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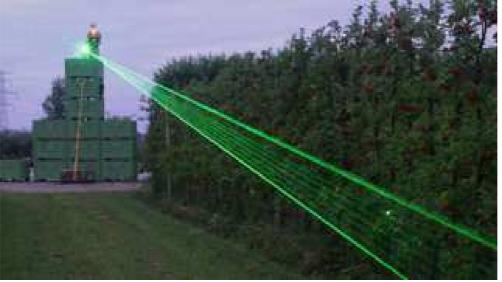
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Rat-scaring laser trial to guard crops

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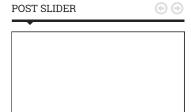
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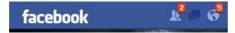
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Laser gentle may scare undesirable guests

Excessive-powered laser gentle can be used to guard <u>crops</u> from pests in a trial funded by the European Fee

Researchers at Liverpool John Moores <u>College</u> hope a "fence" of laser gentle will scare rats and different pests, proving an alternative choice to poison.





The know-how can be trialled in Scotland, the Netherlands and Spain beginning in November.

The Nationwide Farmers' Union (NFU) mentioned innovation was essential to help the farming business following Brexit.

The European Commission has contributed 1.7m euros (\$1.85m, £1.5m) to help the analysis, the Register stories.

"The laser has already been produced," Dr Alex Mason, venture co-ordinator of the Life Laser Fence venture, instructed the BBC.

"It is a business product utilized in plenty of conditions - however we're utilizing it in agricultural conditions, on a wider vary of species.

Picture copyright Life Laser Fence

Picture caption

Lasers are already used to repel birds

"It already works very effectively on birds. We hope it should work on rats, badgers, foxes and rabbits too."

The Agrilaser Autonomic is bought as a tool that repels birds, which "understand the approaching laser beam as a bodily hazard" and fly away, in line with the producer.

The researchers hope it should work simply as effectively on different undesirable animals, which might destroy crops, eat meals meant for livestock and might unfold illness.

Controlling pests with poisons can result in unintended victims akin to birds being killed too, so the trial hopes to cut back crop injury within the trial areas by 50%, whereas lowering hen publicity to pesticide by 80%.

Dr Helen Ferrier, chief science adviser of the NFU, mentioned: "Persevering with help and funding of the agri-tech sector is significant in making certain British science and innovation can attain extra farm companies.

"Agri-tech can allow the British farming business to change into extra environment friendly, scale back our waste, present instruments to handle volatility and a good, clear and functioning provide chain.

"An agri-tech sector we will depend on is extraordinarily essential within the face of potential political and financial modifications within the subsequent 5 to 10 years which may severely influence the farming business."



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