

# PROVISIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

## The 3rd World Congress on the use of Biostimulants in Agriculture

Monday 27th - Thursday 30th November 2017  
Hyatt Regency, Miami, USA



### Monday 27 November

- 10:00 - 17:00 Registration for Exhibitors & Posters Authors, Registration Hall  
14:00 - 18:00 Posters set-up & Exhibition set-up, Exhibition Hall  
12:00 - 20:00 Delegate Registration  
18:00 - 20:00 Opening Evening Reception



### Tuesday 28 November

- 08:00 Delegate Registration, Registration Hall  
08:30 - 09:30 Opening Speeches, Congress Auditorium

- 08:30 - 08:40 **Jean Pierre Leymonie**, Managing Director, New Ag International, Convener of the Congress  
**Prof Patrick Brown**, University of California Davis, Chairman of the Congress Scientific Committee

- 08:40 - 09:30 **Opening Lecture: Precision Agriculture and Biostimulants**  
Prof Raj Khosla, Colorado State University, (USA)  
Member of the Committee of Science Breakthroughs 2030, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine, (USA)

#### SESSION I: Biostimulants and Plant Yield & Quality

Chair: Dr Balakrishnan Prithiviraj, Dalhousie University (Canada)

- 09:30 - 10:10 **Keynote Lecture: Plant Nutrition & Soil Health**  
**Dr Bernard Vanlauwe**, Professor, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), (Kenya)

- 10:10 *Theory and practice of using bacterial biostimulants to enhance nutrient use efficiency of crop plants*  
Prof Patrick du Jardin, Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Liège, (Belgium)

- 10:30 - 11:10 **Coffee/Tea Break in Exhibition Area**

- 11:10 *Biostimulation of plant growth response by fractionated natural organic matter: application methods, rates, and chemical characterization*  
Dr Paolo Caricasole, Research Scientist, FBSciences, (USA)

- 11:30 *A novel plant metabolite increases nutrient efficacy and crop performance*  
Dr Pat Unkefer, Senior Research Scientist, Verdesian Life Sciences, (USA)

- 11:50 *Modulation of secondary metabolism in Vitis vinifera through A. nodosum extracts: Effects on vine eco-physiology and grape quality*  
Linda Salvi, PhD Student, University of Florence, (Italy)

- 12:10 *Comparing different formulations of the bud break enhancer Erger by gene activity measurements*  
Dr Frank Hoeberichts, Senior Scientist, NSure BV, (The Netherlands)

- 12:30 *Unravelling the physiological and biochemical effects of pre-harvest application of phospholipid enriched food-grade formulates on pip and stone fruit*  
Jordi Giné-Bordonaba, Researcher, IRTA, (Spain)

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## SESSION 2: Molecular Analysis of Biostimulants

Chair: Prof Patrick du Jardin, Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech - University of Liège (Belgium)

**14:00 - 14:40** **Keynote Lecture: TBN**  
**Prof Danny Geelen**, Ghent University, (Belgium)

**14:40** *Identification of biostimulants and their mode of action using automated high-throughput bioassaying and phenotyping*  
Dr Lukas Spichal, Senior Researcher, Palacky University, (Czech Republic)

**15:00** *Biostimulant Discovery and Development using the Mendel Technology Platform*  
Josh Armstrong, VP Biologicals R&D, Koch Biological Solutions LLC, (USA)

**15:20 - 16:00** **Coffee/Tea Break in Exhibition Area**

**16:00** *Novel high-throughput approach in discovering and understanding the mode of action of plant biostimulants*  
Prof Giuseppe Colla, University of Tuscia, (Italy)

**16:20** *Chemical characterization of Humic Substances-based raw materials and evaluation of their plant biostimulant activities*  
Dr Alessandro Biasone, Lab Specialist, Valagro Spa, (Italy)

**16:40** *Transcriptome Analysis of Maize Roots in Response to Protein Hydrolysates and Free Amino Acids*  
Prof Tiziana Pandolfini, University of Verona, (Italy)

**17:00** *Transcriptomic study of physiological effects of a seaweed extract and its purified fraction, used as plant growth biostimulants*  
Dr Celine Conan, Engineer, Arysta LifeSciences, (France)

**17:20** *Salinity stress tolerance in Arabidopsis thaliana induced by uniquely processed Ascophyllum nodosum extract, powered by Acadian BioSwitch™, is mediated by miRNAs*  
Dr Balakrishnan Prithiviraj, Dalhousie University, (Canada)

**17:40 - 19:00** **Poster Session**



## Wednesday 29 November

**08:30** Delegate Registration, Registration Hall

## SESSION 3: Microbiome, Priming and Soil Health

Chair: Dr Fabricio Cassan, Universidad Nacional de Río Cuarto (Argentina)

