

A long term participating small company questioning some of the recent developments of the industry

Frank Volk (Biofa AG) 10th Annual Biocontrol Industry Meeting ABIM Basel, Switzerland, 19-21 October 2015

Member of







Organic Plant Protection Organic Fertilizers Beneficial Insects



Our Intention

Our Intention



Replacement of chemicals

Sustainability

BIOFA Bio-Farming-Systems









Location

Location





Biofa AG Rudolf-Diesel-Straße 2 72525 Münsingen Germany



Location – Region Swabian Alb





Location – Company Building









Foundation in 1979

- first German company selling organic plant protection products
- Launch of plant strengtheners based on seaweed, plant extracts and clay minerals
- Focus on growers with sensitivity regarding Environmental Protection and public health



2000

 Due to the sudden death of the founder/ managing director, BIOFA was taken over by Dr. Schaette AG, Frank Volk and Stefan Reißner



Frank Volk



2003

- Taking over of 6 registered insecticides
- Distribution rights for several products



2008 – 2011

- Annex I-inclusion of Diatomaceous Earth (SiO₂) as Insecticide
- Annex I-inclusion of Lime sulfur as fungicide







Several distributors, partners and customers all over the European Union



Our Vision

Our Vision



Who we are and where we come from

- Dedication to Organic Farming
 - This means our whole product range has to be in line with the principles of organic farming according to the EU-Guidelines
 - Biofa AG keeps a close link to Organic Growers Associations and IFOAM. We adjust their needs to our economic opportunities.

Biofa shoulders responsibility for Organic Farming

Our Vision



Our strategic position

- From organic to IP
 - We bring in a long term experience in using BCAs in organic production
- Biofa goes Europe
 - Harmonization under the Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 as a chance

Our main focus is on specialty crops like vine, fruits and vegetables.

But we also have a wide offer for all other areas of organic agriculture.





















beneficial insects ers vegetables

viticulture

pome fruits

stone fruits ornamental plants

ntal soft fruits s arable storage farming protection

e hygiene in on animal house potatoes

fertilizers





Own Registration efforts under 1107/2009/EC

SilicoSec[®]

Diatomaceous Earth



CURATIO[®]

Calcium polysulphide; Lime sulfur

VitiSan®

Potassium bicarbonate

PPPs on national level

Baculovirus, Orange Oil, etc.







Own Registration efforts under EU-Guideline 528/2012

InsectoSec[®] Diatomaceous Earth

Natural biocide for poultry farmers and professional pest controllers





Questioning recent developments

Questioning



Motivation of the Global Players

- Hard chemicals the end of an era?
 - Revival of the traditionally essentials Copper, Sulphur, Mating Disruption, *Bt, etc.*
- Tempting rates of increase in biocontrol business
 - Where is the market where are the best opportunities?
 - What is the best way to participate?
- Global hunt for new biological control agents
 - Are the expectations viable or unrealistic?

Questioning



Small companies – underdog or driving force?

- How to keep up?
 - Uniqueness
 - Occupy the niche
 - Highly educated people dedicated to biocontrol <u>and</u> economics
- Who leads the lobbyism for BCAs?
 - Is it just a question of human and financial resources?
- Softening the borders between soft chemicals and BCAs
 - Risk for organic production or chance for new markets for BCAs?

Questioning



Regulatory issues



Thank you very much for your attention.



www.biofa-profi.de