The Food and Environment Research Agency

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Our Purpose

• Fera brings together the Central Science Laboratory (CSL), the UK Government Decontamination Service (GDS), the Plant Health and Seeds Inspectorate (PHSI), Plant Varieties and Seeds Division (PVS) and Plant Health Division (PHD).

• The creation of Fera will help to strengthen Defra’s food, farming and environmental research programmes in support of the Department’s objectives, through its work in:
  • food chain safety
  • plant and crop protection
  • environmental risk assessment
  • wildlife management
  • emergency response
Our role

• Regulation
  • Policy and inspectorate functions for plant health, bee health and plant varieties and seeds

• Research
  • Robust scientific research, analysis and evidence for government and commercial customers worldwide

• Response
  • Advice, guidance and support as part of the UK’s capability to respond and recover in emergency situations