



Horticultural  
Development  
Company

# New Project

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## HNS 178

Bacterial diseases of  
herbaceous perennials

**Project Number:** HNS 178

**Title:** Bacterial diseases of herbaceous perennials

**Start and end dates:** 01 April 2010 to 31 March 2013

**Project Leader:** Dr Steven J Roberts

**Project Co-ordinator:** Bill Godfrey and Martin Emmett (latter TBC)

**Location:** HDRA, Ryton Organic Gardens, Coventry CV3 8LG and grower trial sites.

**Background and project objectives:** Bacterial diseases have caused sporadic but significant problems in a number of HNS herbaceous subjects for a number of years. There is a general lack of knowledge amongst growers about how to identify diseases caused by bacteria; and except for well known diseases with clear symptoms, the only reliable way of diagnosis is by laboratory examination and culturing, thus accurate information is difficult to obtain.

During the first year of the project up to six nurseries will be visited and samples collected for laboratory analysis from plants with suspect bacterial disease symptoms. The results will be used to inform and direct the work in subsequent years which will comprise trials work and detailed epidemiological investigations at up to two growers' holdings in years 2 and 3. A Factsheet with images and details of the bacterial diseases on the different subjects and indications of control options will be produced.

The project aims to benefit herbaceous HNS growers by providing information which will assist in the identification of bacterial diseases and identify practical management strategies for their effective control. This is expected to lead to a reduction in the use of ineffective spray treatments, and reduction in losses and ultimately increased profitability.

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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