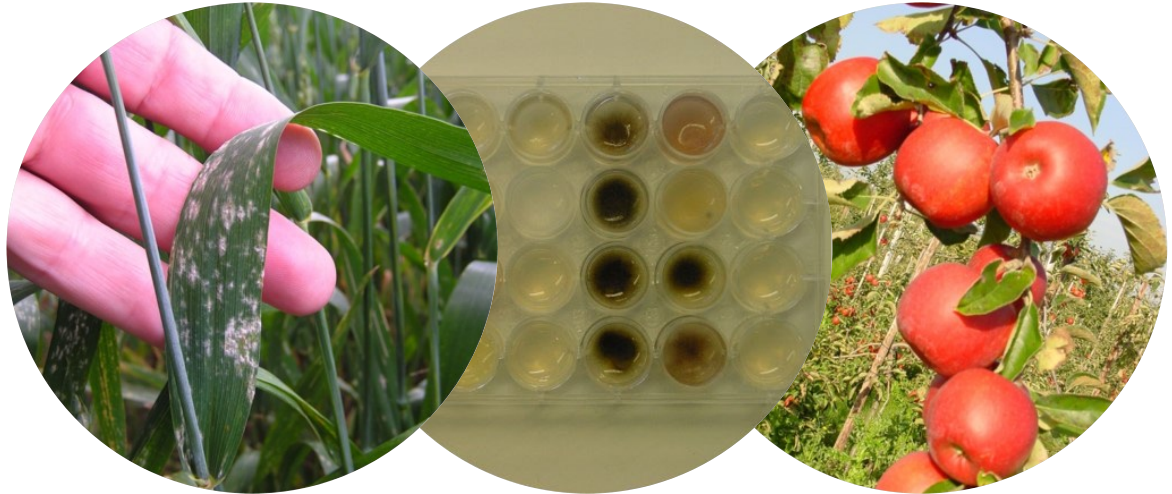
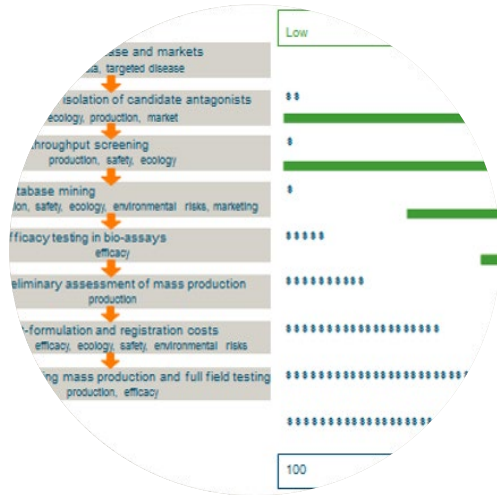


# Biologische bestrijders, een overzicht

Najaarsbijeenkomst KNVP

“Biologische bestrijding in open teelten”

10 december 2019, Jürgen Köhl



# Biologische bestrijders, een overzicht

## Aantekeningen

- Geschiedenis, tegenwoordige situatie, toekomstige ontwikkeling
- Gebruik van macrobials en microbials
- Natuurlijke buffering, akkerranden en suppressive soils
- Plagen en ziekten, eventueel onkruiden
- In open teelten

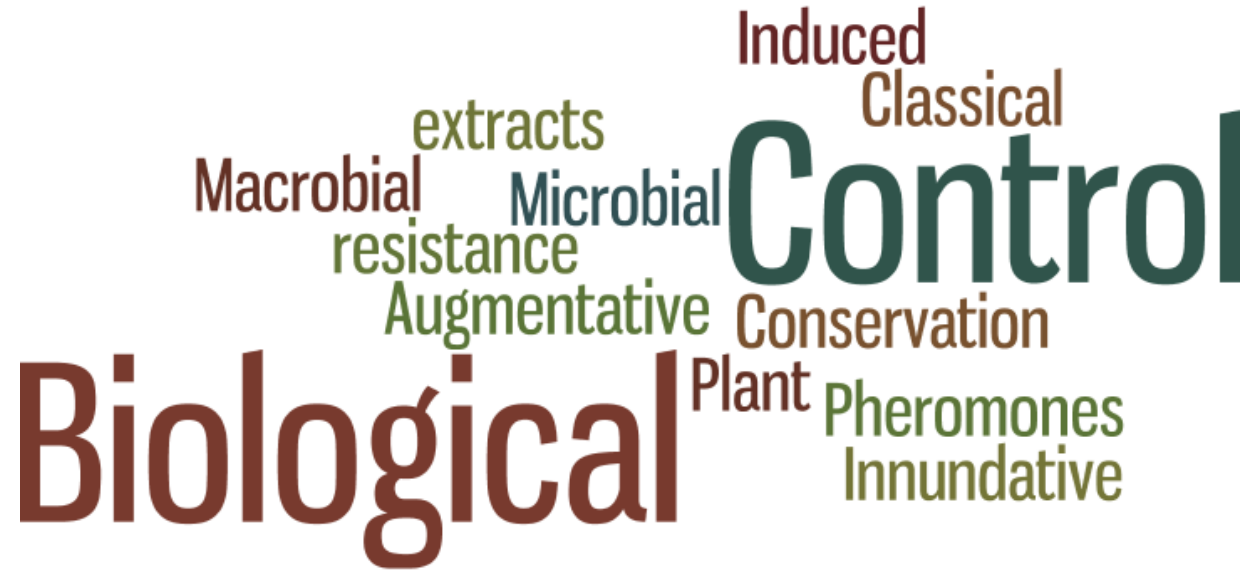
## Ambitie

- Compleet overzicht over gebruik van biologische bestrijding in open teelten ?
- Ontwikkeling van gebruik van middel x ha, per ziekte en plagen per gewas ?

