

Research department / The Henry Doubleday Research Association.

Contributors

Henry Doubleday Research Association. Research department.

Publication/Creation

Ryton-on-Dunsmore : Henry Doubleday Research Association, 1991.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/rv7wq9sc>

License and attribution

Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Undergraduate Project Journal

HDRA runs a scheme to assist undergraduate students involved in research projects related to organic agriculture and horticulture. Summaries of the student projects are published in HDRA's annual journal 'Undergraduate Projects in Organic Agriculture and Horticulture'. (Ed. Dr M Lennartsson and Dr P J C Harris).

The Future

We are expanding our research activities and welcome collaboration with scientific organisations and other interested parties. We are involved in producing a comprehensive list of current organic research projects in agriculture and horticulture, for the UK.

Our future research programme will be planned in close liaison with Elm Farm Research Centre, Britain's other leading organic research organisation, specialising in organic agriculture.



Medicago Scutellata
(Snail medic)

The Henry Doubleday Research Association is a registered charity, carrying out scientific research into improved methods of organic growing, for amateur gardeners and commercial growers in the UK and sustainable agriculture and forestry in overseas countries.



Although the Association is entirely self funded it depends heavily on charitable donations to further its work.

If you would like to know more about the Research Department, please write to the Department Head, Dr Margi Lennartsson at the address below.

Donations and requests for further information about all aspects of the HDRA's work should be sent to the Executive Director, Jackie Gear at:-

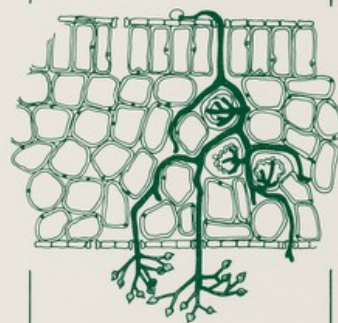
The Henry Doubleday Research Association
Ryton on Dunsmore
Coventry CV8 3LG

Tel. 0203 303517 Fax. 0203 639229

Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales, KG., KT., GCB.

RES/1/6/91

Research Department



The Henry Doubleday Research Association

Sustainable organic horticulture,
agriculture & forestry

Research at the HDRA

The Henry Doubleday Research Association, a registered charity, is the largest organisation in Europe researching, demonstrating and promoting environmentally friendly, organic growing and gardening.

Scientific research activities are co-ordinated from the Association's headquarters at the National Centre for Organic Gardening in the Midlands, where we have 7 acres of research grounds, laboratories and glasshouses. The Research Department is headed by Dr Margi Lennartsson.

Aims

Our research programme seeks to improve organic horticulture and to this end we identify current research needs and carry out scientific research on specific topics. Our current research programme covers a wide range of subjects including: vegetable variety selection, plant and soil nutrition, studies on green manures, pest and disease control and development of peatless growing media.

Collaboration

We work closely with other scientific organisations, nationally and internationally and we are currently involved in collaborative



projects with a number of universities and polytechnics as well as with Horticulture Research International at Wellesbourne, Scottish Crops Research Institute, Elm Farm Research Centre, and the Horticultural Research Station at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Funding

Our research is primarily funded from our own resources though some projects are in receipt of external financial support from agencies such as MAFF, The Guild of St George and industrial sponsors.

Trifolium incarnatum
(Crimson clover)



Distribution of Results

Our research findings are published on a regular basis via scientific papers, articles in the scientific and general press and through National and International Conferences. We organize a number of specialist open days and seminars at our research grounds.

An expansive list of our projects 'Current Research Projects of the Henry Doubleday Research Association', is available.

Current Research Projects

Vegetable Varieties and Unusual Crops

- ❖ NIAB variety trials
- ❖ Potato variety trials
- ❖ Cultivation and performance of unusual tuber crops
- ❖ Seed library variety trials / unusual vegetables

Plant and Soil Nutrition

- ❖ Adularian shale as a source of potassium
- ❖ Russian comfrey as a source of plant nutrients

Green Manuring

- ❖ Primary screening of winter green manures and short term summer green manures
- ❖ Nutrient dynamics of green manuring
- ❖ Effects of green manuring on soilborne diseases
- ❖ Intercropping with green manures

Control of Weeds, Pests and Diseases

- ❖ Mechanical control of weeds
- ❖ Biological control of slugs
- ❖ Sodium bicarbonate as a fungicide
- ❖ Preliminary screening of botanical insecticides

Organic Growing Media

- ❖ Development of peatless growing media for organic horticulture