

AGRONOMY & CROP IMPROVEMENT

- GVA of the food and farming sector in the East of England will grow from around £8bn in 2010 to around £16bn in 2020.
- Its contribution to the overall economy enlargement will increase from 7 to 11%*
- Most growth will come from increased production and added value, renewable energy and renewable materials.
- More natural products will be used in composites, textiles, construction, biofuels, fertilisers, medicine, cosmetics and animal care.
- Areas of innovation can be seen in on-farm renewables, fibre crops, essential oil crops, pharmaceutical crops, biomass crops, functional foods, biofertilisers and biopesticides
- This will help to reduce:
 - the UK dependency on fossil fuels.
 - the carbon footprint of the construction and automotive sectors.
 - the environmental impact of agriculture and food production.
 - the health risks associated with the use of synthetic chemical products
- Practical examples can be seen in the use of natural fibres in car parts and building materials; landscaping mats used along motorways and crop and animal protection products from plant derived oils

INCROPS CAN HELP BY:

- Offering advice on agribusiness opportunities, supply chains, new crop opportunities and climate adaptation
- Facilitating design and management of trials on alternative crops and products such as oils, fibres, essential oils)
- Enabling links to funding sources for research and development
- Offering consultation on biological crop and animal protection