



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

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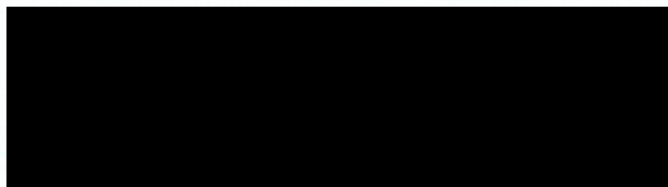
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*11 Oct* October 2013

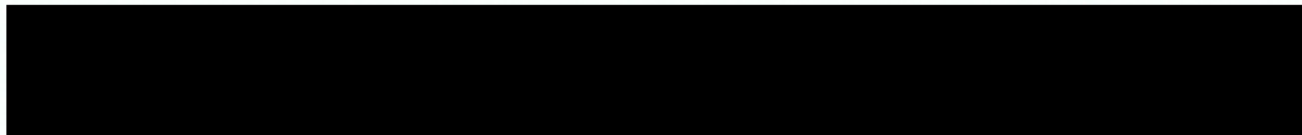
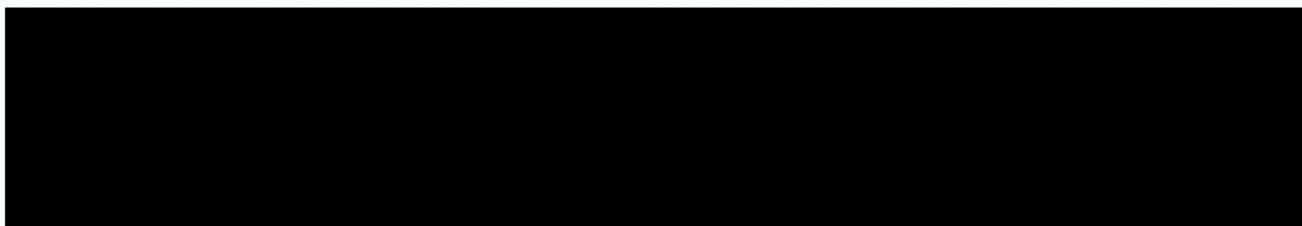
**The Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP**  
From the Secretary of State

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I was very interested to learn about your large scale research into the impact of neonicotinoids on bee health and behaviour. I have requested that Defra's Chief Scientist, Professor Ian Boyd, liaises closely with you on this. As you know, I attach great importance to establishing a robust scientific understanding that should underpin policy decisions on the use of such compounds.



*[Handwritten signature]*  
**THE RT HON OWEN PATERSON MP**



**INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE**