In this issue

Biotechnology and bioeconomy in China

Li et al.

In our first country-specific issue on biotech in China, we find it crucial to provide an overview of how biotech evolves within China's economy. In this review, Professor Hongguang Wang and colleagues from the China National Centre for Biotechnology Development give a historic overview of the contributions that China has had in all segments of biotechnology. Furthermore, they provide up-to-date information on the establishment of the favorable policies, the foundation of professional groups, the establishment of advanced laboratories or centers, the investment mechanisms, the development and evaluation of biosafety, the encouragement and support for international collaborations and exchanges, and the establishment of the general organizational structure, clearly showing China's potential and ambition in biotechnology.....1205

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Biopharmaceuticals in China

Hu et al.

The review contributed by Xian Wen Hu from the Beijing Institute of Biotechnology provides overview information on the status of biopharmaceuticals in China, linking the fast-growing biopharmaceutical R&D between China and Western countries. You will find lists of the global top-selling biopharmaceuticals in 2005 and the major biotech drugs approved by the Chinese State Food and Drug Administration, such as recombinant cytokines, therapeutic antibodies, recombinant vaccines, and gene therapy products. To our knowledge, this is the first peer-reviewed and up-to-date Chinese market and research overview, and of compelling interest to readers in industry and academia. 1215

Environmental protection and circular economy in China

Zhong et al.

One of the main concerns of China's fast economic development is the increasing pressure on the environment. This review by Weihong Zhong and Jianmeng Chen from the College of Biological and Environmental Engineering (ZJUT, Hangzhou) shows how biotechnology can also be widely applied in the technological development of environmental protection. Examples are monitoring technology and treatment of dioxin-like chemicals and cyanobacterial toxins, biofiltration for air pollution control, solid waste treatment and reutilization, bioremediation of soil pollution, risk assessment and control of endocrine disturbing substances in the environment, wastewater treatment, clean production and recycling economy. The effect of government policy and funding on the progress of environmental biotechnology is also discussed. 1241

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