## Realisatie

- Schets zonder al te veel harde getallen
- Met een bias richting schimmels
- en slides in het Engels

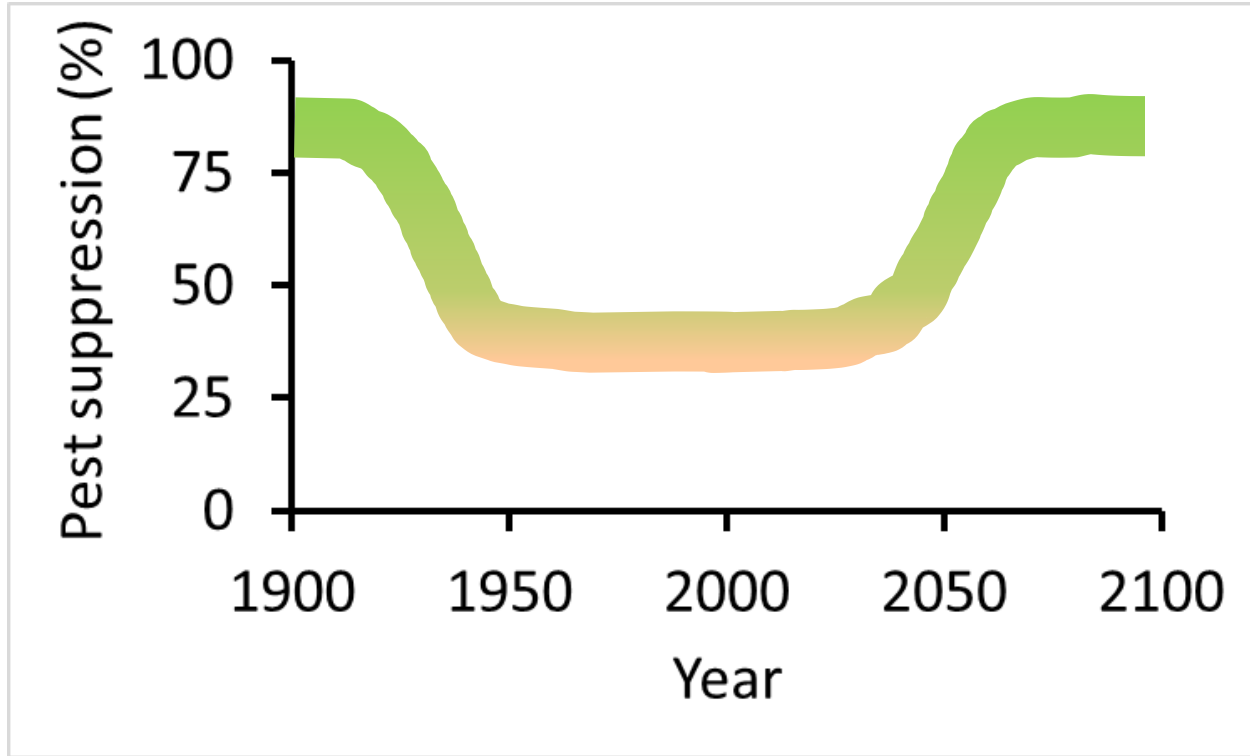
# What is Biological Control ?



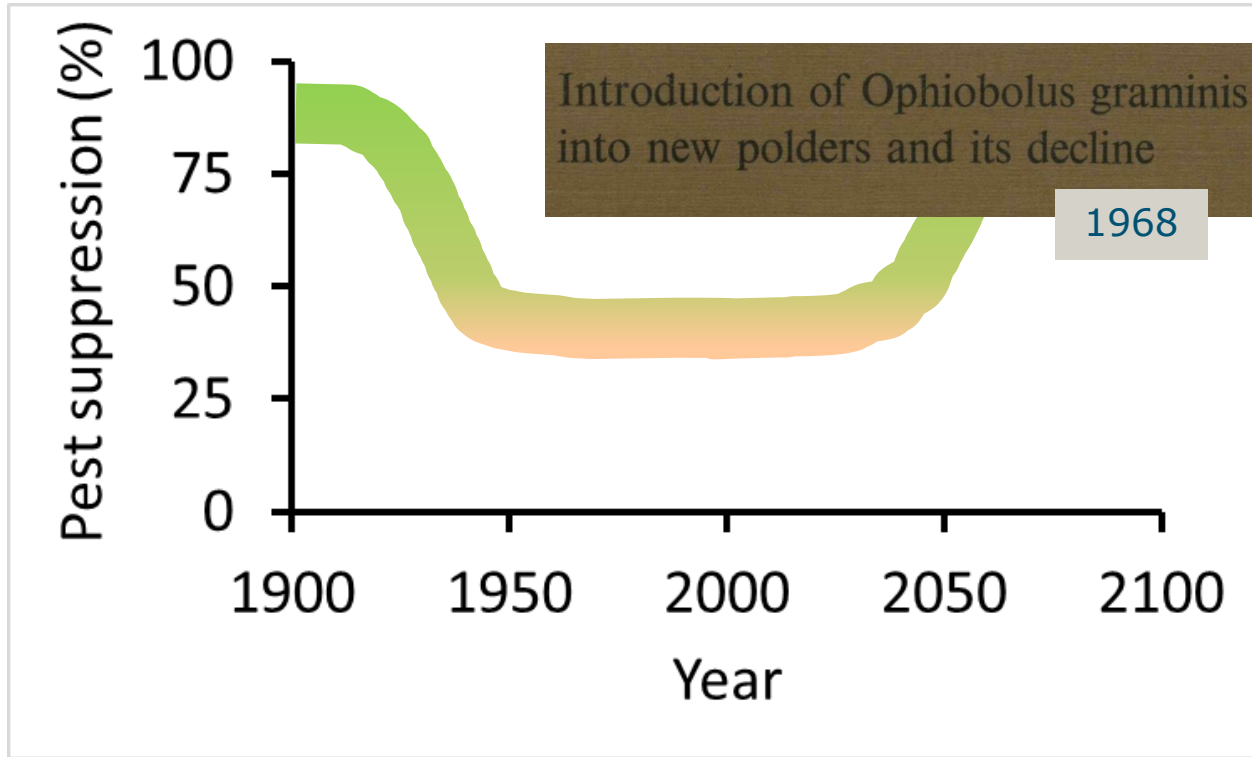
# Definitions (Eilenberg et al., 2001)

- **Biological control:** *'The **use of living organisms to suppress** the population density or impact of a specific **pest organism**, making it less abundant or less damaging than it would otherwise be'*
- **Conservation biological control:** *'Modification of the environment or existing practices to **protect and enhance specific natural enemies** or other organisms to reduce the effect of pests'*
- **Inundation biological control:** *'The use of living organisms to **control** pests when control is achieved exclusively **by the released organisms themselves**'*

# Conservation biological control: protect and enhance specific natural enemies



# Conservation biological control





## 1967

- Jan Koppert
- Chemische bestrijding
- Afname in effectiviteit
- Op zoek naar alternatieven
- Hij was de eerste die een natuurlijke vijand introduceerde om een spintplaag te bestrijden
- Positieve resultaten en effecten



