

# SynTech Research Newsletter

February 2021



2020 was a unique year in SynTech's history; this is very brief roundup of the Company's news and progress, to inform our clients and contacts worldwide of the events that are shaping our future - and some of the services that we have started or developed further during the year. Dr Khosro Khodayari was appointed CEO of the new Company, and will lead further integration activities into SynTech Research in 2021, together with his team of Directors.

## Anniversary and Merger

We started the year by celebrating the Company's 20th Anniversary. From 2000 to 2020, SynTech was the world's fastest-growing Ag CRO, offering laboratory, field and regulatory services worldwide. By year-end, we had closed the SynTech/Acceres merger: SynTech Research now comprises SynTech, Promovert, GAB Consulting and BIOTEK Agriculture (Europe, UK, Ukraine).

Dr. Khosro Khodayari was appointed CEO of the new company, and will lead further integration activities into SynTech Research in 2021.

Now, our 600 scientists, agronomists, regulatory specialists and managers are providing a complete range of Research, Development and Regulatory services for chemicals, biopesticides, biostimulants and biocides, in over 40 countries worldwide.

These include Field trials (agrochemical and seeds/traits, GEP and GLP trials), Laboratory studies (analytical, efficacy, ecotoxicology) and Regulatory services (advice, submission delivery and support).

This range of capabilities is in demand by our many clients who wish to outsource "end-to-end" product development.



## Service Expansion in 2020

### Biostimulants and Biopesticides

These products invariably require specialised treatment and assessment, based on good agronomic as well as scientific expertise. During 2020 SynTech expanded its existing service in these areas.

Our **Biostimulant** testing capabilities now cover yield and quality enhancement, abiotic stress tolerance, (drought, heat, light, salinity, wind), plant nutrition, crop emergence, fruit setting, and root development.

Our **Biopesticide** programs cover Macrobial Control Agents – insects, mites and entomopathogenic nematodes – and Microbial Biocontrol Agents – bacteria, fungi and viruses. We have now conducted particularly extensive Biopesticide programs in the US, Latin America – Argentina, Costa Rica and Chile, and in Europe – Spain, Portugal and France.



**Biostimulant strawberry trial**

## Discovery and Resistance Testing Services

SynTech's US, France and Spain teams all now provide high-throughput screening of new Agrochemicals, Biopesticides and Biostimulants.

Our US and EU **Biosafety Level 2 Laboratories (BSL-2)** are equipped for early stage research in Plant Biology, Weed Science, Entomology and Plant Pathology, including Mycological and Microbiological studies. 3000m<sup>2</sup> of environmentally controlled greenhouses and laboratories allow complex *in vitro* translation trials all year round. These include studies on heat, drought stress and enhanced pesticide degradation, and seed treatments with engineered microbes.



Glasshouse Discovery screening tests

## Territorial Expansion in 2020 - Highlights –

### Europe

In May, Acceres acquired Certis' R&D activities in **Germany**, including the R&D Center (13 staff) in Christenthal and the field site in Bad Durkheim.

Providing efficacy testing, in growth chambers, greenhouses and the field, creation and optimization of agrochemical, bio-pesticide and biocide formulations, the acquisition, alongside GAB Consulting, and SynTech's existing Field Trials capability in Germany, makes the combined Company be a major AgCRO player in Germany.

SynTech Research began a new **Czech Republic** field site in Southern Moravia and its GEP accreditation in June allowed initiation of a 2020 trials efficacy program.

### Central America

In May, SynTech opened an office in Costa Rica to manage operations across Central America, and the Caribbean. This includes delivery of GLP and GEP trials programs and Regulatory services for major Central American crops e.g. banana, pineapples and sugarcane.



## Latin America

During 2020 we established two new field stations in Brazil. The first is in Bandeirantes, Paraná. The facility - 20 ha of arable land - has the right soil and climate conditions for soybean, corn (two seasons), beans, winter cereals, coffee and all major vegetables. The team provides residues, efficacy, ecotoxicology, including higher tier pollinator (semi-field and field) studies and RT25 laboratory studies.



**Palmeiras de Goiás Field Station**

A second new field station, the Palmeiras de Goiás Experimental Station - 15 ha - located in the Cerrado region of Central Brazil, covers the Bahia (west), Tocantins and part of Minas Gerais States. The team delivers field Trials and residue analyses in plants, soil, pollen & nectar, ecotoxicology and seeds/traits studies.

## Regulatory Services for Biopesticides and Biostimulants (“Biosolutions”)

In addition to the expansion of our Biostimulant and Biopesticide field services, the 2020 Acceres merger has, in one step, provided SynTech Research with exceptional Regulatory service for this fast-growing but challenging sector.

Alongside its Agrochemical and Biocide services, GAB Consulting has a long track record in registering a wide range of Biosolution products in many territories, whether single molecules or complex mixes, and based on microorganisms, or extracts from plants and animals. This involves providing initial data gap analyses, study contracting and monitoring, dossier preparation, risk assessments, expert statements and

dossier defenses, compliant with current and projected future legal requirements for these products.

GAB scientists are also involved in discussions and advocacy with Authorities and with industry associations, helping to set standards and requirements.

The great benefit of the merger for clients is that GAB and SynTech Research colleagues, working in over 60 countries, can set up trials designed not just to determine efficacy but also to provide the data essential for registration. This will enable our clients to position, register and start selling their Biosolution products as soon as possible!



**Dr. Marisé Borja**  
**Global Regulatory Business Development Manager**

## SynTech Research Global Executive Directors



**Khosro Khodayari**  
**CEO SynTech Research Group**



**Nicolas Ciampi**  
**Chief Financial Officer**



**Lino Rondon**  
**Asia Pacific**



**Jasper Barnes**  
**North America**



**Yvonnick Jambon**  
**Europe and Africa**



**Fernando Gallina**  
**Latin America**



**Eric Ythier**  
**Global Sales & Business  
Development**



**Colin Ruscoe**  
**Communications**

For information on SynTech's Biopesticide, Biostimulant and Early Stage Screening capabilities, please see the relevant links on the [Bioefficacy \(GEP\) Services page](#). For information on Biopesticide Regulatory Services, please see <https://www.gabconsulting.de/business-areas/biopesticides.html>

For further information please see [www.syntechresearch.com](http://www.syntechresearch.com) or contact us at [communication@syntechresearch.com](mailto:communication@syntechresearch.com).

