

CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 DEMO DAY →

# Cultivate

Cultivate 1.0 - Welcome



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CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 - INTRODUCTION

Harper Adams University, the UK's leading agricultural university, is partnering with Barclays Eagle Labs to deliver a 10-week support programme for AgriTech businesses. Cultivate is a virtual 'pre-accelerator' programme aimed at young but ambitious businesses operating within the sector, to help them position themselves for future growth. The fully funded 10-week programme will include a series of half-day workshops, held online, with topics ranging from vision and sustainability to upscaling production and routes to market. There will also be further opportunities for one-to-one discussion as each business will be supported via specialist mentors. Each mentor will be a sector expert who can help advise and guide the business throughout the 10-weeks. In addition, for the duration of the programme, participants will gain access to the facilities and services of UK-wide Eagle Labs network, which includes co-working and 'makerspaces' for rapid prototyping, with equipment including laser cutters, 3D printers and electronics stations, as well as exclusive access to community events.

**"I feel already more confident to apply methods or models I already know and enrich them or improve them as I am getting more useful insights from the Programme."**



Cultivate 1.0 provided a structured and fast paced step up for the businesses who wished to take their products, processes and services to the next level. It was open to businesses from across the UK and has been delivered by Harper Adams University, the UK's leading agricultural university, supported by Barclays Eagle Labs, a pool of industry wide mentors and guest joining us within the sessions. The programme focused on supporting agri-tech and agri-food companies who are ready to take the next step in their business journey, by helping them focus on where they started, where they are now and where they want to be. Some of the core sessions included finance, access to funding, upscaling production, sustainability and routes to market. Using methods such as Doughnut Economics, Triple Chasm and Value Proposition fine tuning the Vision and Purpose of each business.

CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 INTRODUCING THE FOUNDERS →

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Cultivate 1.0 - Businesses



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"In five years time, we would like to have a vertical farm set up and trading the produce. Set up accredited and non-accredited courses in our vertical farm for the autism and marginalised individual community. Set a model of vertical farming for special needs and look for options of rolling this out to other locations."

"I want to be able to offer a better more informed service. The nature of our work offers a fantastic opportunity to learn and much of this is through trial and error during production and testing. With greater knowledge I hope to reduce turnaround time and produce better solutions for testing."

"Our vision is to democratise healthy food through sustainable processing and production. Our business purpose is to revolutionise the commercial food processing industry by providing smart and green drying and cooking technology."

"We want to be the premier solution provider for agri-food by-product exploitation and valorisation. Production or technology licencing for various 'green' products in packaging, agriculture, food and cosmetics."

"In the next 5 years I would like the business model to be the reverse of the present day. I have sketched out what a focused business will require to run effectively and profitably - so, that is the target."

"Operate multiple sites and mini farms, having developed/adopted cutting edge tech, IOT and AI, providing fresh locally grown produce to the communities we serve. Integrating other cultivars (fruit and veg) in our model and expanding our selection of products."

"In 5 years time we would be the first to have created a Automated Commercially Viable Vertical Farm"

"I would like to have evolved the business to be supplying high end retail stores and to have progressed with other food products."

"Our vision is to have various applications of our modular robot platforms that can suit different growers and different farm sizes. We think this is particularly beneficial for small farms that are currently left behind by robotic innovations that are prohibitively large and expensive."

"In 5 years time, we will start mass production of our product for greenhouse farmers, seed breeding companies and horticulture companies in general.

In 10 years time, we plan to scale up our product to generate large amount of nitrogen fertilizer in-situ for open-field farms.

In 20 years time, we hope to contribute significantly to increasing sustainability of the agriculture sector to move towards achieving net zero emissions."

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Maria Lekanidi & Neema Sedighi

Mildtech technology takes the most innovative approach to cook food and dry raw materials retaining their full organoleptic and nutritional properties.

The Integrated Artificial Intelligence system enables rapid re-constitution of preserved foods and provides speed and convenience in the daily preparation of premium quality meals, snacks and dry processed products.

Our technology benefits the domestic, catering and industrial sectors

Winner of an EU seed grant from Horizon 2020, enabled the company to reach the top of the food equipment sector and contributed to the firm's recent success at the UK Enterprise Awards 2020.



<https://mildtech.uk/>

Anita Yakkundi

AusomeGrowSome CIC is currently being set up as a hydroponics-based centre to grow green produce and provide training opportunities for marginalised individuals. It aims to address both business and social issues through 1) sustainable cultivation of green produce through hydroponics all year round and 2) provide training and employment opportunities to young adults on the autism spectrum and associated difficulties. We aim to set up the container farms and grow green produce and develop sustainable models of local source of food cultivation using the all year-round hydroponic production, reducing food imports and offer this as a local community hub to not just grow food but also raise awareness of healthy eating in the community.



