

A brief account of our main activities and progress during the first half of 2017...

SynTech's main activities on the first half of the year have been further expanding its global Field network and laboratories and successfully gaining or renewing GEP and GLP licences...

EXPANSION:

Europe

At the start of the year we opened a new station with offices and laboratories in Romania, at Arad, in the west of the country. The main crops are cereals, oilseeds, soybean, fruit and vegetables.

SynTech in Romania is already operating to GEP standards and is anticipating GEP certification in August 2017, covering the full spectrum of field, fruit and vegetable crops.



SynTech Romania field station

In March, new Terrestrial Ecotoxicology laboratories were opened at our stations in France (Macon) and Spain (Valencia), adding more than 600 m² of additional laboratory space to our current facilities. This provides increased capacity and capability for Pollinator, Soil Organism and Non-Target Arthropod studies. These EU facilities complement our Ecotoxicology laboratories in the USA (Stillwell, KS) and Brazil (Piracicaba, SP).



New Ecotoxicology laboratories in SynTech France and Spain

We are completing an Analytical Chemistry laboratory in Budapest, Hungary, to provide analytical support for our European field trials and ecotoxicology studies. This is SynTech's third analytical laboratory, supplementing its existing laboratories in Stilwell, Kansas USA, and in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The laboratory will be operational and GLP certified by the end of the year and will provide GLP residue services from the start of 2018.



Spraying a GLP rice trial in Thailand

Asia Pacific

In May, SynTech expanded its capabilities in the Region; a satellite was established in Davao, Mindanao, Southern Philippines, specializing in plantation crops such as banana, pineapple and mango. In Thailand, a satellite at Kamphaeng Sean, Nakhon Pathom province, will deliver GLP residue and bio-efficacy trials in a range of crops.

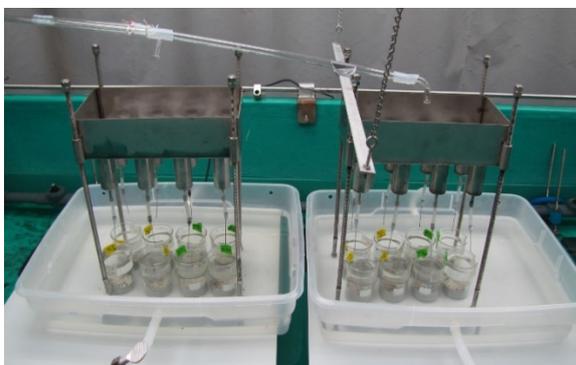
Both satellites expand SynTech’s capability to meet demands to deliver import tolerance trials.

Latin America

We started work at our new Sample Processing Laboratory in Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, in the heart of agribusiness in northwest of Mexico, with access to a wide range of crops from coffee and bananas to fruit and specialty crops. The facility offers high quality equipment to receive, store, process, and extract /homogenise crop samples for pesticide residues, including work required related to SynTech’s acquisition of Syngenta’s Brazil analytical facility in 2016.



SynTech Sample Processing Laboratory, Mexico



Chironomid 10-Day Spiked Sediment Toxicity Test

North America

New Ecotoxicology facilities and study capabilities were also created at our Kansas laboratories, mainly adding to our aquatic capacities acute and chronic studies with sediment organisms (chironomids, amphipods and blackworms) and saltwater organisms (mysids).

LICENSES:

In January, SynTech Spain’s EOR certificate for efficacy (GEP) trials was renewed, following the first inspection in the new Company’s research facility and HQ located in Picanya, Valencia. SynTech Research Portugal passed inspection by the Instituto Português da Qualidade (IPQ), and now has a GLP certificate for operator exposure studies and field residues, including Dislodgeable Foliar Residues (DFRs). SynTech is the first company to provide DFR trials Portugal.



Picanya, Valencia – aerial shot



Dislodgeable Residues sampling

Following acquisition of the new UK facility, at Pakenham, Suffolk in 2016, SynTech UK successfully retained its GLP accreditation.

In May, SynTech Research Germany was accredited for GLP field residues trials by the Bavarian State Agency for Health and Food Safety. This accreditation includes multi-site study direction and the field phase of residue, ecotoxicology, soil dissipation studies.

SynTech Germany can now conduct GLP and GEP programs on a range of crops, including cereals, maize, sunflowers, potatoes, oilseed rape, vegetable and fruit, vines, ornamentals and turf, and pollinator trials including residues in pollen, nectar, and honey.



SynTech Research HQ Germany, Loptin, Kiel



SynTech Research, Czech Republic

Following the acquisition of Syngenta’s seeds capability in Semčice, Czech Republic, last year SynTech has established an expanded agrochemical and seeds capability, and in Q2, passed its first GEP audit, allowing the team to complete a full program of agrochemical and seeds GEP trials in arable crops in the 2017 season.

First accredited in 2014, SynTech Argentina was one of the first agricultural R&D Contract Research Organisations to obtain GLP accreditation - a very demanding achievement in Argentina. This has now been renewed by the Argentinian Monitoring Authority, to cover all studies and sites, allowing national and international recognition of the Company’s “bio-compliance” trials, supporting registrations of products for both crop protection and agbiotech.



Tomato trial sampling, Argentina

SynTech Argentina's services include GLP trials in all crops, GMO trials in corn, soybean, sugarcane, wheat and cotton., Bioefficacy (GEP): including post-harvest efficacy studies, and Regulatory projects: including EUP, equivalent dossier for TGAI and FP, import permits, additional origins, and uses. SynTech Research Argentina also provides agricultural and public health product registration consultancy services, coordinating programs throughout South and Central America.

AWARDS:

In June, BPI, the French Public Bank of Investment, gave an Excellence Award to SynTech Research France. These awards are made to French companies who are developing fast in France and globally, and have high growth potential. SynTech was pleased and honored to be a recipient of this prestigious Award.



BPI Excellence award to SynTech Research France

APPOINTMENTS:

Also in June, Eric Ythier, SynTech's Global Ecotoxicology Account Manager, was appointed as Manager of Business Development and Marketing, EMEA and APAC Regions. His role will cover GLP, GEP, Ecotoxicology, Seeds & Traits, Project Management, Study Directorship and Regulatory Services.

Eric developed the company's Ecotoxicology Services globally and has been Study Director, Team Lead, GLP Test Facility Manager and Global Ecotoxicology Account Manager. He will continue as SynTech's technical/scientific expert for terrestrial global ecotoxicology services.



Eric Ythier, SynTech's Europe and Asia Business Development Manager

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