

Daily Note

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UPL acquires Corteva's mancozeb fungicide business

UPL has announced the acquisition of Corteva Agriscience's global mancozeb fungicide business, excluding China, Japan, South Korea and EU member countries. It is reported that mancozeb is a potent fungicide used to prevent plant diseases across a range of crops including rice, soybean, wheat, onions, potatoes and other vegetables and fruits. It plays a crucial role in disease management and in combating fungicide resistance. This move grants UPL ownership of Dithane, a global mancozeb brand providing farmers a disease management solution, as well as access to Rainshield technology which enables crop protection in wet weather conditions.

The deal is expected to finalize in Q1 of FY24-25 and covers Corteva's solo mancozeb products, excluding manufacturing facilities and involves customary approvals. Financial details of the transaction have not been released.

Certis Biologicals launches Convergence biofungicide

Certis Biologicals has announced the launch of Convergence biofungicide, a solution designed for use on corn, soybeans and peanuts that integrates disease control with plant health benefits. It is reported that this EPA-approved biofungicide shields against soilborne and foliar diseases caused by *Pythium*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Fusarium* and *Phytophthora* and provides an additional mode of action against tough-to-control foliar diseases, including tar spot, rusts and leaf spots. Utilizing *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* strain D747, the company says that the product fortifies crops, preserves soil health and is flexible for application, assisting in resistance management without impacting beneficial insects. Field trials in the Midwest exhibited increased corn yields compared to zinc starter fertilizer and improved soybean yields when applied in-furrow.

Syngenta launches Spirale fungicide in Ukraine

As reported by [S&P Global Commodity Insights](#), Syngenta has launched the fungicide, Spirale (difenoconazole + fenpropidin), in Ukraine for sugar beet producers. The product is for the control of *Cercopsora* spp, *Ramularia* spp, *Phomopsis* spp and powdery mildew (*Erysiphaceae* spp), says the business.

Spirale provides "long-term effectiveness" against strobilurin-resistant races of *Cercopsora* spp, says the company. The two active ingredients inhibit sterol biosynthesis and are not cross resistant, explains Syngenta, adding that both belong to different fungicidal classes and inhibit different enzymes.

Difenoconazole acts slowly and over a long period, while fenpropidin provides "rapid therapeutic activity", says the business. "The combination of difenoconazole and fenpropidin makes it possible to increase the efficiency of penetration and absorption of both ais by the plant," it adds.

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