**Hij stond voor een  
fundamentele keuze**

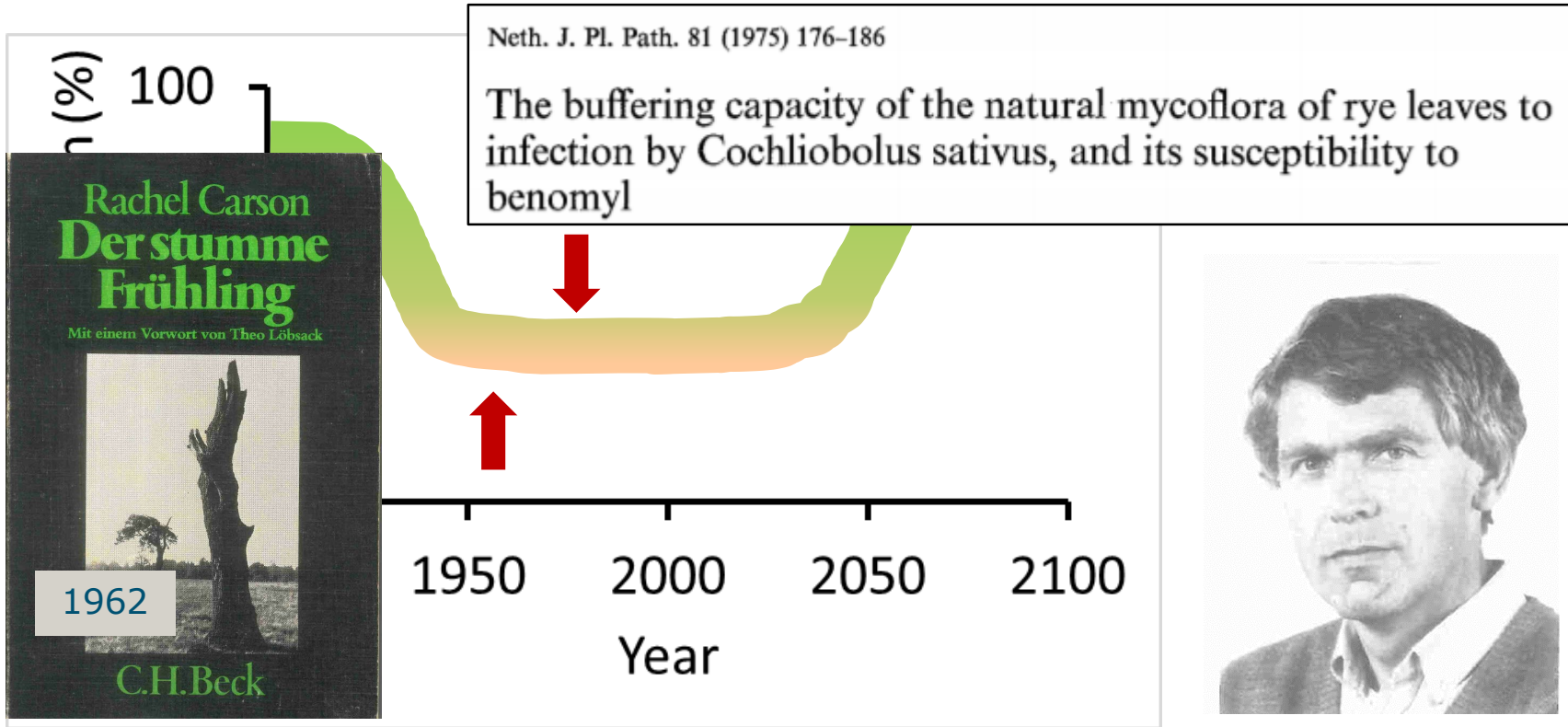
# Cropping systems with high input of chemical crop protection

- Systems become increasingly dependent on chemical crop protection
- Natural enemies and antagonists became victims of crop protection
- New pests and diseases occur and cause damage

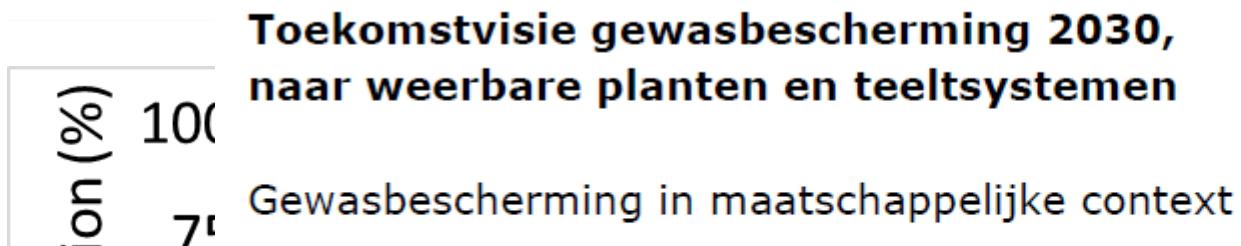




# Conservation biological control



# Conservation biological control



“LNV-visie gewasbescherming kan actieplan akkerbouw versterken”

lijk voor een rendabele en voor is de inzet van  
Hiervoor hebben telers

23-04-2019

De Toekomstvisie gewasbescherming  
actieplan Plantgezondheid van BC



Tweede Kamer

Commissie LNV

teru 16 juli 2019

**Ambities in Toekomstvisie gewasbescherming 2030 zijn meer dan noodzakelijk**

In april stuurde Carola Schouten, minister van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit, haar 'Toekomstvisie gewasbescherming 2030, naar weerbare planten en teeltsystemen' naar de Tweede Kamer, vergezeld van het 'Pakket van maatregelen emissiereductie gewasbescherming

[Gerelateerd](#)

# Resilient cropping systems

- Crops fitting to region
- Resistant cultivars
- Crop rotation
- limited and selective use of pesticides

