



IBMA - International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association Press Release

IBMA Biocontrol Survey Report

Tuesday 19th June Paris/Brussels, David Cary, the Executive Director of IBMA, will present today in the OECD Working Group on Pesticides Biopesticides Sub Group the IBMA Biocontrol Survey Report confirming that the biocontrol business is growing, thanks to a large majority of dynamic and innovative SMEs and dedicated biocontrol companies as well as change-orientated multinationals. Fundamentally unfortunately regulation is still a barrier to get all the available innovations in the farmers toolbox.

As underlined by David Cary: “The IBMA survey clearly shows we have a growing business, where all sectors are growing at double digit growth rates. The European market is diverse and the sales of biocontrol products reflect the diversity of our membership and the promoted goal of IPM using a multitude of different tools. ”

Growth in the European biocontrol market was similar with average growth figures at 20% per annum. It was 22.8% in 2013-14 and 14 % for 2014-15. Nevertheless, over the period surveyed the non-regulated biological inputs into agriculture, ie. Macrobiotics and Biostimulants have grown at an equal rate from a bigger starting platform and continue to represent a significant part of the market: 2013 – 53.9%, 2014 – 50.1% and 2015 – 49.9% of the total European market.

Willem Ravensberg, IBMA President notes: “ this suggests that regulatory systems and procedures in existence in the EU may be suppressing entry of biocontrol products to the market particularly when it is considered that macrobiotics have to date largely been restricted to protected agriculture markets.”

Therefore, IBMA calls for legislation that needs to be fit for purpose to provide biological plant protection solutions to European growers. It must ensure that growers have access to the most up-to-date biocontrol tools through a regulatory system which assesses the tools based on data requirements and procedures that are appropriate and proportionate to the risk that these active substances and products pose to human health and the environment.

To read IBMA Biocontrol survey report, please [visit our website](#).
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