



ABIC 2004

12-15 September, Cologne, Germany

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CALL FOR POSTERS

Best three posters will win one delegate ticket.

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Infos on the Cologne Fair and Congress Center
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Dr. Bernward Garthoff | Chief Technology Officer
Photo: Bayer CropScience AG

Cologne, 02/02/2004

Why Bayer CropScience supports ABIC 2004

Bayer CropScience is pleased to be a participant in ABIC 2004. We recognise the importance to biotechnology in improving agricultural practices in a sustainable way, in both the developed and the developing worlds.

Bayer CropScience is committed to supporting such activities and has recently reaffirmed its commitment to the use of biotechnology in improving plants for food and non-food uses.

ABIC is an important forum for the discussion of the issues concerning agricultural biotechnology globally, and we welcome the opportunity to meet and share views with a broad range of participants

BioCampus Cologne, a project of SKI Standort Köln Immobilien GmbH & Co. KG, is with an area of 173,000 m² one of the largest biotechnology parks in Germany.

BioCampus Cologne offers life science companies prefabricated infrastructure, S1/S2 lab and office space ready for use and sufficient opportunities for further expansion.

BioCampus | Cologne

www.biocampuscologne.de

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visipix

ABIC is the acronym for

AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



MPIZ | field

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from all sectors. It is particularly important that ABIC 2004 will be held in Europe for the first time, when the debate on the adoption of GM crops in Europe and many other regions is at a critical stage. Even more, this is a chance to discuss recent legal moves such as the "Gentechnik-Gesetz" in Germany. We hope that this forum will help to advance the discussion of the role of biotechnology in agriculture so that the benefits can be more widely shared.

Dr. Bernward Garthoff
Chief Technology Officer
Bayer CropScience AG, Monheim

▶▶▶ NEWS

Biotechnology can boost European Food production

The latest ISAAA report (January 13th 2004) shows that the world-wide cultivation of transgenic plants is soaring, but the European countries are still hesitant about a commitment to the new technologies. A report of the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy (NCFAP), USA shows that this timid policy may be to Europe's disadvantage.



Male Corn flower | Photo: Biosicherheit

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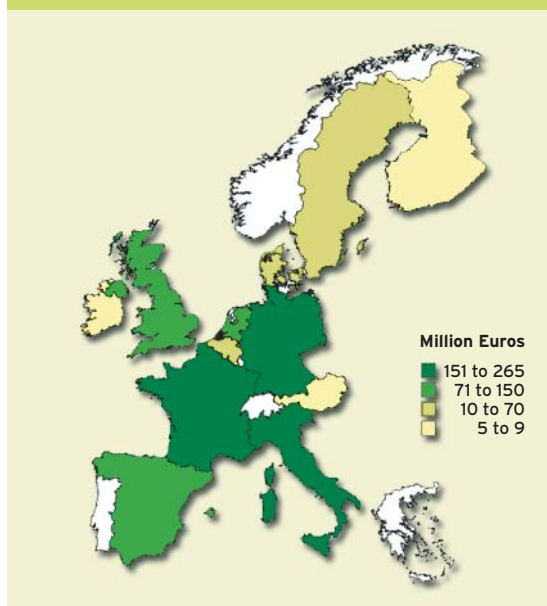
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Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Peter Welters

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Potential Net Farm Income Increases According to three Biotech Case Studies (Maize, Sugarbeet, Potato)



Source: NCFAP

The Impact of Plant Biotechnology on European Agriculture

Cultivation of Biotech crops that ward off diseases and pest could deliver the following annual results.

8.5 billion kg
more food
production

14.4 million kg
less pesticides
to be applied

1.6 billion €
increase farm
income

Source: NCFAP

For example, a 2002 study of the NCFAP showed that if growers would adopt the cultivars examined by NCFAP there would be an annual increase in production of 14 billion pounds and a pesticide reduction of 163 million pounds per year giving a net economic impact of US-\$2.5 billion per year.

A December 2003 report, based on nine case studies, documents that crops developed through biotechnological methods can enable European farmers to produce an additional 8.5 Billion kilograms of food annually and increase the annual farm income by more than 1.6 billion Euros. Moreover the usage of pesticides could be decreased by 14.4 million kilograms, reducing stress on the environment. Both Europe's farm business and Europe's consumers could substantially benefit.

The study is available at
www.ncfap.org/Europe.htm

February 12th, 2004

25th Nobel Laureate signs Declaration of Support for Agricultural Biotechnology



Dr. Richard J. Roberts, Nobel Laureate in Medicine has signed the AgBioworld declaration in support of agricultural biotechnology as was reported by AgBioworld.

