

# Biological control of pests and diseases

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## Background

- New legislation, such as the EU Sustainable Use Directive, is restricting the availability of conventional chemical pesticides, and promotes Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and biologically-based control.
- This represents a major change in European policy.
- There are also significant, on-going problems with the evolution of pesticide resistance in pest and disease populations, and concerns about pesticide residues.
- There is a need to develop new methods of pest management that can be used as part of IPM.



## We are experts in biological control and IPM

- Development and use of microbial control agents (MCAs) for protected crops, field vegetables and fruit crops.
- Understanding the physiology, ecology, genetics and population biology of MCAs, pests and diseases.
- Policy advice to EU and UK government.
- Work closely with bio-control producers, IPM practitioners and the horticultural industry.

