**Biologicals:** The Market, Status, and Potential in Climate-Smart Agriculture

Pam Marrone, PhD pammarrone@gmail.com

## CEO/Founder, CHESTNUT B ADVISORS **Chestnut Bio Advisors**

## Senior Fellow



Swette Center for Sustainable Food Systems Arizona State University

**Co-founder & Executive Chair** 



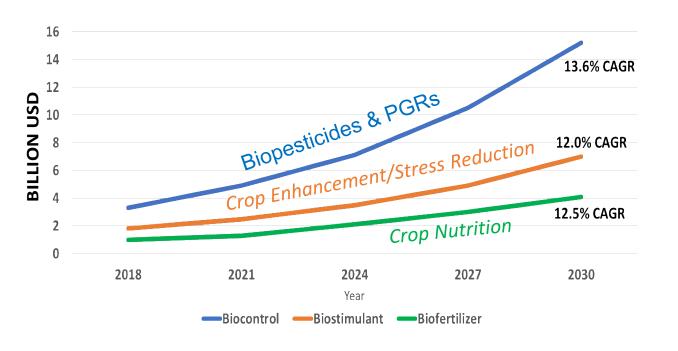
**Invasive Species Control Corp. & Invasive Species Foundation** 

www.invasivespeciescontrolcorpora tion.com

### BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS MARKET LANDSCAPE



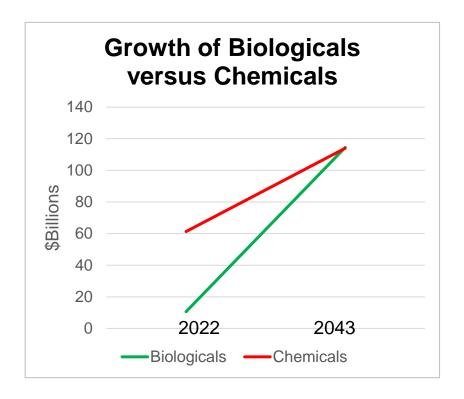
### **GLOBAL BIOLOGICAL MARKET EVOLUTION**



CAGR 2018 - 2030 BIOCONTROL 13.6% BIOSTIMULANT 12.0%

**BIOFERTILIZER 12.5%** 

## **Biologicals Market Could Equal Chemicals in ~20 Years!**



Growth rate (CAGR)		12 %
Number of periods	Biologicals	21
Initial value	10,600,000,000 \$	
Final value	114,520,791,603.36 \$	
Growth rate (CAGR)		3 %
Number of periods	Synthetics	21
Initial value	61,300,000,000 \$	
Final value	114,036,057,24	5.79 \$