The declaration is available at www.agbioworld.org. Since its start in 2000 more than 3400 interna-

tional scientists have endorsed this declaration. Dr. Roberts, who shared his Nobel price with Philip Sharp (who has endorsed the declaration earlier) of MIT in 1993 for their discovery of "split genes" and that genes could be discontinuously interspersed with "introns".

The declaration is available at
www.agbioworld.org.

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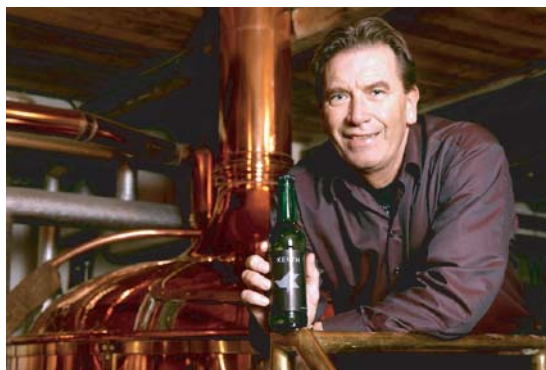
Larva of Corn Borer
Photo: Gerd Spelsberg | Biosicherheit

Ystad, Sweden, 29/01/2004

First GM-labelled Food available in Europe

A new GM beer produced in Ystad in southern Sweden has been launched on the Swedish market. The malt used for the beer production, is partially made of BT-Corn. This is the premiere for GM foods for Europe.

From April 2004, the new EU-legislation will require labelling of all genetically modified foods. But on January 29th, a new GM beer was already launched on the Swedish market. Moreover, the benefits from the genetic modification are being emphasized in the consumer marketing.



The beer, brewed in the southern Swedish town of Ystad, will according to the brewer be the very first food product where GM is used in the marketing of the product.

The beer is made from Bt-corn, which is resistant against attacks from the European corn borer (*Ostrinia nubilalis*). As a natural consequence the farmer needs to apply less pesticides and still get the same quality crop as before. 10 % of the malt is corn, the rest is barley.

"It is truly exciting to imagine that our small brewery is the very first company in Sweden to launch a new genetically modified raw material for the food industry." comments the brewer Kenth Persson.

This GMO labelled product will show how the consumers will decide if given the option to choose. Though European retailers say that the consumers do not want these products, but investigations about the consumer's opinion haven't been made yet.

A consumer survey conducted by SIFO (www.sifo.se), a Swedish market research company, in the autumn of 2003 revealed that 53% of Swedish consumers might consider buying a GM food product provided it is clearly labelled. Now they are given the chance to do so.

Source: Position Skåne AB Inward Investment www.invest.skane.se

Why will ABIC pay off for you?

There's more than one reason to support and attend the ABIC 2004 conference in Cologne. See, which reasons apply for you. ABIC is the date of choice for ...

... politicians: Because biotechnology has been intensively discussed in the public for several years and the public is asking what the whole technology is all about and who will get the benefits.

If you want first hand insights on what is in the pipeline and what benefits the application of biotechnology is offering in the production of food and feed, phytopharmaca (i.e. drugs from plants) or renewables; if you want to know why it is worthwhile to create a legal framework, which is not only guarantying safe products but which also give the products a chance to finally see the market - **ABIC is the right place to go.**

... scientists: Because people from important companies - breeders, agro chemists, pharmaceuticalists - are participating, who might be interested to bring on the market what you have just developed. If you are looking for business development possibilities - **ABIC is the right place to go.**

... industry representatives: Because scientists are joining, who present their product ideas and concepts. In addition we are looking forward to invite decision makers, i.e. politicians and journalists. If you want to take the chance to show these groups why it is worthwhile to create a legal framework that is not only guarantying safe products but which will also give the products a chance to finally see the market instead of being dumped by overregulation - **ABIC is the right place to go.**

... breeders: Because agbiotechnology is a new tool for the improvement of those products that you have a long experience working with: plants. If you want to know how to use the powerful tool of biotechnology to modify plants in a way you would like to see it - **ABIC is the right place to go.**

Dr. Jens Katzek



Hosted by Phytowelt
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CALL FOR POSTERS

Best three posters will win one delegate tickets.

You are invited to take part in the ABIC Poster Session competition.

The contest is open to all non-commercial institutions. The subject of the work presented should be in relation to the topics of the program (see below).

