

# Innovation talk at potato event



*Belchim's Simon Leak.*

protection point of view. It is the last season of use for linuron and a key active for haulm desiccation, diquat, is also under regulatory pressure. There are challenging times ahead for blight control too with shifting populations and new strains that will require renewed focus on positioning and mixing of products for growers and their advisers," he continues.

"Belchim is currently looking to bring more innovation for this important crop sector including a new late blight fungicide for launch within the next 12 months. We recognise that growers and advisers use this important industry event in Harrogate to update their knowledge base and value one-to-one discussions with manufacturers, so the Belchim team will be on hand to discuss our strong potato portfolio from pre-emergence herbicides to desiccation products. We look forward to welcoming growers and advisers onto stand 162," he concludes.

... Crop Protection will be the BP2017 potato event at ... to highlight product ... including a new late fungicide. ... following the launches of ... (metobromuron) and Kunshi ... xanil + fluazinam) in 2014 ... 16, we added the desiccant ... (pyraflufen-ethyl) to the ... lio with a full launch in 2017," ... ms Belchim's marketing and ... pment country manager for ... K and Eire, Simon Leak. ... hese are interesting times in ... ato industry from a crop

# Soya so appealing

The area of soya grown in the UK is expected to increase four-fold in 2018, thanks to a "huge" interest in spring break crops.



Full buy-back contracts are on offer from Soya UK for spring 2018.

That's the news from Jacqui McNaughton of Soya UK, who notes that yields from 2017's 2,000ha of soya averaged about 2.5t/ha despite a challenging growing year and tricky conditions at harvest time.

Soya offers a great chance to tackle areas of high black-grass pressure, she says. With a late spring sowing date of 21st April onwards, there's plenty of opportunity to make one or two applications of glyphosate before sowing, plus a graminicide later in the season if required.

What's more, the high value tonne of soya makes its gross margins attractive in comparison with other spring break crops, Jacqui points out.

In contrast, "uninspiring" values

for cereals, sugar beet and other crops are forcing many growers to consider alternatives, she adds. In particular, the neonicotinoid ban and subsequent problems of flea beetle control has reduced the attractiveness of other break crops such as oilseed rape and linseed.

As a break, soya is a particularly good nitrogen-fixing crop and the perfect entry for wheat, says Jacqui, who describes the market for soya as huge in value with relatively easy and achievable quality standards.

Soya now also enjoys a good choice of herbicide options.

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