

ADOPT



NIAB WORKS WITH FARMERS TO ADOPT NEW CROPS

Mill-IT

Farmer lead: Nonnington Farms Limited

The challenge: Proso-millet could be a viable, nutritious, sustainable break crop for human consumption in the UK. More work is needed both to develop effective husbandry and, in parallel, to explore new recipes that deliver high nutritional quality and flavour.

The solution: Millet will be cultivated in monoculture, and with a companion crop and following both a legume fallow and a wheat crop on two farms. In particular, it will be harvested without pre-harvest dessication using glyphosate. Post-harvest processing will include chitting and part-germination of seed to mobilise phytic acid ahead of culinary testing.



Diversifying rotations; adopting oil seed hemp as a new crop (DOSH)

Farmer lead: Atkin Farms

The challenge: Industrial hemp, once grown widely for rope and sailmaking, has great potential for reintroduction to UK farming as seed varieties have a range applications in the human food chain.

The solution: New seed varieties will be trialled across an environmental gradient. Harvesting approaches will be refined. Crop stems will be composted to develop a novel potting compost. Industry partners will explore post-harvest processing for oil and flour and test the products with consumers.

Chickpeas in efficient farming systems

Farmer lead: Hawk Mill Farms

The challenge: Chickpeas are a crop with potential for UK production as a viable alternative break crop but there can be harvesting issues due to uneven and delayed ripening particularly during cooler summers.

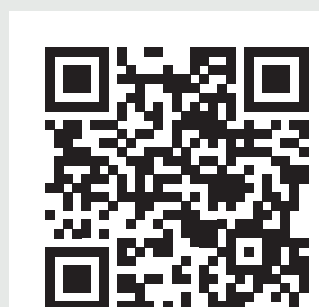
The solution: Growing chickpeas as a bicrop with cereals is expected to restrict the duration of chickpea flowering and hastening senescence. Trials with different cereal: chickpea ratios will explore the impacts. The role of swathing the crop ahead of harvest will also be explored to provide better harvesting guidance for the future.



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Funders website:

<https://farminginnovation.ukri.org/adopt/>



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