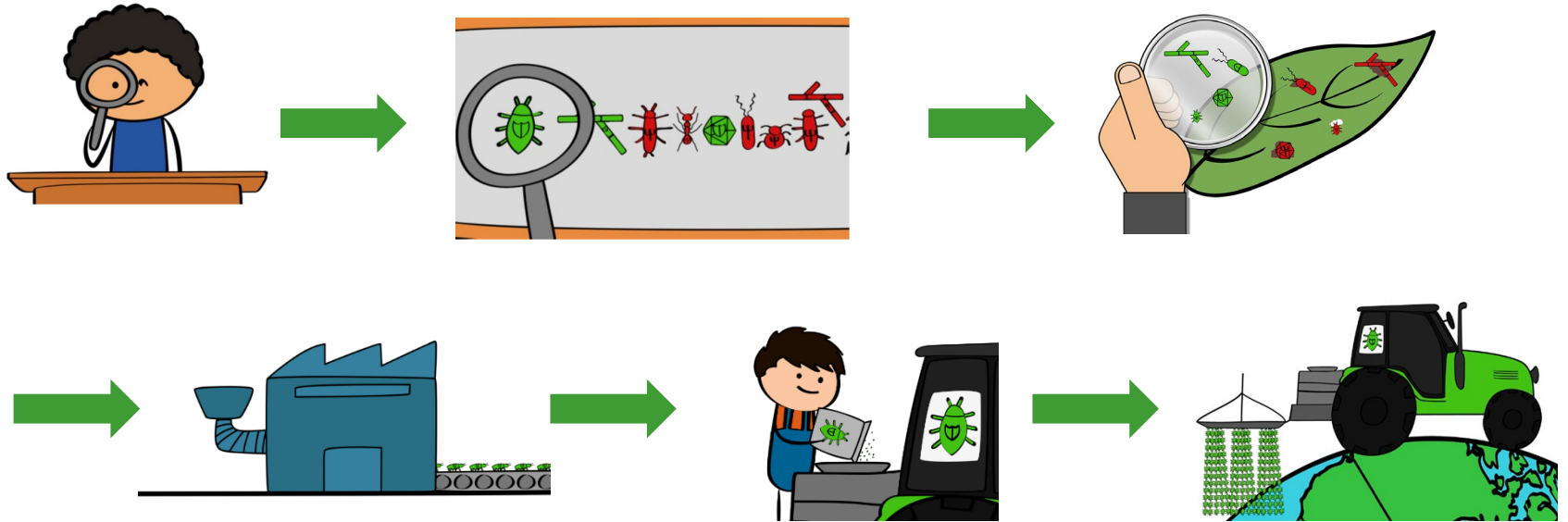
## **Natural enemies - Insects**

- provisioning food or shelter
- flower strips
- strip cropping
- ...

## **Antagonists - Microorganisms**

- Enhance suppressive soils
- Soil Health Treatments: plant material, chitin, composts, ...
- Microbiome research from description to functions to measures
- ...

# Use of biocontrol products: Inundative biological control



# Use of biocontrol products in open field crops

- Mass produced and released natural enemies
- Registered microbial crop protection products

## Limitations for use in open fields

- Costs
- Regulations
- Huge surfaces and volumes
- Environmental conditions: humidity, temperature, rain, UV



# Costs: Limitation for biocontrol in open field?

## Greenhouse crops

- Costs: 666,000 €/ha
- Yield: 718,000 €/ha

## Arable crops

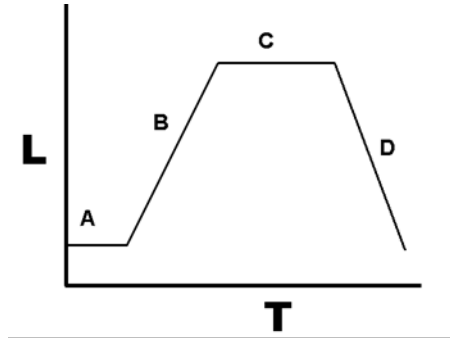
- Costs: 4200 €/ha
- Yield: 4800 €/ha

([www.agrimatie](http://www.agrimatie); WUR)

- Smaller market for selective products
- Allow true price including
  - externalized costs for chemical crop protection caused by residues in drinking water etc.
  - and benefits by maintaining natural enemies and antagonists

# Regulations: Limitation for biocontrol in open field?

- More questions on population dynamics and mode of action for open field than for greenhouse applications
- Living organisms with potential to grow, to change, to spread and to produce relevant antibiotic compounds



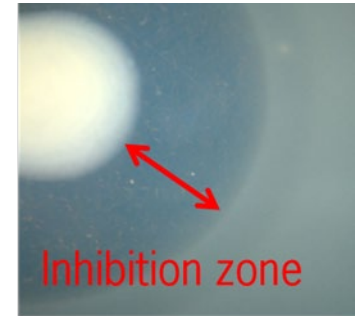
L = log(numbers) versus T (time.). Wikipedia.org

## Fear 1: Unlimited growth in open field environment

# Regulations: Limitation for biocontrol in open field?

## Fear 2: Continuous production of secondary metabolites accumulating in the open field environment

- Huge variety produced in natural environment
- *In situ* in micro niches
- Various functions
- Low concentrations
- Short lifespan



Köhl, Kolnaar & Ravensberg, 2019. Mode of action of microbial biological control agents against plant diseases: relevance beyond efficacy.  
doi: 10.3389/fpls.2019.00845



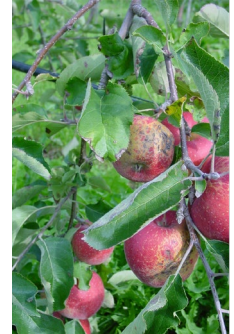
# Huge surfaces and volumes:

## Limitation for biocontrol in open field?

'... Biocontrol was achieved at an application rate of 1 g per kg of soil ...'

→ Equals 2000 kg per ha !

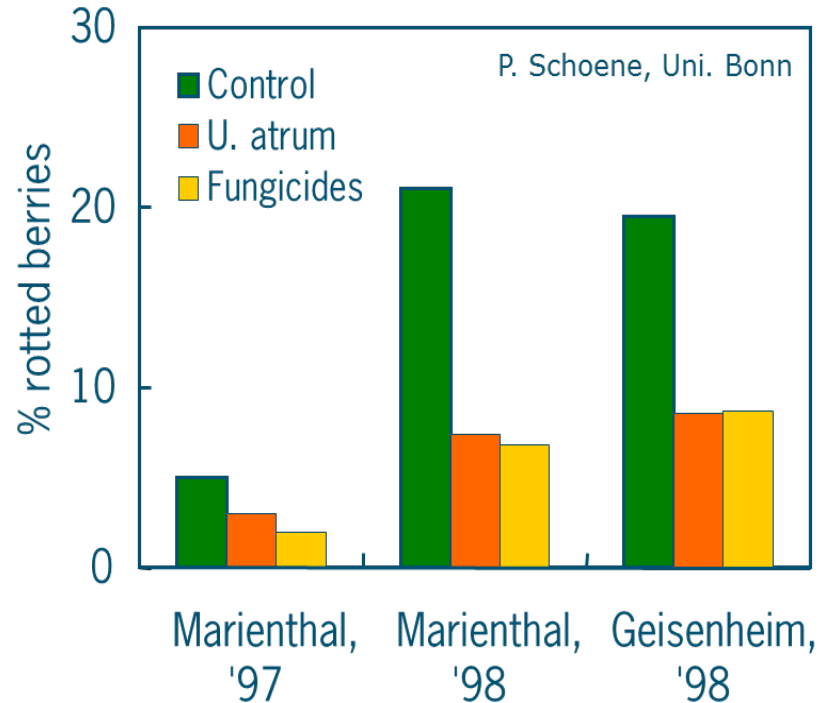
→ Select for antagonists with low application rates per ha