## Bioherbicides are Insignificant Part of the Multibillion \$ Biopesticide Market

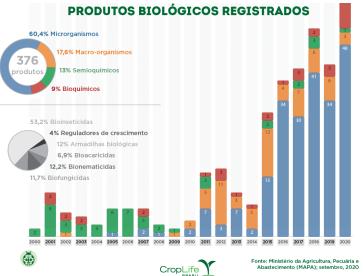
Bioherbicides



### **Data from DunhamTrimmer**

### Brazil has Become the Largest Biologicals Market Doubling Every Two Years

#### 8-12 months for a new registration!

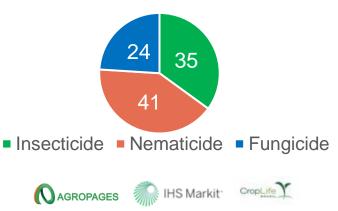


US \$342 million in 2020

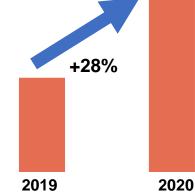
#### 10.2 million hectares treated



Sales Percent



Robust growth possible: Brazil farmers typically use only one biopesticide

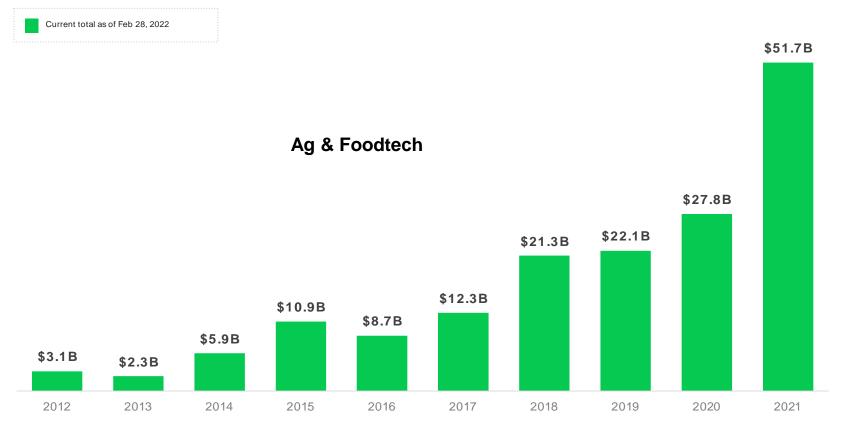


## Big Companies Continue to Jump Into Biologicals (2012-2022)



#### **Upstream + Downstream**

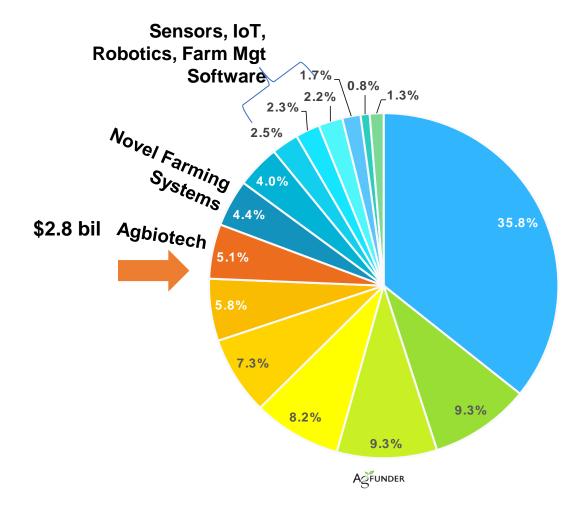
### Annual Financings | 2012-2021





YEAR IN REVIEW

## **2021 Investment in Agri-Food Tech**

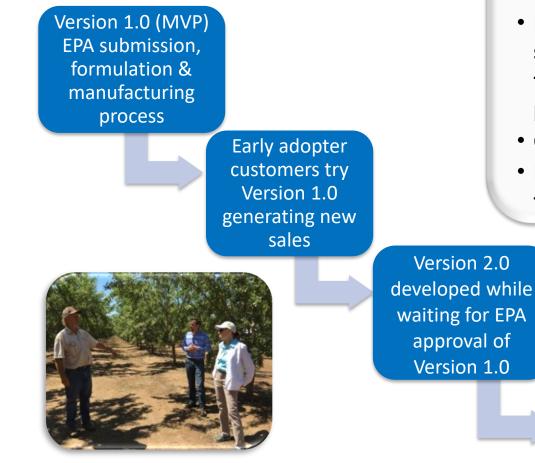


#### eGrocer

- Innovative Food
- Cloud Retail Infrastructure
- In-store Retail & Restaurant Tech
- Mid stream Technologies
- Restaurant Marketplaces
- Ag Biotechnology
- Novel Farming Systems
- Bioenergy & Biomaterials
- Agribusiness Marketplaces
- Online Restaurants & Mealkits
- Farm Mgmt SW, Sensing & IoT
- Farm Robotics, Mechanization & Other Farm Eq
- Home & Cooking
- Miscellaneous

## **Applying the Lean Startup Model**

#### Minimum Viable Product (MVP)



- Atypical model for larger agchem
- Possible because of biologicals' safety, faster registration & ability to continuously improve microbial processes
- Capital efficient; fund as you go
- Involve growers early in the process for product vetting

Version 2.0 is placed with the same and new customers

## Some Biological Innovations for Insect/Nematode



Next Gen Spider venom peptides for insect control



Sprayable, doublestranded RNA used in agriculture to control pests



LALLEMAND ANIMAL NUTRITION

*Cordyceps javanica* registered against *Bemisia tabaci* whitefly in Brazil **IPM** 

## OProFarm

Optimizing microbial & plant metabolites (e.g. MBI-306 Burkholderia rinojensis)



Biological insecticide Based on Lolines from the endophyte fungus *Epichloë uncinata*, active against important insect sucking & chewing pests



Bacteria for plant health and disease/nematode control



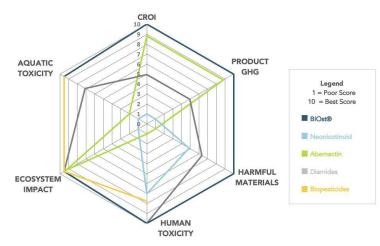
RNAi for soybean cyst nematodes



Pink-pigmented methylotrophs for plant/soil health/Biocontrol (corn rootworm & nematodes)

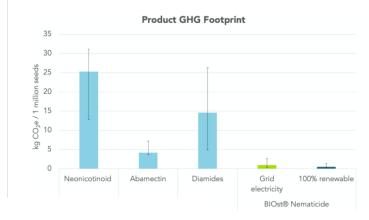
### <u>The Climate Impact Study</u> Showed that BIO<sub>St</sub> Nematicide (*Burkholderia rinojensis*) Reduced Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions by 85% in Soybeans and 87% in Corn Compared with Conventional Pesticides

Benchmarking and Conclusions



The estimated GHG footprint of BIOst® Nematicide considering 100% renewable electricity supply is:

- 98% lower than that of neonicotinoids
- 88% lower than that of abamectin
- 97% lower than that of diamides.



