

# What Do You Want Out Of Organic Food & Farming Research?

Defra funded project OF0350 on behalf of ACOS.



# **Background.**

- **Defra funded project OF0350.**
  - ◆ **What requirements have previously been published.**
  - ◆ **What research has taken place.**
  - ◆ **Public consultation throughout the UK.**
  - ◆ **Study of the consultation process.**
- **Using your input into workshops, ACOS will advise Defra on the future direction of research and development for organic farming.**

# **Boundaries.**

- **Need to address the Organic Action plans.**
- **Within organic principles.**
- **Deliverable through R&D.**

# English Organic Action Plan.

- **Objectives.**
  - ♦ to develop the organic sector in line with consumer demand.
  - ♦ to maintain consumer confidence in the integrity of organic food, and to ensure that consumers have access to accurate information about the standards to which it is produced.
  - ♦ to encourage all parts of the organic food chain to work in partnership.
  - ♦ to provide organic farmers, growers and processors in England with the market information they need to develop their businesses successfully.
  - ♦ to ensure that consumer demand for organic produce results in tangible benefits for the English countryside and English wildlife, by increasing British farmers' share of the organic food market.

# Draft IFOAM principles.

- **The Principle of health.**
  - ♦ Organic Agriculture should sustain and enhance the health of soil, plant, animal and human as one and indivisible.
- **The Ecological principle.**
  - ♦ Organic Agriculture should be based on living ecological systems and cycles, work with them, emulate them and help sustain them.
- **The Principle of fairness.**
  - ♦ Organic Agriculture should be built upon relationships that ensure fairness with regard to the common environment and life opportunities.
- **The Principle of care.**
  - ♦ Organic Agriculture should be managed in a precautionary and responsible manner to protect the health and well-being of current and future generations and the environment.

# Research & Development.

- **Research** ([www.cogsci.princeton.edu](http://www.cogsci.princeton.edu)):
  - ◆ Systematic investigation to establish facts.
- **Development** ([www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov))
  - ◆ Systematic use of the knowledge or understanding gained from research.