wet conditions, there is always a proportion of the crop in the UK at risk from infection. Control of chocolate spot is dependent on the application of fungicides as protectant treatments as once the disease is established there is little curative control possible. Timing of fungicides should be related to growth stage and disease risk but there is a very limited number of fungicides currently approved for use in broad beans and only one product with specific label approval. The PGRO processed legume panel have recently elevated this topic to High Priority in the R and D Strategy for broad beans and support work in improving chocolate spot control in this crop.

It has been some years since chocolate spot control in broad beans has been examined and since then the two approved products are no longer available. The newly approved fungicide Switch (cyprodinil + fludioxonil) contains actives that should give improved control of chocolate spot but is untested against this disease. Signum is approved for spring field beans and the intention to include this in this project may result in a SOLA application. The project will evaluate the products and examine their use alone or in a programme with the other products available to improve the level of control.

Further information

Email the HDC office ([hdc@hdc.org.uk](mailto:hdc@hdc.org.uk)), quoting your HDC number, alternatively contact the HDC at the address below.

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