

John Simmons

Background and career history

A first degree in marine biology from the University of Wales was followed by a PhD in the field of environmental toxicology at what was then Trent Polytechnic.

My career in pest control started in the late 1980's when I joined National Pest Control (later National Britannia). As a technician, field biologist and service manager I gained extensive experience in a wide range of public health and food storage pest control activities.

As Technical Manager of the British Pest Control Association (BPCA), from 1992 to 1997, I was responsible for the Association's training and certification schemes.

As Technical Manager of Igrox, from 1997 to 2001, further commercial experience was gained, primarily in large sites storing or processing cereal-based food products.

I established Acheta Consulting Ltd in early 2001. It is a consultancy specialising in all aspects of pest management, with training and independent inspection and auditing the principal services. We work with many blue-chip food-manufacturing companies.

During 2006 I was the main driver behind the development of the BPCA's Certificated Field Biologist examination, being responsible for much of the content of that exam. I have since been awarded Honorary Field Biologist status, the certificate for which is shown on the next page.

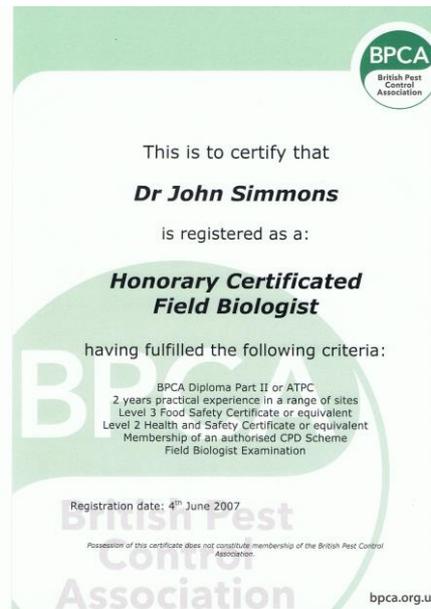
BPCA Pest Control Operators' Certificate of Proficiency, 1990



CIEH Advanced Food Hygiene, 1993



- **BPCA Certificated Field Biologist.** This is an honorary award, as John was instrumental in establishing this qualification and constructing the examination. He is not able to sit the exam, as he wrote most of it!



Member of the BASIS Prompt scheme. This is the pest control industry’s formally recognised scheme for promoting Continuing Professional Development.

Safety Passport Alliance, Core and Food, Safety Passport. This is a health and safety qualification widely recognised within the food and drink industry as a means of demonstrating a level of competence of contractor’s working within processing areas.