→ Upscale production facilities and adapt BCAs to upscaling



# Biocontrol of *Botrytis* with *Ulocladium atrum* 385



## Significant results in

- Grapevine
- Strawberry
- Onion
- Carrots
- Cyclamen
- Potted roses
- Hydrangea
- Pelargonium
- Tomato

15 years of science  
>30 scientific publications

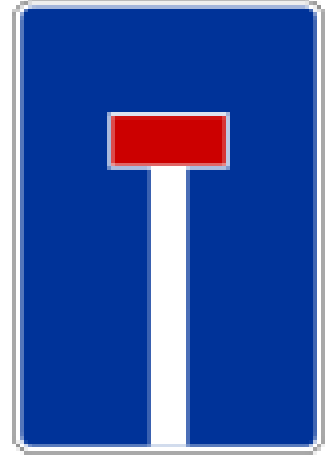
# Biocontrol of *Botrytis* with *Ulocladium atrum* 385



Spore production



Preparation of spore suspension

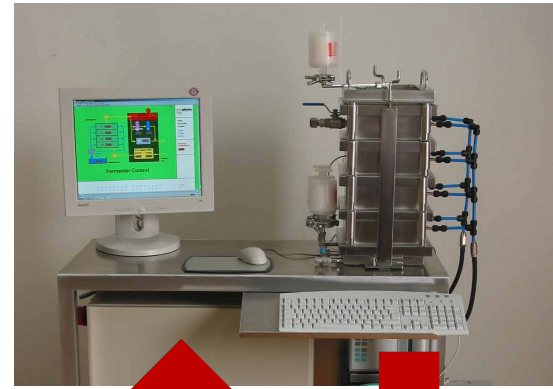
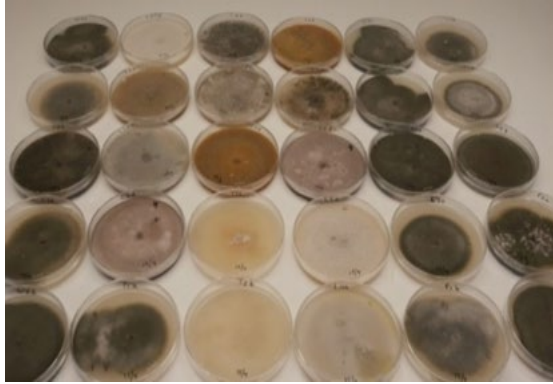


Industrial scaling up of production:

“At a particular effective rate of spores per ha the large spore size does not allow an economically viable production of the antagonist”

Peter Lüth, managing director of the former company Propytha

# Biocontrol of apple scab: Selection of *Cladosporium cladosporioides* H39



# Effect of *Cladosporium* H39 on apple scab

## Bavendorf, Golden Delicious, summer season 2013

| Treatment  | Number of applications | Scab incidence (efficacy) |            |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
|  |                        | on leaves                 | on fruits  |
| Untreated control                                      | -                      | 17.6 a                    | 70.8 a     |
| Dodine, after infection                                | 10                     | 1.1 b (94)                | 0.6 b (99) |
| H39, after infection, $2 \times 10^6$ ml <sup>-1</sup> | 10                     | 0.7 b (96)                | 3.5 b (95) |
| H39, after infection, $6 \times 10^6$ ml <sup>-1</sup> | 10                     | 0.3 b (98)                | 4.6 b (94) |

- $2 \times 10^6$  conidia per ml equals 30 g of conidia per ha
- ✓ Select for antagonists with low application rates per ha

# Bavendorf, Golden Delicious, primary season 2013



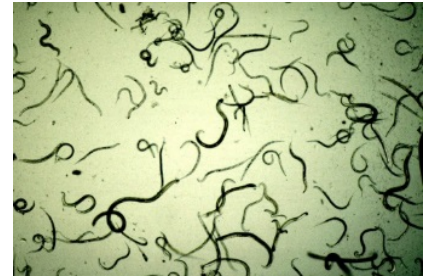
untreated control



H39

# Production technologies entomopathogenic nematodes

- E-NEMA is marketing EPN products
- BIOCOMES investigated genetic improvement of EPNs' longevity, virulence and stress tolerance
- Improvement of shelf life and field persistence allows use of EPN in huge markets for arable crops such as maize



*Heterorhabditis*



Western Corn  
Rootworm

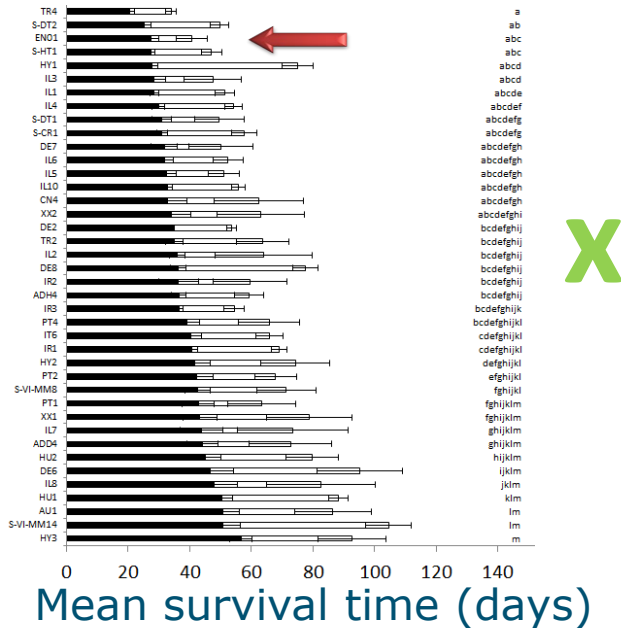


**BIOCOMES**

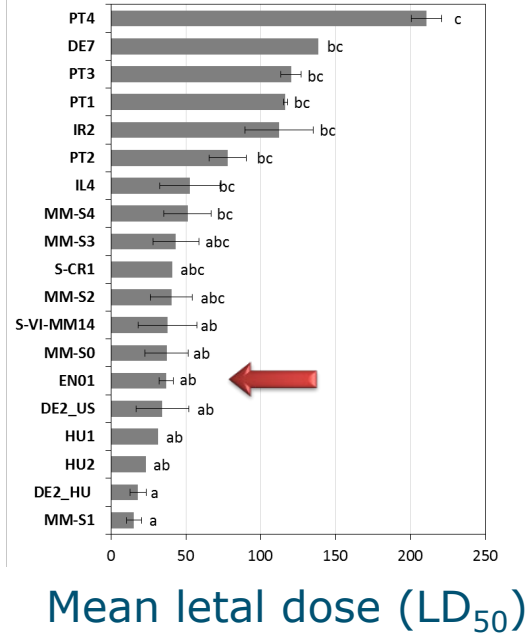
New biological control products  
for sustainable farming and forestry