The best 3 posters selected by an independent committee will be awarded with a free ABIC 2004 delegate ticket. The deadline for poster submission is July 2nd, 2004.

For more details please contact the ABIC Organisation Office or mail to:

posters@abic2004.org

Trade Fair Conditions and Rates

Complementary with the conference, the business of AgBiotechnology will have the unique chance to present products and services. The Trade Fair will take place in the localities of the Cologne Fair. Main Sponsors will present in the especially well located exhibition area at the Auenplatz, which is the central place of the Congress Center West. Due to its immediate vicinity to the Netherlands, Belgium and France and being less than one flight-hour from Great Britain, the Cologne Fair is the place of choice to get in contact with European Customers and partners.



BOOTH RATES

In HALL 3 50 pre-equipped booths of 9 m² will be available. The price per square meter is Euro 250,- (+ V.A.T.). In addition, raw space is available with minimum size of 15 m²; the price for the raw space will be Euro 190,- (+ V.A.T.) per square meter.

9m² booth: Euro 2250,- (pre-equipped) + V.A.T.

15m² booth: Euro 2850,- (raw space) + V.A.T.

The full exhibitors manual will be sent to you on request.

DELEGATE REGISTRATION RATES

Prices include Breakfast, Lunch and Beverages

Regular Rate: Euro 750,- + V.A.T.
(after July 2nd 2004)

Academic Rate*: Euro 375,- + V.A.T.

Student Rate*: Euro 250,- + V.A.T.

One Day Delegate Rate: Euro 250,- + V.A.T.

Exhibitor Delegate Rate: Euro 250,- + V.A.T.

Group Discounts: 3-5 Delegates: - 10 %
6 or more Delegates: - 15 %

Early Bird Rates:
(all before July 2nd 2004)

Early Bird Regular Rate: Euro 675,- + V.A.T.

Early Bird Academic Rate*: Euro 350,- + V.A.T.

Early Bird Student Rate*: Euro 200,- + V.A.T.

* Academic and Student Delegates: You must provide verification of academic or student status to qualify for the Academic or Student rate.

Special Partnering Event

One session of the Conference program will be fully dedicated to the subject of Business Partnering (see program below). Approximately 20 companies will be given time and technology to appropriately present themselves as part of the **Premium Partnering Package**. Throughout ABIC a special area in the trade fair hall will provide optimized partnering procedures for registered partnering event participants. In addition a special section of the ABIC website www.abic2004.org will be reserved for the partnering event. This service will be made available in due time.

PARTNERING RATES

Regular Partnering: Euro 350,- + V.A.T. (one to one meetings plus Web Partnering)

Premium Partnering: Euro 750,- + V.A.T. (Business Presentation at Forum plus Regular Partnering)

Prices are added to Delegate Rates.
Partnering possible throughout ABIC to allow participants to arrange meetings at convenience.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Session	The Business of Biotechnology	Advances in Plant Improvement	New Opportunities through Biotechnology
01	The Role and Importance of Ethics for Agricultural Biotechnology in Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round Table Discussion 	Controlling Expression in Transgenes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulating Expression of Transgenes in Plants and Gene Expression Expression of Genes in specific Tissues Environmental Assessment of Risks and Benefits of Regulated Expression 	Plants as green factories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies for producing PMPs* in Plants (Molecular Farming) Improvement of Fiber Crops by Genetic Engineering Engineering New Biosynthetic Pathways <p>* Plant-made pharmaceuticals</p>
02	Co-existence of Transgenic and Non-Transgenic Crops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gene Flow and Co-Existence Scientific Basis of Co-Existence Ecological Impact of GMOs 	Synergies between Breeding and Biotechnology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genomics/Allele Mining Advanced Mapping Tools Use of Model Genomes 	Biotechnology and Food Security for the Resource-Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of the Need for new Solutions in Africa Case Study of a real Biotech Solution: India Managing IP to Benefit the Resource-Poor
03	Business Forum / Industry Presentations		
04	The Business of Biotechnology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investments in Biotech in Asia Dos and Dents for Biotech Start-ups Todays and Future Markets in Plant Biotech 	Improvements in Non-Food Crops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biotechnological Applications in Forestry Oil Palm Breeding and competitive Approaches Biotechnology and Ornamental Plants 	Nutraceuticals as Links between Food and Health: Using Biotechnology to Improve Our Food <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutritional enhancement of food Different Ways to Nutraceuticals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetic Engineering Classical Breeding Food Processing/Fortification

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