Marrone<sup>®</sup> *ProFarm* 



Climate Impact Score: 9.8/10



## Who Would Have Thought That Pheromones Would Have Such Innovation?



Developing Nematode pheromones for better pest control of both insect and nematode pests



BioPhero

We produce our pheromones using renewable raw materials in a single fermentation step using yeasts.



- Innovative synthesis
- Controlled release formulations
- Weevils, vine mealybug, caterpillars, fruit flies, red scale, others



Provivi uses proprietary (bio)catalysts and lowcost raw materials to reduce the steps needed to synthesize pheromones and increase yields.



Tech enabled pheromone traps and application

## **Many Companies with Biological Innovations for Disease Control**



Bees to deliver microbial fungicides

## BioConsortia

Natural & gene-edited microbes as fungicides and nematicides, biostimulants AgroSustain 💠

FA-Bio

Platform for

selection of soil

microbes

## AgBiome

Living microbes as for pest mgt & plant health



**Synergistic** microbes as fungicides

### AgroSpheres

**Biological** encapsulation technology from **Bacillus** micelles

## invaio sciences

FLAGSHIP PIONEERING COMPANY

Peptide innovation to address Citrus Greening

## ascribe

Microbe signaling compounds to control fungal bacterial diseases



Postharvest biofungicides

Natural plant protection

Antifungal peptide platform



Antifungal peptides



Synergistic microbes as fungicides & biostims

**Botanical**Solution Plant culture to supply key botanical products for disease control

### Just a Few of the Young Companies Working on Bionutrients and **Biostimulants – N fixation – Getting crowded**



Gene-edited microbes for N fixation



TrueSolum<sup>®</sup>: liquid with metabolites from cultivation of microalgae aids in P, Fe, Mn, Zn uptake



Plant compounds for drought tolerance

## andes

Seed treatment method **Microprime**<sup>™</sup> produces seeds with embedded beneficial microbes with a long shelf life

## Sound

Agriculture Nature-identical signaling molecules to attract beneficial microbes to the root

#### Groundwork BioAg

Produces effective & hardy mycorrhizal inoculants for commercial agriculture



N-fixing and other microbes as seed



Gluconocetobacter diazotrophicus for N fixation



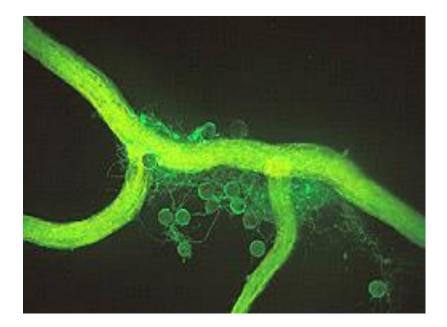
Recycling poultry mature to provide the live microbes essential to healthy soil



Fortified N-fixing bacteria to reduce synthetic N fertilizer

## Mycorrhizal Inoculants are an Effective Method for Carbon Sequestration

- To date, farmers are mostly ineligible for carbon credits
- Glomalin is unique in its ability to store carbon over decades & can be considered a persistent and stable carbon sink
- Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF) are the only known source of glomalin, and are in fact its namesake
- Once recognized as an acceptable method of carbon sequestration, farmers should benefit from carbon credits



Glomalin, dyed green, shown to completely cover mycorrhizal corn root and fungal spores Photo by Sara Wright



## Paucity of Innovations on Bioherbicides



Specific strains of the fungus Fusarium oxysporum as bioherbicides



Platform for new microbial natural products

## 🕜 ProFarm

Two microbials and one plant extract in development



Plant extracts as bioherbicides



Short natural peptide molecules as fungicides & for resistant weeds



Exploiting sterility to win the battle against resistant weeds

## **Commercial Biochemicals**

- Contact
- Non-selective
- Fast acting
- Need re-application

## **Microbials – Narrow Host Range**

#### Phoma macrostoma

Dandelion, field bindweed, annual sow thistle and wild mustard (82%).

