

Expert Committee on Pesticide Residues in Food Member's (as of 11 January 2024) biographies and declarations of interests

Chair

Ann Davison began her career at 'Which?' and has worked in consumer affairs and public service roles for most of her career, running consumer organisations and networks such as Foodaware: the Consumers' Food Group. She won the UK Woman of Europe 2000 Award for outstanding voluntary service.

Ann has served as a consumer representative on a number of government committees including Defra Expert Panel on Air Quality Standards, the Adult Learning Committee of the Learning and Skills Council and the Food Standards Agency's Advisory Committee on Animal Feeding Stuffs.

For nearly six years, she was Defra's consumer adviser and ran its consumer representatives' group. Ann co-founded the Fairtrade Foundation and chaired its Certification Committee for 11 years.

Ann also chaired the World Development Movement, established the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue and chaired its Trade committee. She served two terms as President of External Relations on the EU Economic and Social Committee.

Ann is Vice President and a trustee of the National Council of Women, and a member of the European Committee of the International Council of Women. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. Ann volunteers in the world development charity sector, providing consumer insight and supporting research.

No interests declared

Members

Dr Jonathan Blackman is a graduate of Wye College, University of London and studied for a DPhil at the University of Sussex.

He has worked as an agronomist and technical manager in the horticultural industry for nearly 30 years, and before that worked as a Soil Scientist and Research Scientist for ADAS. He holds the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy and his work involves advising growers of fruit, hops and ornamental crops and providing technical support to fellow horticultural agronomists working for H L Hutchinson Ltd.

In addition to growers, he has provided consultancy services to packers and industry bodies such as the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board and the British Hop Association. He also sits on the board of several industry committees and represents his employer on the Agricultural Industry Confederation's commercial horticulture group.

Personal interest

- Marks & Spencer shareholding

Current non-personal interests

- H L Hutchinson Ltd Technical Manager providing agronomic consultancy to growers and horticultural industry: Consultancy includes sales of crop protection products, fertilisers and other inputs. Aspects of role require regular contact with manufacturers and industry experts.
- Marden Fruit Show Society – Trustee and Member of General Committee
- Hereford Hop Discussion Group - Secretary & Treasurer
- British Independent Fruit Growers Association - Associate Member
- British Hop Association - Consultancy on crop protection issues
- Wye Fruit Limited - Consultancy on crop protection issues

Ian Finlayson has a BSc Hons in Horticulture from Bath University. He was involved in the creation of Good Agricultural Practice standards for the Red Tractor Scheme and the international Global GAP standard during his 16 years as technical manager at Sainsbury's Supermarkets.

Ian was chair of the Fairtrade Standards Committee, where he worked to promote social justice and relieve global poverty. He has also served as a director of Footprints4Food which provided cost-efficient carbon foot printing of agricultural products with the aim of reducing their impact on the environment.

He is currently Managing Director of Practical Solutions International which specialises in helping growers and suppliers work effectively with retailers in Europe. This has allowed him to gain extensive experience in Africa working with both small farmers and large export companies.

Ian brings his experience from his time as Technical Director for World Flowers, Wealmoor, Produce World and No1 Living. He is an expert in a range of food and cut flower supply chain. He has most recently been involved in a project funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, supporting growers to switch from air to sea freight for Kenyan produce.

Personal interests

- Practical Solutions International Limited (PSI) - Director- Consultancy in food safety Sustainability and ethical production. Contracts include: work with agrochemical company collating industry based prohibited lists, running training courses for the food Industry and technical consultancy.

Current non-personal interests

- Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF) - Chair – technical advisory committee developing and monitoring the LEAF Marque standard.

Dr Gill Hart is a PhD Biochemist with over thirty years' experience in the development, validation and evaluation of diagnostic tests and testing services.

Gill started her career as Senior Biochemist at the Hammersmith Hospital, London and subsequently worked for R&D companies responsible for the development and validation of unique diagnostic tests for both hospital and consumer use.

In 1999 Gill set up her own consultancy to service the needs of the clinical diagnostics industry and her work included the design and development of fertility tests for consumer (home) use. Gill joined leading consumer health and wellness company YorkTest Laboratories in 2005 and, as Scientific Director, has applied her scientific and regulatory knowledge to all YorkTest services. Gill has been instrumental in developing effective consumer led communications within this industry through a variety of different media, focussing on the transcription of scientific information to make it more accessible and comprehensible to the general public.

No interests declared

John Points is an independent consultant, advising food retailers and producers on chemical and authenticity risk management, analytical testing, and interpretation of results. He also works on capacity-building projects for low- and middle-income countries who need to regulate and test food safety.

His previous career has been with Sainsbury's, and at LGC one of the UK's national reference laboratories, where he led the teams responsible for food, residues, consumer safety and workplace drugs testing. At Sainsbury's, his role included management of residue monitoring programmes and follow up of results within the own-brand supply chain.

He is an active member of the Institute of Food Science and Technology's Scientific Committee, the Society of Chemical Industry's Food Interest Group, and the Royal Society of Chemistry's Food Group.

Personal interests

- John Points Consulting Limited:
 - Sole shareholder.
 - advice to UK food industry companies on testing and interpretation of results (including for pesticide residues)
 - advice to laboratories (including those involved in pesticide residues testing) on quality management systems,
 - advice to governments on laboratory testing and procurement.
- Food Authenticity Network – Secretary – Peripheral interest in pesticide residues in food e.g., if exposing fraud in Organic labelling claims or in counterfeit pesticide formulations.
- Institute of Food Science & Technology – Trustee
- LGC Limited - Pension

Debbie Winstanley holds a BSc Hons in Agriculture from the University of Wales and is an Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society and a Governor of Harper Adams Agricultural University.

Debbie sits on the steering group of the Allerton project, a charity which champions biodiversity and good farming practice in commercial agriculture. Debbie is a member of the steering group of Cambridge University Potato Growers Association, a charity that supports and guides the development and implementation of potato research.

Debbie's extensive professional experience includes being a commercial farm agronomist for 20 years before working on potato agronomy at Cambridge University Farm. Debbie has also worked for Co-op Retail, where she worked with fresh produce suppliers and later Sainsbury's. Here she was first the Product Technologist for potatoes and vegetables, and then the Company Agronomist, notably working on pesticide residue reduction. Most recently Debbie's worked as UK Agronomist for PepsiCo where she continues to work part-time on research and development. Debbie provides agronomic support for a large farming business and technical support work for a small fertiliser supply business.

Personal interests

- Pepsi Co – Consultancy – Focus on agronomic R&D and support for other projects.
- Industry training – Supporting training courses to develop knowledge of pesticide residues and how to manage them
- Sulphate Solutions LLP - Partner - Providing technical support
- Strawsons Limited - Structural agronomy support
- JSH Retirement Benefits Scheme – Administered by professional pension trustees
- Rathbones Discretionary Managed Fund

Current non-personal interests

- Harper Adams Agricultural University - Governor
- Cambridge University Potato Growers Association (CUPGA) – Steering committee member – CUPGA is a charity that supports and guides the work of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany
- Allerton Trust - Volunteer
- Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society

The Committee regularly reviews membership to ensure it has the right balance of expertise to meet the challenges it faces.