

News Release



BASF expands production capacities of innovative biological solutions for agriculture and horticulture

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>>**Significant increase of production for a range of pest control and seed treatments for plant vigor**

>>**Expansion signals company's commitment to solutions beyond conventional crop protection**

>>**Inaugural event of expanded production site in Littlehampton, UK**

LITTLEHAMPTON, UNITED KINGDOM – October 1, 2015 – With the opening of its expanded Littlehampton, UK production site, BASF is strengthening its ability to sustainably meet the growing global demand for biological solutions for agriculture and horticulture. At this site, BASF increases its production volumes of beneficial nematodes and inoculants, moving ahead with its strategy to develop solutions beyond conventional crop protection.

"We are making significant investments in innovating and delivering the best in biological and chemical solutions. This will support our customers to produce more efficiently with an even better outcome while meeting the evolving expectations of society. Now and for the long-term we are committed to being an innovative partner in this dynamic area," said Philipp Rosendorfer, Vice President R&D Functional Crop Care.

World's largest production site for beneficial nematodes

The expansion will allow BASF to double production capacities for beneficial nematodes, which are microscopic organisms that can control a diverse range of insect and slug pests. With six different types of beneficial nematodes, BASF offers a unique global portfolio, including the Nemaslug® and Nemasys® products, each with a distinctive mode of action for customers in vegetable, horticulture, and turf.

"The demand for our beneficial nematodes has increased significantly over the past five years, with 2014 being our best year to date," explained Graeme Gowling, Global Biologicals Marketing, Functional Crop Care. "Our customers see an increasingly important role in using beneficial nematodes in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs, as they are easy to apply, have a longer window of activity and can effectively control yield-robbing pests," concluded Graeme.

Increasing availability of BASF's Seed Solutions

Additionally, the newly expanded site in Littlehampton will increase the supply of inoculants from BASF worldwide and especially to Europe and Africa. Inoculants are rhizobia bacteria

that, in a symbiotic relationship with their host legume plants, produce root nodules to conduct nitrogen fixation. BASF produces biological inoculants as an ingredient for highly effective seed treatments to enhance seed health, plant vitality and yield potential with key products such as Vault® HP in North America, Hi Coat® in Europe and South America, and NodulAid® in Australia.

"This development will advance our market leader position in high-quality seed treatment. Along with the production investments in Littlehampton and additional sites globally, we will continue strengthening our R&D and portfolio further," said Rosendorfer.

About BASF's Crop Protection division

With sales of more than €5.4 billion in 2014, BASF's Crop Protection division provides innovative solutions in crop protection, seed treatment and biological control as well as innovations to manage nutrients and plant stress. Its portfolio also includes products for turf and ornamental plants, pest control and public health. BASF Crop Protection is a leading innovator that partners with growers to protect and enhance crop yields, enabling them to produce high quality food more efficiently. By delivering new technologies and know-how, BASF Crop Protection supports growers to make a better life for themselves, their families and communities. Further information can be found on the web at www.agro.bASF.com or on our social media channels.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry – and have been doing so for 150 years. Our portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products and crop protection products to oil and gas. As the world's leading chemical company, we combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Through science and innovation, we enable our customers in nearly every industry to meet the current and future needs of society. Our products and solutions contribute to conserving resources, ensuring nutrition and improving quality of life. We have summed up this contribution in our corporate purpose: We create chemistry for a sustainable future. BASF had sales of over €74 billion in 2014 and around 113,000 employees as of the end of the year. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.bASF.com.

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