<https://ausomegrowsome.org.uk>

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**AGRIFOODX**

Dr Catherine Birch and Prof Graham Bonwick

AgrifoodX Limited (AFX) is a start-up microbusiness that is based in the Biorenewables Development Centre, York.

The business activities reflect the prior academic and industrial research and innovation experience of its founders. These have encompassed areas including biomedicine, biotechnology, environmental and agri-food sciences.

Our mission is to promote the circular economy and to provide research and development services to valorise waste and innovate in sustainable bio-based packaging. This can be summarised as achieving 'wealth from waste'.

Our vision is 'Green Solutions for a Blue Planet'. To generate market leading bioplastic products and obtain high value chemicals using sustainable (green) technologies.

[www.agrifoodx.com](http://www.agrifoodx.com)

Octavian Tamba

Based in London, titbit! is an urban vertical farm, growing and distributing fresh produce hyper-locally.

Experience top tier freshness and flavour through our range of Microgreens superfoods, straight to your door! Leveraging the latest technologies in hydroponics and lighting, at titbit! we're using a fraction of the resources to get higher yields as compared to conventional agriculture practices, all done as close to you as possible, to maximise shelf life and vitamin content so you can get the most out of your Microgreens!

Ultimately, we aim to promote healthier eating habits, instil and educate a sense of responsibility in one's food supply and contribute to the overall well-being of our community.

<https://tit-bit.co.uk/>



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Arturo Lopez Suazo

Green Futures Biofuel is a vertical farming business that has a vision of a better future.

Our aim is to empower local and sustainable food production WHEREVER, WHENEVER by working with local governments, communities and organisations to bring food production closer to home.

As a forward-thinking company made up of compassionate individuals, we're entirely dedicated to the environment. Putting our heads together, innovating, and pushing new farming technologies forward are at the heart of our ethos.



<https://www.greenfuturesbiofuel.com/>

Burak Karadag

Debye is a start-up company developing low-cost portable nitrogen fertiliser machines based on plasma (ionized gas). The company aims to democratize access to nitrogen fertiliser for smallholder farmers by decentralizing fertiliser production in a completely sustainable way. We develop mobile nitrogen fertiliser machines to provide liquid nitrogen fertiliser (PAW) at low cost/affordable price in a decentralised way i.e. on the field. Decentralised production can resolve the bottleneck around nitrogen fertiliser supply in SSA.

It will directly benefit to the poorest people live in rural areas, bring "technology justice" by disrupting the fertiliser value chain, and help reducing hunger and poverty in Africa as well as other developing countries.

<https://debye.co.uk>

## DEBYE



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Dave Kilbey

In addition to bespoke software development, we also offer a unique no-code mobile data collection platform – Coreo (<https://coreo.io/>). New to market, Coreo is set to become a major part of the business over the coming years.

Coreo is the no-code solution to building and running spatial data collection projects. Create apps in minutes, view and manage your data and users effortlessly. We know that data is critical to protecting the environment, to helping us make sense of the world around us, to enabling people to live better, healthier lives and to helping businesses be more efficient and effective. That's why we created Coreo. Build apps in minutes. Change your understanding of the world forever.

<https://coreo.io/>

Zoe Stockton



Antobot is an early-stage start-up founded in 2019 focused on developing affordable robotics for sustainable agriculture. We closed our seed round funding in early May 2021 with a £1.2 million strategic investment from Intron Technologies, an automotive electronic solutions provider in China.

Antobot develops highly integrated automotive-grade universal Robot Control Units (uRCU®) – the “brain”, both hardware and software, for intelligent mobile robots. With its universal, configurable, and reliable design, uRCU® could be applied to a very wide range of mobile robotics applications, particularly suitable for off-road and harsh environments in the agriculture industry. Antobot also develops agricultural mobile robot platforms and specific agricultural robotics solutions based on the uRCU®.

[www.antobot.co.uk](http://www.antobot.co.uk)



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Tim Franklin

We offer a fusion of British and Polish flavours in a pillow of Dumpling Dreaminess. I would like to evolve the business to be supplying high end retail stores and to have progressed with other food products. Olitory Kitchen is part of Bonsai Group Ltd based in Telford selling to retail and we attend markets and food events.

[www.olitorykitchen.co.uk](http://www.olitorykitchen.co.uk)

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Dan Griffiths

Huffle Design Ltd, was created and registered in September 2018 by Dan Griffiths. We are a small engineering business offering a quality, bespoke service with a friendly, personal touch.

Our engineering services are available to machinery owners and operators, machinery manufacturers, importers and dealers and any person requiring assistance to move their engineering project forwards.