**09:00 - 09:40** **Keynote Lecture: Endophytic microorganisms and their impact on plant growth**  
**Prof Donald L Smith**, McGill University, (Canada)

**09:40** *Phenotypic and molecular assessment of seaweed derived biostimulants on Arabidopsis thaliana during drought stress*  
Dr Thomas Fleming, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Tradecorp International, (UK)

**10:00** *Can plant microbiomes be altered by biostimulants to improve plant health?*  
Dr Lori Hoagland, Associate Professor, Purdue University, (USA)

**10:20 - 11:00** **Coffee/Tea Break in Exhibition Area**

**11:00 - 11:40** **Keynote Lecture: Root microbiota adaptation to contrasted soil phosphorus levels**  
**Dr. Stijn Spaepen**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research, (Germany)

**11:40** *Harnessing the Soil-plant Microbiome to Improve Crop Productivity*  
Dr Mylavarapu Venkatramesh, VP Discovery Research, Agrinos, (USA)

**12:00** *Modulation of Capsicum annum L rhizospheric microbiome treated with biostimulants in northeastern Mexico*  
Dr Ali Asaff, R&D Manager, Innovak Global, (Mexico)

**12:20** *Can beneficial microbes and other soil amendments improve root health and performance of citrus trees growing under pressure from HLB?*  
Dr Ute Albrecht, Assistant Professor, University of Florida, (USA)

**12:40 - 14:00** **Lunch in Exhibition Area and Poster Session**

## SESSION 4: Role of Biostimulants in abiotic stress tolerance

Chair: Prof Patrick Brown, University of California Davis, (USA)

**14:00 - 14:40** **Keynote Lecture: Systemic signalling pathways, abiotic stress and the promise of biostimulants**  
**Prof Ron Mittler**, University of Arizona and North Texas, (USA)

**14:40** *The Effect of Smartfoil® on Drought Tolerance in Soybean: A physiological, biochemical and genomic approach*  
Emmanuelle Mounier, Research Team Leader, Agrauxine, (France)

**15:00** *Biostimulant-based molecular priming approaches to increase crop strength and stress tolerance*  
Dr Sujeeth Neerakkal, Chief Plant Molecular Biologist, BioAtlantis Ltd, (Ireland)

**15:20 - 16:20** **Coffee/Tea Break in Exhibition Area**

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**16:20** *A New Biostimulant Powered by Acadian BioSwitch™ Technology Improves Yield and Drought Tolerance of Soybeans and Corn*  
Dr Holly Little, Market Development Scientist,  
Acadian Plant Health, (Canada)

**16:40** *Urea derivative - ASES - increases yield and stress tolerance of Triticum aestivum with remarkable efficiency*  
Dr Jaroslav Nisler, Researcher, Hana Agricultural  
Research Center, Palacky University,  
(Czech Republic)

**17:00** **miRNA-containing plant extracts as a new concept in biostimulant development**  
Dr Alberto Piaggese, Global R&D Director,  
Valagro Spa, (Italy)

**17:20 - 18:30** **Poster Session**

**12:10** **Concluding Keynote:** Development of a regulatory guidance on plant biostimulants in the USA  
**Dr Russell Jones**, Senior Scientist, United States Environmental Protection Agency-EPA, (USA)

**12:40 - 13:10** **Closing Session**

**POSTER PRIZE** remittance to the best student's poster, by Prof du Jardin, co-chair of the Scientific Committee and François Levesque, Director of Business Development and Operations of New Ag International.

Closing remarks by Prof. Patrick Brown  
Chair of the Scientific Committee.



**Thursday 30 November**

**09:00** Delegate Registration, Registration Hall

## **SESSION 5: Best practices, Market Trends and Legislation**

Chair: Jean Pierre Leymonie, Managing Director, New Ag International (France)

**09:30** *Toward the Best Practical Use of Microbial Biostimulants in Vegetable Production, Now Emphasizing Sustainable-Organic*  
Dr Matthew Kleinhenz, The Ohio State University, (USA)

**09:50** *Agricultural biostimulant effects characterized by sensor data*  
Dr Karina Vincents Lohmann, Head of Section,  
Danish Technology Institute, (Denmark)

**10:10 - 11:10** **Coffee/Tea Break in Exhibition Area**

**11:10** *Building the credibility of biostimulants; an industry perspective*  
Dr Steven Adams, R&D Director, Plant Impact,  
(UK)

**11:30** *Using standards to promote best agricultural practices and credibility of biostimulant claims*  
Kristen Sukalac, Senior Consultant, European Biostimulants Industry Consortium (Belgium)

**11:50** *Biostimulants of the last decade: Comprehensive analysis of research papers and patents*  
Dr Stanislav Kuzyakin, Managing Director, Natural Sciences Information Centre, Moscow (Russia)



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