

# **SCRI**

# **Corporate**

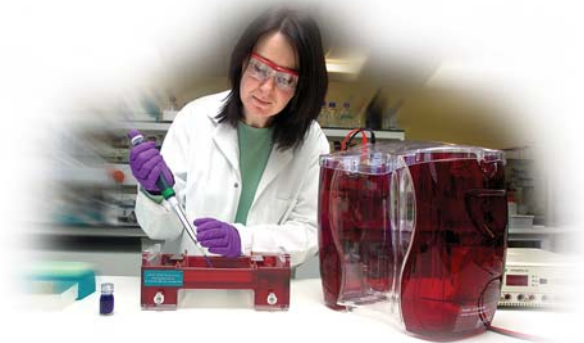
# **Plan**

## **2006-2011**

SCRI: Plant and Environment Discovery

A Scottish Centre for Research and Innovation

*Scottish Crop  
Research Institute*



# Introduction

Our Corporate Plan is being developed at a time of substantial change to the Scottish Agricultural and Biological Research Institutes, as the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) change their relationship with the institutes by focussing less on maintaining and managing the Scottish science base and more on supporting research to meet specific policy goals. For SCRI this means that our future will lie, to a much greater extent than hitherto, in our own hands and in focussing our research efforts. SEERAD will continue to be a major customer for our research, but our research excellence will be developed to serve a broader community of customers.

SCRI is a centre of excellence for research on plants and their interaction with the environment, especially for research on barley, potatoes and soft fruit. This focus on crop species will be maintained.

This Corporate Plan will be achieved by developing a detailed Operating Plan based on strategies that relate to the Institute's core activities.

Strategies for Research, Postgraduate Student Training, Estates, Corporate Communications, Finance, and Knowledge Exchange and Transfer will be developed and implemented.

By achieving our Plan, we shall not only sustain the research excellence of the Institute and the aspirations of its working community, but also add to the economic development of the local region and society more widely.

P J Gregory

Chief Executive, SCRI Group

September 2005





## Mission and Vision

We are Scotland's leading institute for research on plants and their interactions with the environment, particularly in managed ecosystems. Our research and products are internationally recognised.

Our mission is to conduct excellent research in plant and environmental sciences.

Our vision is to deliver innovative products, knowledge and services that enrich the life of the community and address the public goods of sustainability and high quality and healthy food.

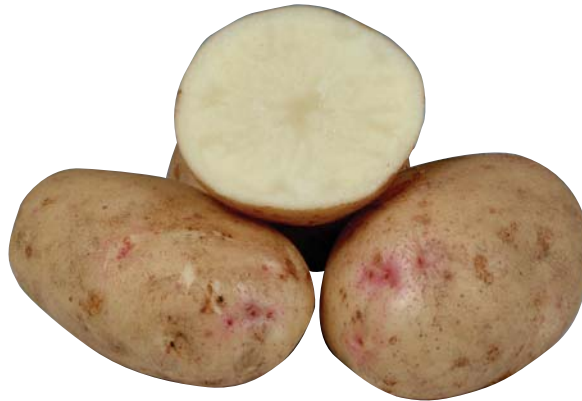
We will achieve our vision by developing a culture that promotes and supports scientific curiosity and celebrates the contribution of all staff and students.

# SCRI Strategy

## ***We shall realise our vision by:***

- Identifying potential customers for our research, and focussing on and strengthening areas of established and emerging research excellence for which there are realistic opportunities to receive funding
- Working with universities, businesses and other institutions to become the acknowledged centre for plant and environment based research in Scotland
- Redirecting our resources to achieve these ends
- Providing a stimulating, challenging and exciting atmosphere in which to undertake plant and environmental science





***In relation to research we shall:***

- Ensure that our research programmes are of international quality by creating well-resourced groups that have critical mass and strong external research partners
- Introduce a programme of external support and review to ensure that our research programmes are of high quality
- Acknowledge and reward staff for undertaking high quality research and for providing research leadership
- Introduce a research postgraduate scheme that will promote interactions with universities and foster a dynamic studentship programme
- Augment the existing close relationship with the University of Dundee and build relations with other universities and institutions that could utilise our expertise and facilities
- Adopt new financial systems that broaden the financial base, promote new areas of activity and partnerships, and assist with sustaining the activities of the Institute
- Increase income from research contracts
- Ensure that publications are of the highest quality and appear in the most appropriate journals



***In relation to innovation we shall:***

- Build upon the acknowledged expertise that we have in the cereal, potato and soft fruit sectors to develop high quality, innovative products
- Encourage and support the development of commercial partnerships which will benefit the Institute and provide routes to market for its products and services
- Ensure the appropriate exploitation of intellectual property resulting from our research activities
- Augment the working relations with Scottish Enterprise Tayside and local authorities to ensure that the Institute realises its full potential in the economic and cultural development of the Tayside region
- Focus our knowledge transfer and exchange activities on those organisations in the increasingly vertically integrated food supply chain where maximum exposure and return can be achieved
- Increase the impact of our outreach activities with rural and urban dwellers
- Acknowledge and reward staff for undertaking innovation, and knowledge transfer and exchange activities

***To achieve our strategy the senior management of the Institute is committed to:***

- Ensure and enhance our long-term financial viability
- Foster collaboration with strategically important partners locally, in the UK, Europe and internationally
- Take a leading role in the development of plant and environmental sciences in Scotland
- Develop the infrastructure and facilities to support the vision of the Institute
- Recruit and retain high quality staff, and reward them appropriately for their work
- Encourage its staff to take leading roles in setting national and international research agendas
- Conduct our business with integrity





## **SCRI – what we do**

SCRI is situated in Invergowrie on the north bank of the River Tay, in a first class agricultural area to the west of Dundee. The 400 staff and students of SCRI and the University of Dundee have well equipped laboratory, glasshouse and field facilities in which to conduct excellent research.

Research focusses on processes that regulate the growth of plants and their responses to pests, pathogens and the environment. It includes genetics to breed crops with improved quality and nutritional value as fast as possible. By understanding the plant's responses to pests and diseases and how they react to the soil, air and water around them, environmentally friendly and sustainable methods of protecting crops from the ravages of pests, diseases and weeds are developed.

For more information about the Scottish Crop Research Institute and what we do, please contact:

Sarah Stephens, Science Communication Officer  
Scottish Crop Research Institute, Invergowrie  
Dundee DD2 5DA  
Tel: +44 (0)1382 562731  
Fax: +44 (0)1382 562426  
Email: [info@scri.ac.uk](mailto:info@scri.ac.uk)  
Website: [www.scri.ac.uk](http://www.scri.ac.uk)