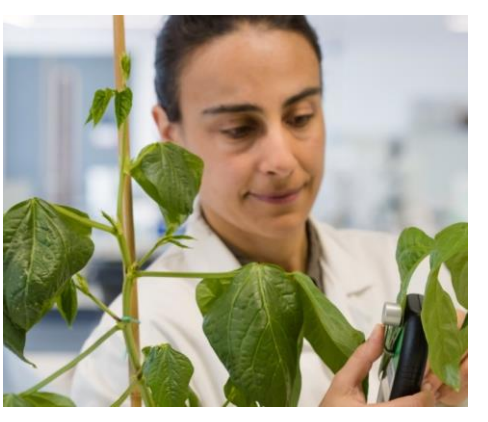
DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE WHEAT

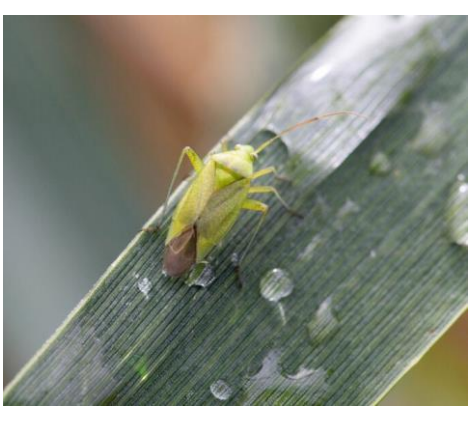
July 2025

We are pleased to present the July 2025 edition of our newsletter. Recent highlights from across DSW include:

[Fungal Protein Critical to Causing Fusarium Head Blight in Cereal Crops Revealed]



[Lancaster's plant scientists are on a mission to tackle global food security]



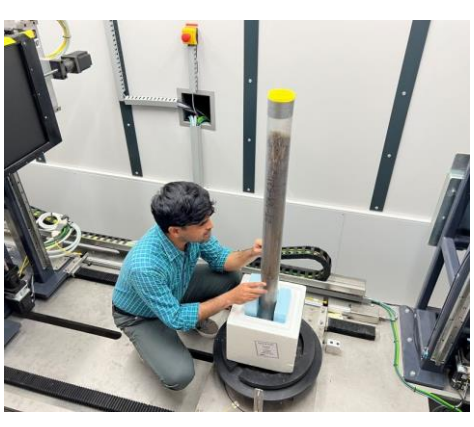
[Cereals 2025: Send in aphid samples, growers urged]

ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

Plant Processes Matter

Sajjad Raza's work on soil carbon was featured in Nature Climate Change as a research highlight: Plant processes matter. A prestigious honour – congratulations, Sajjad!

As part of DSW's work package 1, Sajjad and his collaborators are studying the impact of reduced cultivation practices on soil structure and root architecture. In June, the team took 1-meter-deep soil cores from their ongoing field experiment at Rothamsted. The experiment includes two tillage treatments (conventional tillage and zero tillage) and four wheat genotypes, with a total of 32 cores collected. All the cores have been scanned using X-ray computed tomography and the images are being processed for soil structural analysis. In the next phase, the roots will be segmented for architectural analysis. See pictures below.



JIC Breeder's Day

Approximately 70 stakeholders including agronomists, plant breeders, processors, government representatives and funders attended the 2025 JIC Breeders Day at the JIC Field Station. Participants came to get a better understanding of JIC's latest research, to catch up with collaborators and review crop traits. Simon Griffiths, Simon Orford and Noam Chayut (pictured below) all gave talks.

Rothamsted at Cereals 2025

Rothamsted were at the Cereals 2025 event in Leadenham, Lincolnshire, meeting with growers, agronomists, policy makers and industry. Pictured below left, Petros Sigalas at the Rothamsted plot. Pictured below right, Malcolm Hawkesford speaking with Robbie Moore, Shadow Minister for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Glombik et al. 2025. Rapid reprogramming and stabilization of homoeolog expression bias in hexaploid wheat biparental populations.

Raza et al. 2025. Missing the input: the underrepresentation of plant physiology in global soil carbon research.

Seung et al. 2025. Old player, new roles: defining the role of the plastidial phosphorylase.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

25 Sept 2025, 14:00	DSW Online Talk - Abdul Kader Alabdullah, JIC
14 Oct 2025, 10:00	DSW Online Talk - Scott Boden, Uni of Adelaide
6 Nov 2025, 14:00	DSW Online Talk - Noam Chayut, JIC
3 Dec 2025, 14:00	DSW Online Talk - Catherine Evans, RRes & Matthew Paul, RRes

STAY CONNECTED