Secure & develop a single market in EU for biostimulants

Securing appropriate European regulation for biostimulants is a top priority for EBIC. This will help create a sector where biostimulants can fully contribute to sustainable agriculture and to society in general.

EBIC is a trusted partner and resource for EU policy-makers in their ongoing efforts to harmonise the sector.

Reinforce the reputation and credibility of the industry

Promoting the scientific basis for biostimulant claims is an integral part of EBIC’s work and is aimed at boosting the credibility and reputation of the industry.

Through its Code of Conduct, EBIC requires its members to make only science-based claims, ensuring that any products sold are effective, safe and respect the principle of loyal competition.

Drive green economic growth and contribute to sustainable agriculture and the circular economy

EBIC is making a strong contribution to the growth of the biostimulant market.

EBIC is an important source of reliable information to inform investors about the sector to support market development.

Find out more and contact us | The EBIC secretariat is provided by Prospero & Partners, an independent consultancy helping food and agriculture organisations to create value sustainably. The secretariat also provides public affairs support to EBIC. Contact details at www.biostimulants.eu

EBIC’s strategic objectives are driven by its Board of Directors, an overarching body of company experts.

The responsibilities of the Board include:
- overseeing operations and finance
- establishing and managing committees and task forces
- supervising the secretariat
- confirming admission of new members
- approving external communications

The board is accompanied by a number of experts who form committees and working groups.

For more details on EBIC’s current Board composition, please visit: http://www.biostimulants.eu/about/board/
What is a biostimulant?

EBIC’s definition:

Plant biostimulants means a material which contains substance(s) and/or microorganisms whose function, when applied to plants or the rhizosphere, is to stimulate natural processes to enhance/benefit nutrient uptake, nutrient efficiency, tolerance to abiotic stress, and crop quality, independent of its nutrient content.

**“Biostimulants are defined by what they do not what they are”**

Professor Patrick du Jardin, University of Liège Gembloux

What role do biostimulants play in plant nutrition?

Plant nutrition is an important factor in plant health. In the same way that humans need vitamins and enzymes as well as minerals, plants need biostimulants in addition to fertilisers, to boost their vitality and reach their full potential.

Plants absorb nutrition through their roots in the same way humans digest food through their intestines.

A common effect of biostimulants is to stimulate root development. This helps plants access more nutrients and water in the soil.

How do biostimulants work?

Biostimulants affect interactions inside the plant and between the plant and the beneficial microorganisms around it.

Biostimulants stimulate natural processes to benefit nutrient uptake & efficiency. They also help improve crop quality and tolerance to abiotic stress, such as tough climate conditions or lack of water.

Biostimulants are an additional tool in farmers’ toolboxes alongside fertilisers and plant protection products.

What are biostimulants made of?

Common ingredients in biostimulants include:
- microorganisms
- plant and seaweed extracts
- amino acids
- humic acids
- mineral salts and some chemicals.

What advantages would the right regulatory framework bring?

EBIC believes that the right regulation can strike a balance between ensuring products are safe and effective and promote ongoing innovation. Advantages include:
- A single European market for biostimulants
- A transparent, predictable and cost-effective process to launch biostimulants
- Recognition that authorised biostimulants are safe, effective products that protect the consumer and the environment.

It’s the combination that matters

Biostimulants are comprised of many different ingredients. Just like a cooking recipe, it is the combination of ingredients, and not the specific ingredients themselves, that make the final product unique and effective!