# Improvement of entomopathogenic nematodes

## Longevity



## Virulence



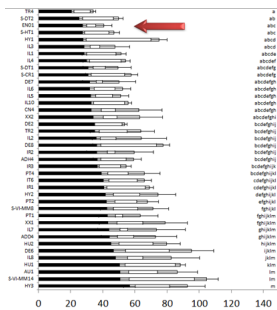
- Search for molecular markers based on sequence information
- Successful marker-assisted selection



# Huge surfaces and volumes: Limitation for biocontrol in open field?

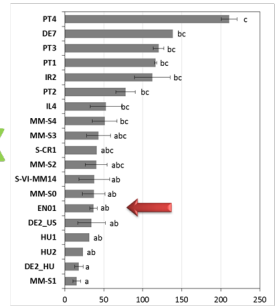
- ✓ Upscale production facilities and adapt BCAs to upscaling

Longevity



X

Virulence



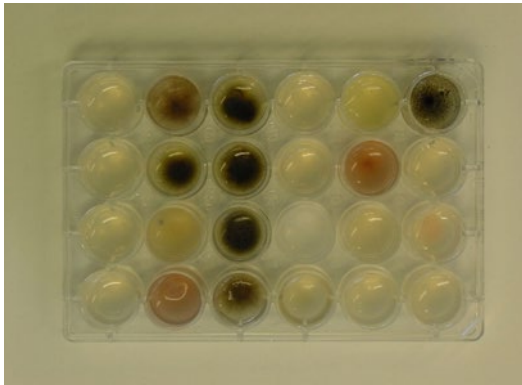
Mean survival time (days)      Mean lethal dose (LD<sub>50</sub>)



# Environmental conditions - humidity, temperature, rainfall, UV:

## Limitation for biocontrol in open field?

'... further research is needed to develop formulations protecting the antagonists against drought and UV irradiation ...'

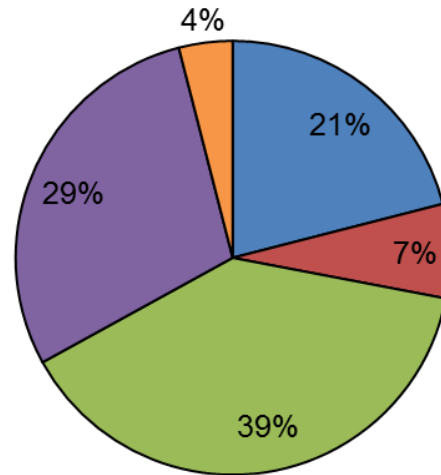


- Screening of candidate antagonists
  - Cold tolerance: Germination & growth at 5°C
  - Survival of UV-B
  - Drought tolerance: Germination & growth at -7MPa

# Biocontrol of powdery mildew in wheat



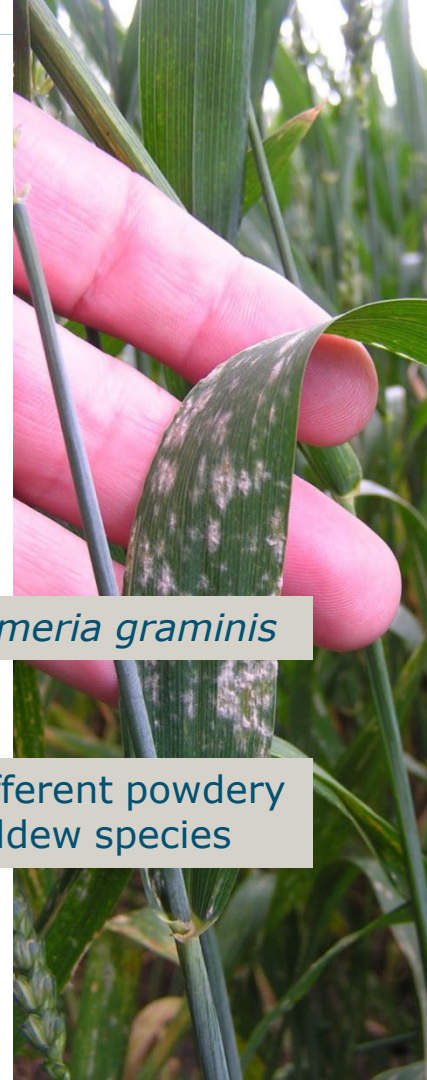
>1200 fungal isolates from Germany, Sweden and The Netherlands



- wheat
- other cereals
- grasses
- herbal plants
- trees

*Blumeria graminis*

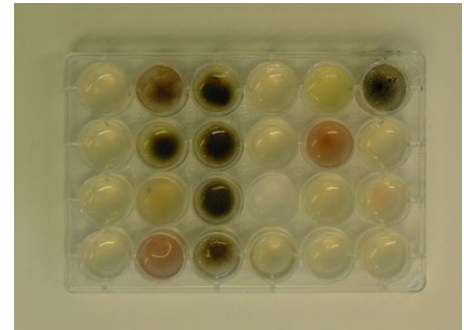
Different powdery mildew species



# Pre-screening

## Pre-screening

- Cold tolerance: Germination & growth at 5°C
  - Survival of UV-B
  - Drought tolerance: Germination & growth at -7MPa
- 85% out of 862 isolates fulfilled all criteria
- None of additionally tested isolates of *Trichoderma* spp. and *Clonostachys* spp. fulfilled all criteria



