
PG Economics Limited

Statement of Capability & Experience

Specialist providers of independent advisory and consultancy services to agriculture and other natural resource-based industries

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PG Economics: who we are

PG Economics Limited is a specialist provider of advisory and consultancy services to agriculture and other natural resource-based industries. Our specific areas of specialisation are plant biotechnology, agricultural production systems, regulatory impact assessment, agricultural markets and policy.

The Company's two directors are Peter Barfoot and Graham Brookes who formed PG Economics in 1999. Both have worked at senior positions in agricultural consultancy and technology businesses.

Core areas of expertise

The combination of experience provides the Company with complementary skills and capabilities to undertake ad hoc assignments, on-going management consultancy and advice in the following core areas:

- Commercialisation of new technology/biotechnology
- Regulatory impact assessment
- Farm economics and competitiveness
- Market dynamics & economics
- Market intelligence gathering & interpretation
- Technical & commercial auditing of technology
- Technical & market knowledge management
- Policy interpretation & analysis
- Value chain analysis & assessment.

Client base

Our clients come from both public and private sectors. These include the leading biotechnology companies, agro-chemical manufacturers, seed companies & plant breeders, animal feed ingredient manufacturers, breakfast cereal manufacturers, oilseed crushers, food processors, starch/sweetener manufacturers, farmers' organisations, trade associations, UK government and the European Commission.

Expertise base

This largely derives from the experience and knowledge of the directors of PG Economics:

Graham Brookes

An economist by training, he has 24 years experience of providing economic & market analysis & consulting services to both private and public sector customers. Graham has in-depth knowledge of the markets and supply chain developments in many sectors including cereals, oilseeds, rice, sugar, dairy, wine, potatoes, meat and processed product derivatives (including starch, flour, animal feed, oils, meals/proteins, beer and alcoholic spirits). He has considerable experience and understanding of farm economics and competitiveness, policy issues and impact on markets and of undertaking regulatory and policy impact assessments. He is also a specialist in assessing relative competitiveness and the economic and environmental impact of new technology, such as the genetic modification of crops

Peter Barfoot

An agricultural economist with 25 years experience in the agricultural biotechnology industry and in consultancy. Peter worked at the Agricultural Genetics Company for 12 years in project management, business planning and development. He has a good understanding of technology and its application in agricultural and food markets. He has written and completed many market research projects on the market development and exploitation of agricultural biotechnology. He is a specialist in the environmental impact of biotechnology crops, notably relating to their impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

Examples of recent experience and publications of the Company's Directors

2010

Global - The economic and environmental impact of GM crops 1996-2008. Published paper on www.pgeconomics.co.uk. Also peer reviewed paper in 2010 Agbioforum 13, 1.

Global – The production and price impact of biotechnology in global markets for corn, canola and soybeans. AgBioforum (2010) 13, 1

EU – Economic impact assessment of the EU's Nutrition and Health Claims Regulation, for the European Health Claims Alliance

2009

Global - the economic and environmental impact of GM crops 1996-2007. Published paper on www.pgeconomics.co.uk and in Agbioforum 12, 2

EU – Examination and quantification of socio-economic criteria and impacts of biotech crops globally

EU – Update of economic and environmental impact of BT (insect resistant) maize in the EU and quantification of benefits foregone from limited adoption

Europe – European arable crop profit margins 2008-09. Publication covering the profitability of arable crop production in 27 European countries (EU plus Turkey). Includes coverage of oilseed profitability in 27 European countries

EU – Forecasting EU crop profitability and areas of key arable crops for 2010/11 – multi client report with LMC International

Scotland – input into project examining the impact of innovation support to the agri-food sector in Southern Scotland – with Promar International, for the Scottish Executive

2008

Global - the economic and environmental impact of GM crops 1996-2006. Published paper on www.pgeconomics.co.uk and version in peer reviewed journal Agbioforum 11 1, 21-38

World – World rice price prospects to 2016 – briefing paper forecasting future developments for the UK Rice Association

EU - The impact of using GM insect resistant maize in Europe since 1998, International Journal of Biotechnology (2008) vol 10, 2/3

EU – Forecasting future crop plantings of cereals, oilseeds and sugar beet in 2013/2014 for key EU countries post CAP reform changes expected in 2008/09. For a private client

EU – Economic impact of low level presence of not yet approved GMOs on the EU food sector. Case studies of impact on the EU rice and soy using sectors

2007

Global – Cost competitiveness of different origin rice trading in the EU and optimal location of processing facilities – for a private client

EU- Economic impact assessment of the EU novel foods regulation. For CIAA and PIE

Europe – European arable crop profit margins 2006-07. A published reference book covering arable crop (cereals, oilseeds, pulses, potatoes and sugar beet) profit margins for 2006, in 27 European countries (EU plus Turkey)

EU – Current and likely future developments in the CAP (to 2013). Undertaken for a private client

Global - the economic and environmental impact of GM crops 1996-2005. Published paper in agbioforum 9 (3) 1-13

UK – the economic impact on the UK economy from failure to embrace agricultural biotechnology – for the Department of Trade and Industry

Earlier years

Slovakia - the likely impact of adopting GM cost reducing technology on arable cropping profitability in Slovakia to 2012 (2006)

EU - Co-existence of GM and non GM crop arable crops: current practice and key principles for best management (2004). Published paper on www.pgeconomics.co.uk

EU - GM and non GM crop co-existence case studies: maize in Spain (2003), the UK (2003)

Germany - Evaluation of the soy communication and promotion programme in Germany 1999-2002. Undertaken for the American Soybean Association

EU - Paper on the possible impact of the Mid Term Review policy changes in the EU on US soybean interests (2003). Undertaken for the American Soybean Association

Romania - The farm level impact of using herbicide tolerant soybeans in Romania (2003). A study of the impact of Roundup Ready soybean use on farm yields, costs of production, profitability and herbicide use. Published paper in Agbioforum 8,4

UK - The possible farm level impact of using GM crops in the UK (2003). Research undertaken for the UK Cabinet Office

Spain - The farm level impact of Bt maize in Spain (2002). Published paper examining the economic impact of using bt maize on crop protection practices, yields, costs of production, income and the environment

EU - Impact of the Mid Term Review proposals on selective arable cropping in Europe to 2008 (2002)

EU - Soymeal buying practices and quality requirements in the EU. A survey of animal feed compounders and users in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the UK.

Focused on buying procedures and requirements, origins purchased, quality control procedures and testing, GM versus non GM issues and future expected requirements (2002)

What PG Economics can do to assist you

We can undertake ad hoc consultancy projects, on-going management consultancy and intelligence gathering. Please contact either Peter Barfoot or Graham Brookes to discuss your requirements.

We can be contacted by email, telephone fax and post at:

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