

BioAg World Congress (BAW)

“BIOAGRO-DISRUPTOR”

BIO AGRICULTURE: a term that is used for organic farming, which means an agricultural method to produce food using natural substances and processes. The aim is to grow plants and raise animals with biological solutions while having a limited impact on the environment. This covers the use of organic fertilizers, biological pest control and a high standard of animal welfare.

This integrated farming system strives for sustainability, the enhancement of soil fertility and biological diversity while (with rare exceptions) prohibiting synthetic pesticides, antibiotics, synthetic fertilizers, genetically modified organisms and growth hormones.

PURPOSE

With innovations and trends in the bioag industry, BioAg World Congress and GBAL assume a matchmaker function for the global bioag industry. In an effort to further this function we have started the Commercial Innovations Award. This award is made to highlight innovators and their innovations in bio-agriculture to support food security and food safety in a sustainable manner.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for this contest, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) This event is open to any person or commercial company.
- 2) It has to be a bioproduct.
- 3) It has to be registerable or registered for the first time globally, no earlier than January 31, 2019.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

We will need an abstract that covers these details:

- Name of innovation (product)
- Innovation's purpose
- What is innovative about it
- What impact does this innovation have on agricultural sustainability and safety
- Any additional comments

Please be as concise as possible in each of these descriptions. Our judges should not have to read a small novel to understand the product.

CRITERIA for Winners

All applications will be judged based on the following criteria:

1. *Originality, Creativity & Adaptability* (25%): This is pretty self-explanatory, but the innovation should be of your own creation not some slight improvement to a pre-existing product.

2. *Functionality & Technical Qualities* (15%): This will be based on how well the innovation works. Does it have bugs, how will those bugs be addressed, how effective is this product, etc.
3. *Ease of Use & Adoption* (15%): What impact will this have on the farmer? Is it easy to learn to use or do you need to have an advanced degree to operate it? How hard/expensive will it be to shift from current practices to this?
4. *Game-changer and disruption* (12.5%): This will be judged on what the potential impact on the segments of biofertilizer, biopesticide, biostimulants or bionutrients; and the industry as a whole.
5. *Implementation & Performance* (12.5%): This segment will be judged on how well thought out your go-to-market strategy is.
6. *Sustainability parameter score on 3 'P's* (10%): The three Ps are "planet, profit, people". Your product will be judged according to how sustainable it is for all three of these parameters individually and as a whole.
7. *Potential for Growth* (10%): This refers to how sound the business model is and how much market opportunity there is. Is it wanted by people and will more people want it in the future?

SELECTION PROCESS

Preliminary Round

Contest is open from **February 1 – July 13**. All submissions will be submitted online and reviewed by a committee made of selected leaders of the industry. Entries will be scored on a weighted point system from seven categories with a total of 1.0 points possible. The breakdown will be as follows:

<i>Originality, Creativity & Adaptability</i>	.250
<i>Functionality & Technical Qualities</i>	.150
<i>Ease of Use & Adoption</i>	.150
<i>Game-changer and disruption</i>	.125
<i>Implementation & Performance</i>	.125
<i>Sustainability parameter score on 3 'P's</i>	.100
<i>Potential for Growth</i>	.100

Three finalists will be selected to come to **BioAg World Congress (BAW)** in Sacramento, CA at the DoubleTree on **August 26 – 28**. Finalists will be announced **July 31, 2020**.

Final Round: The 3 Finalists will be given 15mn each to present their projects to the conference delegates in the session 5 titled "Innovation Linkages between institutional innovations and private innovations". Delegates will be given a rating form app to submit the name of the best innovation. They will judge the presentations from a scale of 1 – 5. The winner will be announced at the gala dinner (August 27) and will receive an award.

AWARDS

GBAL will award a trophy to the winner, and a complementary registration for BAW in the following year. The winner will be interviewed and will have a product profile placement in all GBAL publications and social media, following the event. Each shortlisted entry will be given a profile that will be presented each of the 3 weeks leading up to the event.

If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Stolpe at katiestolpe@bioaglinkages.com