Ammonium Soap of Fatty

Acids

#### **Pseudomonas fluorescens Strain BRG 100**

Green foxtail & wild oats

### Pseudomonas fluorescens Strain D-7

Cheatgrass, medusahead, and jointed goatgrass

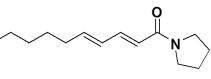


SolviNix<sup>®</sup>LC Tobacco mild green mosaic tobamo virus strain U2 Tropical soda apple (*Solanum viarum* Dunal)

## Three Bioherbicides with Novel Modes of Action [Still] in Development

MBI-011: Burndown

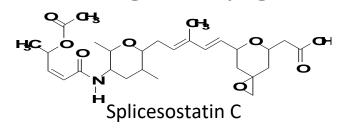




Sarmentine

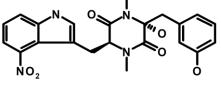
MBI-014/015: Systemic against pigweeds

Burkholderia rinojensis A396





**MBI-005/007**: Broad spectrum pre-emergence, selective post





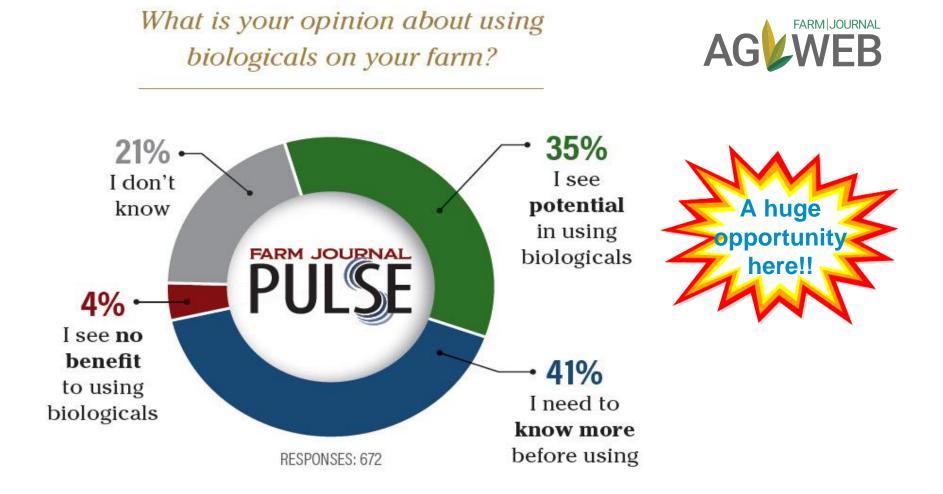
Thaxtomin

## What is Needed for Bioherbicides

- Need unwavering, sustained and dedicated multimillion \$ resources to bioherbicide development
- High risk but high reward speaks to need for government money/grants in EU and USA to support innovators in their early stages before investors or partners will be interested
- New tools of synthetic biology and molecular biology/genomics/metabolomics will speed up microbial fermentation optimization & development; fermented plant compounds are possible
- Some new formulation technology may help compound instability (e.g., nanotech; encapsulation)
- Microbial metabolites are the most exciting and promising area for bioherbicides but regulatory packages will be expensive

# WHAT DO FARMERS THINK ABOUT BIOLOGICALS

## **US Farmers Have Low Understanding of Biologicals**



### - DO YOU USE BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS? -

#### WHAT TYPES OF BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS DO YOU USE?

#### 58% — MICROBIALS (MICROORGANISMS THAT CONTROL PESTS)

- 51% BIOCHEMICALS (PLANT EXTRACTS, PGRS, ETC.)
- 48% PHEROMONE-BASED MATING DISRUPTION (MACROORGANISMS THAT CONTROL PESTS)
- 37% BIOFERTILIZERS (MICROBIALS)
- 28% **BIOSTIMULANTS** (ABIOTIC STRESS MANAGEMENT)

Growing Produce

## FRUIT GROWER

"Looking into it but haven't figured out how to best use them."

*"I need to get a better understanding of how they'd fit with our operation,"* 

Yes

No

49% 51%

*"I do find, when timed correctly, bio-products work just as good if not better."* 

## **How Do You View Biological Products?**

I'm not yet convinced biological products are effective It's a good marketing tool – differentiates Equivalent to from competitors conventional products in my I use them due to toolbox... customer expectations or Unique products I requests... use occasionally under specific

conditions...

Source: Richard Jones, Corporate Content Director, *Meister Media Worldwide*, American Vegetable Grower, State of the Industry Report (2021)

## NOT IF They Work, But HOW to Make Them Work

- More education & training needed on how the products work based on their unique modes of action. Prevention vs. knockdown or curative.
- Go beyond counting bugs or leafspots. Because of the unique modes of action, marketable yields & quality (incl. nutrient density) can be the same as or better than chemical programs.
- Look at season long beneficial soil & plant health effects.
- Trials should be conducted in realistic integrated programs rather than just stand-alone comparisons. Large block trials vs. small plots.
- Systems integrators needed! Development & implementation of holistic, systems-based, integrated programs with cultural tools, tailored crop varieties, soil health practices, biologicals, precision tools, data, etc.

**Biological Products Industry Alliance** Advancing Sustainability Through Biological Solutions

www.bpia.org



The International Biocontrol Manufacturers' Association (IBMA) is the worldwide association of biocontrol industries producing microorganisms, macroorganisms, semiochemicals and natural pesticides for plant protection and public health.



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https://understandinga g.com/why-soil-health/

## pammarrone@gmail.com 530-902-1014