A brief background to myself that has led to the conception of the business; I have been involved in agricultural engineering all my life, through both childhood and professional career.

Bringing mechanical and systems solutions through engineering design, project management and engineering consultancy services, Huffle Design Ltd is ready to take on your next challenge. Whether you are looking to reduce maintenance costs, reduce labour and/or improve output from an existing system we will be happy to investigate your options and assist with the implementation of your chosen solution

<https://huffedesign.co.uk/>



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We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Partners, Mentors, Guest Speakers and Facilitators.

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CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 - OUR MENTORS



Simon Scott - Venture Manager

Shane Stark - Business Doctors

Dr Sam Hoste - Quantech  
Solutions (UK) Ltd

Sebastian Sonyera - Fresca  
Group

Christopher Jones - Integrity  
Partnership

Becky Withers - Zebra PR Ltd

Lindsey Rollings - Zebra PR Ltd

Brendan Digney - Machine Eye  
Technology

Christophe Graf Grote - Advisor  
Food & Farming Industry



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Matt Yarranton - iSpaniel  
Hugo Christie - Taylor Vinters  
LLP  
Oliver McEntyre - Barclays  
Shane Stark - Business  
Doctors  
Christopher Jones - Integrity  
Partnership  
Daria Batukhtina - Kubuto  
Innovation Center Europe  
Robyn Townsend - Barclays

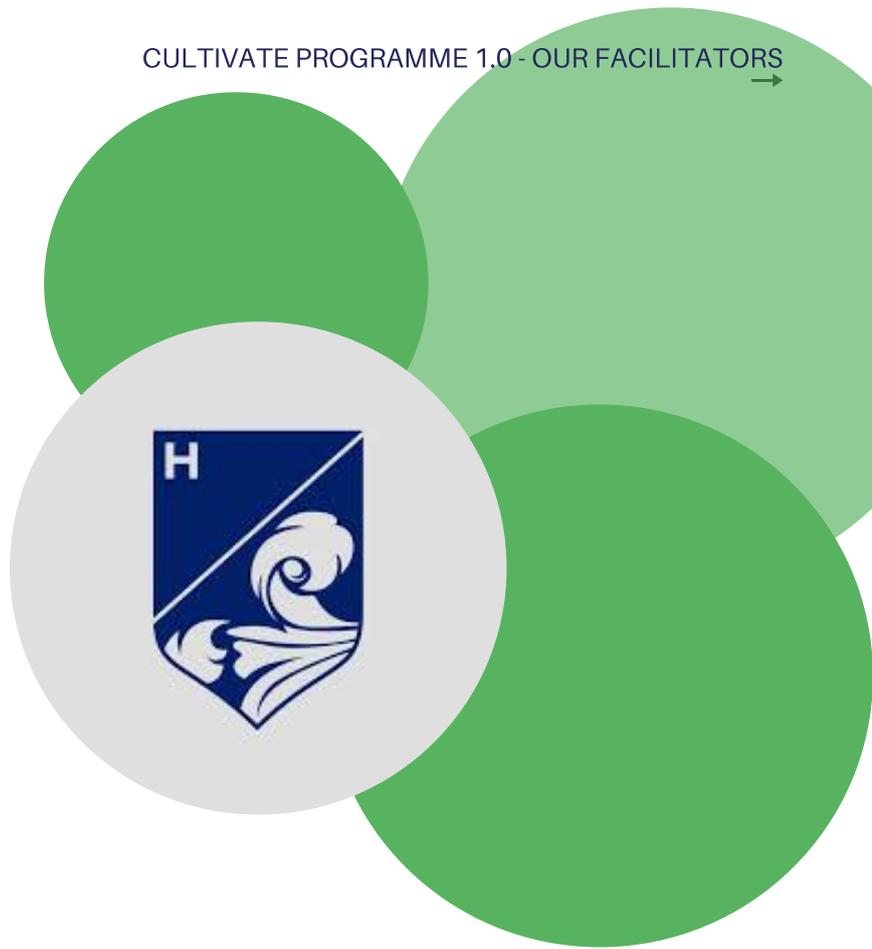
CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 - GUESTS →



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CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 - OUR FACILITATORS →

Rebecca Payne  
Polly Gibb  
Rose Judeh-Elwell  
Jane Headley  
Richard Heath  
Simon Thelwell  
Dr Trisha Toop  
Geoff Underwood  
Emma Cantillion



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CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 - PARTNERS →



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If you would like to discuss the Demo Day, Cultivate 1.0 or future programmes, please contact us

[www.cultivateprogramme.com](http://www.cultivateprogramme.com)

[cultivate@harper-adams.ac.uk](mailto:cultivate@harper-adams.ac.uk)

CULTIVATE PROGRAMME 1.0 - CONTACT 

