

Daily Note

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Sipcam Agro launches Mevalone

Sipcam Agro USA has announced the launch of its biofungicide, Mevalone, in California. The company reports that Mevalone is designed to protect wine, table and raisin grapes from bunch rot and powdery mildew. It is further reported that Mevalone is already successful in Europe and boasts a unique mode of action and soft chemistry. With a low risk of developing *Botrytis* resistance, Mevalone fits well into integrated disease management programs, offering both curative action and preventative benefits. The product's active ingredients are reported to be derived from Thymol (garden thyme), Geraniol (Damask rose) and Eugenol (clove oil) and are part of a large class of plant secondary metabolites called terpenes (isoprene polymers) that exhibit a safe toxicological and environmental profile and do not affect the taste of wine. Mevalone utilizes Eden Research's patented Sustaine Technology, controlling terpene volatility and providing up to a four-fold efficacy improvement over other terpene-based fungicides. Additionally, Mevalone can be used in conjunction with Annuity to enhance soil structure and promote healthy root development for grapes, nut trees and citrus, leading to higher crop yields.

The company says that Mevalone biofungicide has been registered and is available to use in California and 16 other states in the US.

DLF Seeds announces closure of R&D site

DLF Seeds has announced that it will close its R&D site in Landskrona, Sweden, by July 1, 2024. The decision follows efforts to explore alternative options for the site in collaboration with the local team, prompted by the announcement of a new Joint Venture for sugar beet and fodder beet. Unfortunately, no economically viable option within DLF Seeds' current business portfolio was identified. The company reports that consultations with unions have taken place, and internal teams are working to integrate knowledge and breeding material developed in Landskrona into the new Joint Venture.

Ceres Solutions/Co-Alliance to combine operations

As reported by [S&P Global Commodity Insights](#), two US agricultural co-operatives based in the state of Indiana – Ceres Solutions Cooperative (Crawfordsville) and Co-Alliance Cooperative (Indianapolis) – have agreed to merge their operations. The combined entity is to operate as Keystone Cooperative from March 1, 2024. It will serve customers across the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

Keystone will function through four divisions focusing on a variety of areas, including agronomy and grains. The business will employ over 1,700 staff, with Ceres and Co-Alliance anticipating it raking in \$3 billion in annual revenues. They note that the development follows a joint venture between the parties, Endeavor Ag & Energy, which provides agronomic services within the state of Michigan.

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