# Environmental conditions - humidity, temperature, rainfall, UV:

## Limitation for biocontrol in open field?



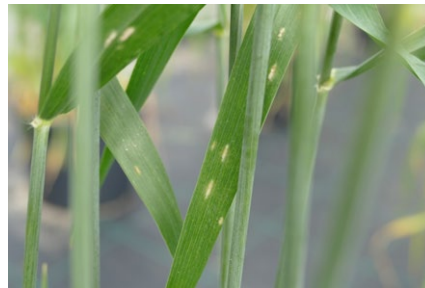
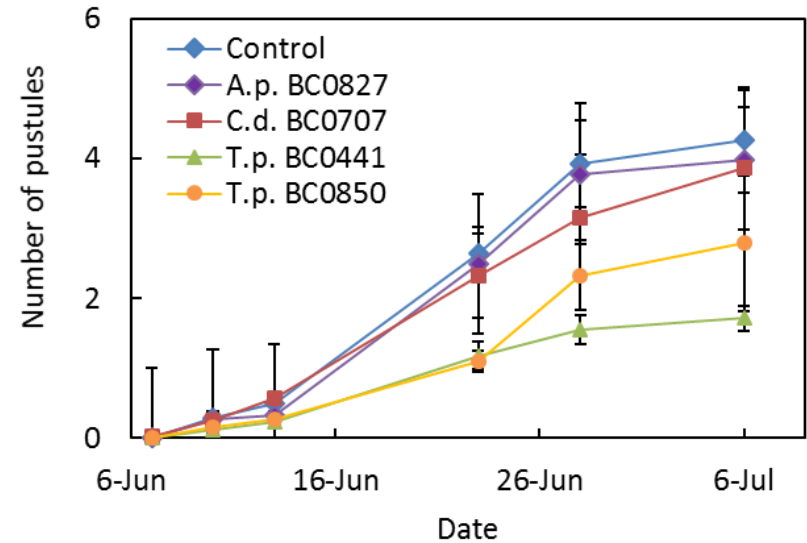
- Isolates from the appropriate niche are adapted to that niche
- Environmental conditions have impact on pathogen, antagonist and their interactions ...
- ... but do not limit use of biocontrol in the open field



# Powdery mildew- Field

*Tilletiopsis pallescens* reduced

- Number of pustules
- Leaf coverage with pustules
- Speed of development of epidemic





# BIOCOMES project

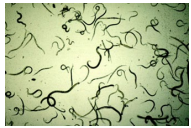
- 13 Industrial partners
- 14 Research institutes and universities
- Development of 11 new BCAs and 2 new production technologies **for open field crops**
- December 2013 – November 2017
- [www.biocomes.eu](http://www.biocomes.eu)
- Wageningen UR: Project-coordination & communication



# BIOCOMES: some major results



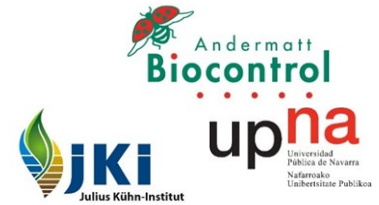
- Tomato leaf miner – *Tuta absoluta*
  - ⇒ entomopathogenic virus
  - ⇒ registration of 'Tutavir'



- Genetic improvement of entomopathogenic nematodes
  - ⇒ Application



- Powdery mildew of wheat – *Blumeria graminis* f.sp. *tritici*
  - ⇒ Selection of new antagonists
  - ⇒ Spore production in follow-up project





# Bernard Blum Award ABIM 2019

**BERNARD BLUM AWARD**

**Tutavir®**  
Natural efficacy that is reliable

**First granulovirus product against the tomato leafminer (*Tuta absoluta*) – a highly devastating and fast-spreading tomato pest worldwide**

**Tutavir is an excellent tool for integrated tomato programs in greenhouse as well as outdoor production**

- Highly compatible with other inputs, also pollinators and other beneficials
- Highly specific to tomato leafminer
- Unique and new mode of action for resistance management
- Safe for consumer, producer and the environment

**Advantages**

**Fields of application**

**upha**

**Biocontrol**

**ecce**

**Tutavir® – The way to the market**

- Dossier for EU approval submitted in November 2018
- First emergency approval in Germany 2019
- Registrations prepared in Europe, North Africa, South America
- Field testings in Europe, Africa, NME, South America and SE Asia

**Acknowledgments**

- BIOCOMES**
- BIOGARD**
- Intatom**
- JKI**
- upha**
- BERNARD BLUM AWARD 2019**

**Organic Control System**

**ABIM**



*Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities*

**Joop C. van Lenteren, Karel Bolckmans, Jürgen Köhl, Willem J. Ravensberg & Alberto Urbaneja**

**BioControl**  
Journal of the International  
Organization for Biological Control

ISSN 1386-6141  
Volume 63  
Number 1

BioControl (2018) 63:39-59  
DOI 10.1007/s10526-017-9801-4



## Commercial production

Natural enemies / invertebrates (worldwide)

- 354 species by approx. 500 companies

Microorganisms (AUS, BR, CA, EU, J, NZ, USA)

- 209 strains registered from 94 species
- approx. 200 manufacturers

**Table 1** Worldwide use of major augmentative biological control programs (after van Lenteren and Bueno 2003), with updates and supported with references when large differences in areas under control existed between 2003 and 2016

| Natural enemy            | Pest and crop                                     | Area under control (in ha)                     |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| <i>Trichogramma</i> spp. | Lepidopteran pests in vegetables, cereals, cotton | 10 million, former USSR <sup>a</sup>           |
| <i>Trichoderma</i> spp.  | Soil diseases various crops                       | 5 million, Brazil, Europe <sup>b</sup>         |
| <i>Trichogramma</i> spp. | Lepidopteran pests in various crops, forests      | 4 million, China <sup>c</sup>                  |
| <i>Cataglyphis</i> spp.  | Sugarcane borers                                  | 3.6 million, South America, China <sup>d</sup> |

# Number of registered BCAs

| Region      | Targets         |                    |                |       |       |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------|-------|
|             | Fungal diseases | Bacterial diseases | Viral diseases | Pests | Weeds |
| Australia   | 1               | 0                  | 0              | 13    | 0     |
| Brazil      | 8               | 0                  | 0              | 20    | 0     |
| Canada      | 17              | 5                  | 0              | 25    | 8     |
| EU          | 33              | 2                  | 3              | 30    | 0     |
| Japan       | 5               | 7                  | 0              | 9     | 0     |
| New Zealand | 12              | 2                  | 0              | 14    | 0     |
| USA         | 31              | 6                  | 0              | 35    | 5     |

*Biological control using invertebrates and microorganisms: plenty of new opportunities*

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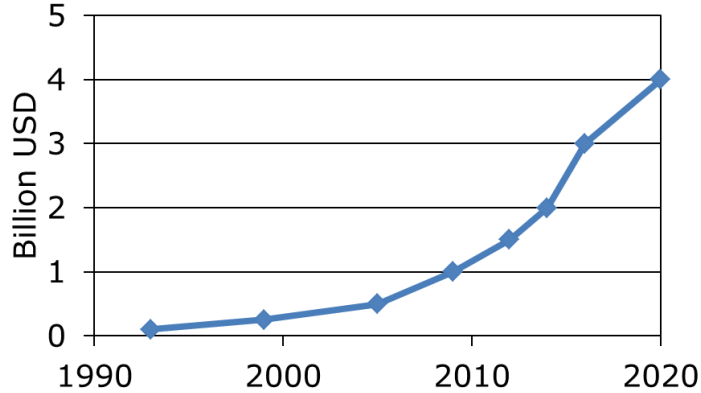
 Springer

