



Medicinal Plants: From Crop to Cure?

Tuesday 29 March 2011

SCI HQ, London, UK

Organised by SCI's BioResources and Horticulture Groups



- 09.00 Registration & refreshments
- 10.00 **Chairman's welcome & introduction**
- 10.15 **Hydroponic cultivation of medicinal plants**
Dr Chryssa Dimaki, Newcastle University
- 10.45 **Herbal medical products – evidence-based or traditional medicines?**
Prof Michael Heinrich, Head of Centre for Pharmacognosy and Phytotherapy, The School of Pharmacy, London University
- 11.15 Refreshment break
- 11.30 **Medicinal plants: new uses and new mechanisms**
Dr Paul Chazot, Senior Lecturer in Neuropharmacology, Durham University
- 12.00 **Regulatory issues for commercialisation of plant based medicines**
Dr Melanie Pires, Senior Pharmaceutical Assessor, MHRA
- 12.30 **Panel discussion, questions & answers**
- 13.00 Lunch
- 13.50 **Chairman's introduction**
- 14.00 **Manufacturing of Herbal Extracts-Types, Techniques and GMP**
Dr Frank Waimer, Head of Quality, Dr Willmar Schwabe Pharmaceuticals
- 14.30 **Medicinal cannabis development – from Bench to Bedside**
Dr David Potter, Director of Botanical Research, GW Pharma Ltd
- 15.00 **Panel discussion**
- 15.30 **Keynote Address: Unlocking the power of plants**
Prof Monique Simmonds, Deputy Keeper of the Jodrell Laboratory and Head of the Sustainable Uses of Plants Group, RBG Kew
- 16.00 **Closing discussion**
- 16.15 Close



Synopsis

Many claims are made for medicinal properties in plants. Some fail the test of scientific analysis. Others provide valuable medicines to combat human disorders and disease.

It is not only "herbal medicines" that rely on plants for their existence. Many conventional medicines are either directly extracted from plants or plants have played a critical role in their development. Extracts from plants have found use to treat many areas of disease including cancer, heart and blood conditions, pain and neurological disorders.

This conference will integrate the science and commercial aspects and will span the sequence from plant to product (from growing the plant/crop, through processing and development, to treatment) and provide a platform for debating current issues in the development of medicinal plant products.

Attendees

This is a 'must attend' meeting for academic, industrial and regulatory scientists; policy advisors, practitioners, pharmacists and health professionals in natural medicines; business and industry executives from natural product and medical supplement companies involved in their commercialisation; growers, especially existing herb growers interested in diversification; curators of herbal and medicinal plant collections.

Organisers

Alison Foster, University of Oxford Botanic Garden

Richard Wilkins, Newcastle University

Peter Grimbley, SCI Horticulture Group

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Information on SCI

SCI is an international, independent charity whose remit is to promote the application of science for the benefit of society.

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