

# The First World Congress on the use of Biostimulants in Agriculture

26-29 November, 2012

Strasbourg Congress Center, France

Agricultural biostimulants include diverse formulations of compounds, substances and other products that are applied to plants or soils to regulate and enhance the crop's physiological processes, thus making them more efficient. Biostimulants act on plant physiology through different pathways to improve crop vigour, yields, quality and post-harvest shelf life/conservation.

The congress will explore the acquired scientific and technical knowledge on these products, which are increasingly used in crop production around the world, as well as the various aspects of legislation on these products in the main markets, with a special focus on Europe.

[www.biostimulants2012.com](http://www.biostimulants2012.com)

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# CONGRESS PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

## Monday 26 November afternoon hours

- Registration
- Poster set-up
- Opening cocktail party

## Tuesday 27 November morning hours

- Opening session
- Standing Lunch in the Exhibition and Poster area

## Tuesday 27 November afternoon hours

- Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions

## Wednesday 28 November

- Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions
- Standing Lunch in the Exhibition and Poster area
- Parallel Scientific and Technical Sessions

## Thursday 29 November

- Closing session with concluding Scientific Remarks and Special Session on Legislation

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Scientific Committee: Pierdomenico Perata, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa (Italy).  
Co-chairs: Prof Patrick Brown, University of California Davis (USA) and Dr Michel Ponchet, INRA Sophia Antipolis (France).

## EXHIBITION

There will be a small exhibition area reserved for sponsors and supporting organizations.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Speakers from the private and public research and from the commercial sector to send us their proposal for lectures and posters by **May 15th, 2012**.

In order to be considered by the Congress Scientific Committee, the proposals will have to meet specifications (length, template, etc.) as described in the Abstracts submission section at the [www.biostimulants2012.com](http://www.biostimulants2012.com) dedicated website that will operate as from January 16th, 2012.

**Abstracts should be submitted online using the drop box provided at the same web link.**

Alternatively, organizers may accept submission by email Word attachment at [biostimulants@newagininternational.com](mailto:biostimulants@newagininternational.com)

The Congress Scientific Committee will review the abstracts to decide if they fit in the scope of the conference and will notify the authors of acceptance latest by **June 15th** for posters and **July 30th, 2012** for oral presentations.

English will be the official language of the conference and therefore all abstracts must be sent in this language and all papers/posters must be delivered in English. Simultaneous French translation will be provided if justified.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS The following list of world-class scientists will deliver keynote addresses

### Plants, Crops and Abiotic Stresses

**Prof Eduardo Blumwald**  
Professor of Cell Biology and Will W. Lester Chair,  
Department of Plant Sciences, University of  
California, Davis, (USA).



The research program conducted by Dr. Blumwald is multidisciplinary in nature, combining physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology to explore the mechanisms of plant response to abiotic stress (salt, drought, heat, etc.) Dr. Blumwald has made major contributions to understanding plant response to drought and salinity and is a pioneer in the development of new molecular approaches to understand crop response to stress.

### Plant Growth Promotion by Trichoderma

**Fungi**  
**Prof José López-Bucio**  
Institute for Research in Biology and Chemistry,  
Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo,  
Morelia, Michoacán, (México).



Prof López-Bucio received a PhD in plant biotechnology from the Center for Research and Advanced Studies (CINVESTAV) Campus Irapuato, Mexico, where in the Department of Genetic Engineering he later became associate professor. In 2002, as part of the México–USA program for training young scientists supported by the Mexican Academy of Sciences, José worked as a visiting scientist in the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology at Rice University, Texas, USA. José's research focuses on the integrated response of plant to phosphate deficiency, on plant 'sensing' and response to soil bacteria and fungi.

### Plant-microbe Interactions in Roots and Their Potential for Agronomic Applications

**Prof. Dr.Karl-Heinz Kogel**  
Research Centre for BioSystems, Land Use, and Nutrition (IFZ  
Giessen), Justus Liebig University Giessen, (Germany)



Since 1996 Dr Kogel is Professor at the Institute for Phytopathology and Applied Zoology (IPAZ), Justus Liebig University in Giessen, Germany. From 2006 to 2010 he was Vice-President of the Justus-Liebig-University. His research areas include Mechanisms of Disease Resistance in Cereals, Biological Plant Protection and Plant Biotechnology.

### Plant Responses to Nutrients

**Dr Gabriel Krouk**  
Department of Biochemistry and Plant Molecular  
Physiology



CNRS-IBIP - Montpellier, (France)  
Gabriel Krouk's work focuses on nitrate, a major mineral ion and the main source of nitrogen for plants, present in soil but also often rare. Dr. Krouk has made significant contributions to understanding how plants detect and respond to the presence and availability of nitrate in the soil. This research opens new paths towards improvements in plant nutrition.

### Seaweed Extracts as Plant Biostimulants: What do we know?

**Dr. B. Prithiviraj**  
Associate Professor (Marine Bioproducts)  
Department of Environmental Sciences, Nova Scotia  
Agricultural College Truro, (Canada)



Dr. Prithiviraj graduated with a Ph.D. from Banaras Hindu University, India and conducted Post-doctoral work at McGill University, Canada and Colorado State University, USA. He has authored over 80 peer reviewed articles and has three patents to his credit. The major focus of his laboratory is studying the use of seaweeds for improving plant, animal and human health.