# Registered biological control products against selected soil pathogens in the Netherlands in arable crops

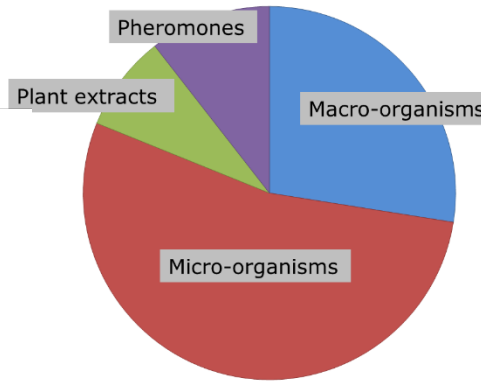
- 7 antagonists
- 8 products
- No information on crops and use

| Pathogen                        | Antagonist                               | Product       |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| <i>Ditylenchus dipsaci</i>      | <i>Bacillus firmus</i> I-1582            | VOTiVO        |
| <i>Heterodera schachtii</i>     | <i>Bacillus firmus</i> I-1582            | VOTiVO        |
| <i>Pratylenchus</i>             | <i>Bacillus firmus</i> I-1582            | VOTiVO        |
| <i>Plenodomus lingam</i>        | <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> MBI600 | IntegralPro   |
| <i>Pythium ultimum</i> group    | <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> QST713 | Serenade      |
|                                 | <i>Streptomyces griseoviridis</i> K61    | Mycostop      |
|                                 | <i>Trichoderma harzianum</i> T22         | Trianum-P, -G |
| <i>Pythium violae</i>           | <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> QST713 | Texio         |
| <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>       | <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> QST713 | Serenade      |
|                                 | <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain DSMZ13134  | ProradixAgro  |
|                                 | <i>Trichoderma harzianum</i> T22         | Trianum-P, -G |
| <i>Sclerotinia minor</i>        | <i>Coniothyrium minitans</i> CON/M/91-8  | CONTANS       |
| <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i> | <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> QST713 | Serenade      |
|                                 | <i>Coniothyrium minitans</i> CON/M/91-8  | CONTANS       |

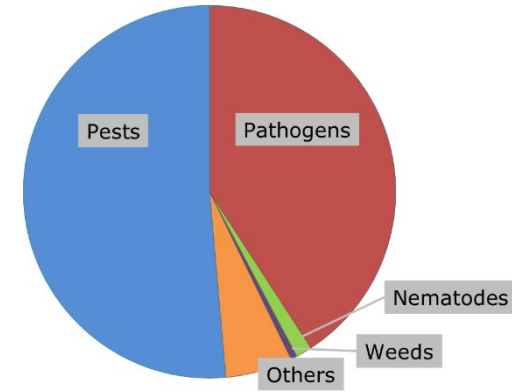
# Biocontrol market



## Product groups



## Biocontrol targets

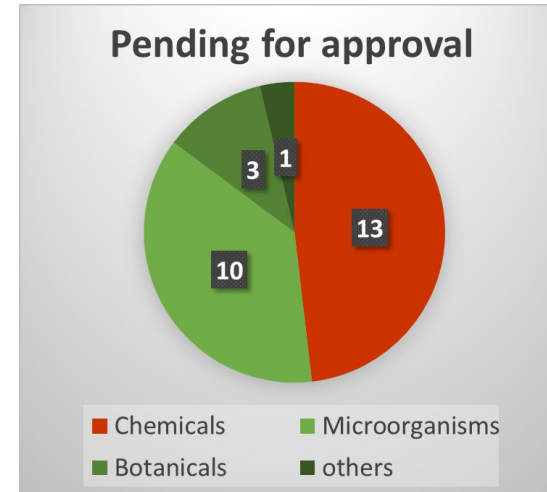
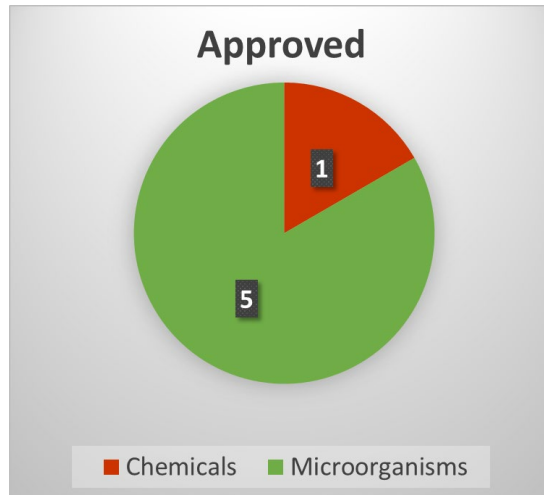


- 4 % of global pesticide market
- 16% CAGR

Data from:  
Keynote\_Dunham\_ABIM\_2015.pdf  
[www.abim.ch](http://www.abim.ch)

# Approval of new active substances in EU – 2017

(Source: EU pesticides database)



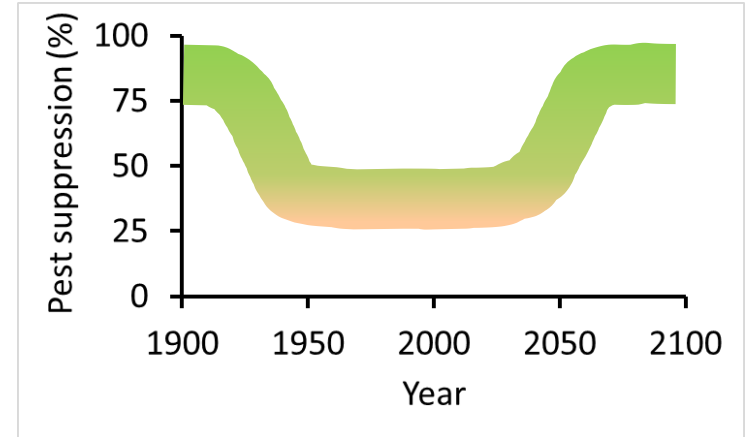
# Cropping systems with high input of chemical crop protection

- Systems become increasingly dependent on chemical crop protection
- Natural enemies and antagonists became victims of crop protection
- New pests and diseases occur and cause damage



# Cropping systems with selective biological crop protection

- Systems become increasingly independent of chemical crop protection
- Increasing resilience against pests and diseases through natural enemies and antagonists
- Biocontrol products needed to support transition and to control last '5%' of damage by pests and diseases in resilient cropping systems





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Thank you for your  
attention and discussion

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