### Plant Defenses Mechanisms: Academic Research and Crop Management

**Prof Jean-Pierre Métraux**  
Professor, Department of Biology, University of  
Fribourg, (Switzerland)



Before rejoining University circles in 1991, JP Métraux was Group Leader at the Agricultural Division, of the CIBA Group in Switzerland, then Head of Basic Research in Microbiology in the same Division. Today the research in the Plant Unit led by JP Métraux is generally directed at the interaction of plants and microorganisms. The Unit is interested both in antagonistic as well as symbiotic interactions using the most appropriate plants and molecular tools.

### The World Market for Biostimulants in Crop Production

**Giuseppe Natale**  
CEO, Valagro Spa (Italy) and President of European  
Biostimulants Industry Consortium



G. Natale is the founding member and CEO of Valagro spa, an Italian company belonging to the world leaders in the Research, Development and the supply of biostimulants to the AG markets. He is also the current President of the European Biostimulants Industry Consortium.

### A European Legislation on Biostimulants: where do we stand ?

**Speaker To Be Announced from EU Commission**  
European Commission - Brussels, Belgium



### The Legislative and Regulatory Approach to Biostimulants in the USA

**David G. Beaudreau Jr.**  
Vice President of Environmental Policy, DC  
Legislative and Regulatory Services, Washington DC, (USA)



David Beaudreau is the Vice President of Environmental Policy at DC Legislative and Regulatory Services. He has a degree in Political Science from Allegheny College and Master's Degree in Political Management from George Washington University. He is the Co-Chair of the Biostimulant Coalition recently set up in the USA. One of the main goals of the coalition is to work with AAPFCO (Association of American Plant Food Control Officials) to develop a set of standards for biostimulants products.

## REGISTRATION FEES

Online registration and payment will be available as from mid-January at [www.biostimulants2012.com](http://www.biostimulants2012.com). Alternatively, delegates will be able to register through a registration form with the option to pay by wire transfer at the same web link. All rates are in Euro, before VAT. VAT (currently at 19.6%) will be added.

	Before July 30th	After July 30th
DELEGATE FROM NON COMMERCIAL ENTITY	€ 510	€ 660
DELEGATE FROM COMMERCIAL ENTITY	€ 710	€ 860
STUDENT*	€250	€ 250
ACCOMPANYING PERSON	€ 120	€ 120

\*Please forward a copy of your student card by e-mail to [newag@newaginternational.com](mailto:newag@newaginternational.com) or by fax at +44 (0)208 549 76 44 should you wish to benefit from the student registration rate.

The registration fees for DELEGATES and STUDENTS cover:

- Admission to the scientific sessions, poster area and exhibition area
- The delegate's bag and documentation
- Congress proceedings
- Full list of attending persons with their contact details
- Welcome Reception on November 26th
- Lunches and coffee breaks according to the congress programme
- Certificate of attendance upon request
- A one year (2013) membership fee to the ISHS (International Society of Horticulture Science)

The registration fees for registered ACCOMPANYING PERSONS cover:

- Welcome Cocktail Reception on November 26th
- Lunches according to the congress programme

## TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

For pre & post conference extensions, please contact New Ag International travel partner office.

BIT Travel Solutions

Tel: +49 751 352 6196

Fax: +49 751 352 7879

E-mail: [info@BIT-TravelSolutions.de](mailto:info@BIT-TravelSolutions.de)

## VISA FOR FRANCE

There are visa requirements and exemption for France. We strongly recommend that you check for any update at the French Embassy/Consulate of your country.

## HOTEL ACCOMODATION

New Ag International has arranged for special delegates rates at a number of Strasbourg Hotels. Information will be online at [www.biostimulants2012.com](http://www.biostimulants2012.com).

## STRASBOURG

Welcome to Strasbourg, the cradle of Europe. It is here, at the border between France and Germany that a great number of European institutions have set up their headquarters. In total, Strasbourg is home to some 20 European institutions or international cooperation organizations, all situated together in the Wacken, an area in the north-east of the city, where the NATO summit is taking place and where the congress will take place. Like Geneva and New York, Strasbourg, without being a State capital, is a city of great international importance with a strong diplomatic presence (46 embassies, about 30 consulates).

Strasbourg is the 7th largest city in France. The city is chiefly known for its sandstone Gothic Cathedral with its famous astronomical clock, and for its medieval cityscape of Rhineland black and white timber-framed buildings, particularly in the Petite-France district.

Strasbourg has its own airport, serving major domestic destinations as well as international destinations in Europe and northern Africa. It may also be accessed by train from Basel, Frankfurt and even Zurich airports.

Train services operate from Gare de Strasbourg eastward to Offenburg and Karlsruhe in Germany, westward to Metz and Paris, and southward to Basel. Since June 2007, Strasbourg has benefited from the opening of the first phase of TGV Est (Paris-Strasbourg very fast train), which puts the centre of the city at hardly more than 2 hours from the center of Paris. More information on the city and what it offers can be found at <http://www.strasbourg.eu/en>

