
Iowa Biotech Association Monthly Update August 2011

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If you would like more information on any topic or no longer wish to receive these messages,
please email Mike Ott at mikeott@iowabio.org or call (319) 621-8580

Breaking News

On October 17th & 18th, the IBA will host [Partnering for Growth](#), along with other partners. This will serve as our annual conference and core members will be able to exhibit at no charge. Other exhibitors and sponsors are needed, and all information can be found [here](#)

Follow us on Twitter [@IowaBio](#) for hot news stories, updates on Member Benefits and everything related to biotechnology in Iowa.

The IBA is a sponsor of [iExploreSTEM](#), which will host an event focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in Coralville on Sept. 18th

The IBA is participating in [BioMidwest](#), which highlights the organizations that comprise the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and medical device industries in the Midwest

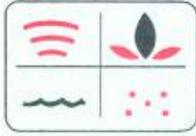
Featured Member

EXEMPLAR GENETICS bridges the considerable gap between the laboratory mouse and human testing with a patented process featuring a substantially improved animal model: the pig. Pigs and humans share far more anatomical, histological, biochemical and physiologic properties than mice and humans. Pigs are excellent models for cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes, alcoholism, hypertension, cutaneous pharmacology and toxicology, lipoprotein metabolism, intestinal function, nutrition, and injury and repair. Pigs and humans also have similar immune systems and inflammatory responses.

Exemplar has offices in Sioux Center and a research facility in Coralville, in total employing 33 full and part time employees. Exemplar recently received three significant SBIR grants from the NIH. They will be used to develop porcine models of atherosclerosis, Duchenne muscular dystrophy and ataxia-telangiectasia.

Learn more at www.exemplargenetics.com

Food & Agricultural



**MIDWEST
OILSEEDS, INC.**

goal

Stine Seeds has set a **goal of 60,000 corn plants** per acre, up from current levels of 35,000:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110811/BUSINESS01/108110310/1030/60-000-corn-plants-per-acre-Seed-firm-works-toward->



Congratulations to **Eurofins for receiving ISO 17025:2005 accreditation** for microbiology from the AALA:

<http://www.businessrecord.com/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=14733&SectionID=36&SubSectionID=99&S=1>



Cargill **will buy Provimi**, a Dutch animal nutrition company, for \$2.1 billion:

<http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2011/08/15/cargill-buys-animal-feed-company-for-2-1-billion/?nl=business&emc=dlbkpma21>

MONSANTO
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Monsanto is seeking to **increase yields as climate changes stress crops**:

<http://www.nytimes.com/cwire/2011/08/11/11climatewire-a-biotech-giant-looks-to-become-a-yield-comp-38583.html>

Monsanto will roll out **trials for drought resistant corn** next spring and will introduce its **first biotech sweet corn**: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/09/monsanto-corn-idUSN1E77815S20110809> AND : <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/04/us-monsanto-sweetcorn-idUSTRE7735LY20110804>



Syngenta sued Bunge for its refusal to accept corn with Syngenta's Agrisure Viptera trait, which is not currently approved for export to China:

<http://farministrynews.com/biotech-traits/syngenta-files-complaint-against-bunge-not-accepting-viptera-corn>



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Monsanto and DuPont are **bringing next generation soybean oils to market**:

<http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproductsarticle.php?storyid=2974&mode=simple>



The government of Argentina **approved Bayer's Liberty Link GM soybeans** <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/20/grains-argentina-seeds-idUSN1E77J02820110820>



An ISU agronomy climatologist believes that the USDA's corn outlook is overly optimistic and instead **asserts that average yields will be 149 bushels/acre:**

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110819/BUSINESS01/108190307/ISU-expert-USDA-s-outlook-for-corn-too-rosy>

Ag exports are expected to be strong, increasing to \$137 billion for fiscal 2010:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/09/01/ag-exports-seen-strong-through-next-year/>

Poet is selling **certified antibiotic free DDGS:**
<http://www.grainnet.com/article.php?ID=113450>

Kinze Manufacturing is **working on drone tractors** that can operate without humans:
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011108210305>

Dow AgroSciences is launching a **GM soybean seed that is tolerant of three herbicides:**
<http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFN1E77L07V20110822?sp=true>

Corn yield projections continue to drop, with an expectation of 165 bushels/acre for Iowa, 18 bushels below the record set in 2009:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/08/26/a-reduced-corn-yield-forecast/>

The unprecedented **strength of the farm revenues has bolstered Iowa's overall economy:** <http://thegazette.com/2011/08/19/farm-revenue-buoys-iowa-economy/>

An Op-ed from the New York Times on the **need to reduce regulation in order to allow the production of enough food for the growing population:**
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/19/opinion/genetically-engineered-food-for-all.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=tha212>

Usage of **corn for ethanol is larger than feed for the first time:**
<http://thegazette.com/2011/08/15/for-first-time-more-corn-to-be-used-for-ethanol-than-livestock/>

The value of **cropland has increased by nearly 24%** in 2011:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110809/BUSINESS01/308090052/1030/USA-says-iowa-s-cropland-value-soars-2011>

The investment company controlling **Bill Gates' money bought 5% of John Deere**:

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/08/10/bill-gates-buys-5-percent-of-deere/>

Corn trading limits have increased to \$0.40 daily, from \$0.30:

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/08/10/corn-trading-limits-increased/>

A 'super committee' in charge of cutting the federal **budget may in essence write the upcoming Farm Bill**: <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/08/02/farm-bill-in-hands-of-super-committee/>

Nigeria will **use biotechnology to increase food security**:

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201108011730.html>

Despite loud lobbying from some groups, **only 3% of customers are concerned about the amount of corn sweeteners in food**:

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/08/01/corn-sweeteners-not-a-priority-for-consumers/>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical



KemPharm **expanded its ADHD portfolio** with KP415:

http://www.iowabio.org/documents/news/KemPharm_KP415_Lead_FINALv2_4F6A21E569C58.pdf



Exemplar Genetics, who models human disease in pigs, **won three SBIR grants** for the treatment of ataxia, atherosclerosis and Duchenne muscular dystrophy:

<http://www.exemplargenetics.com/>



Pfizer will sell Xalkori for the **treatment of late-stage, non-small cell lung cancer**:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-08-26/pfizer-wins-u-s-approval-for-tumor-fighting-medicine-to-treat-lung-cancer.html>



[complera_8617636.html](http://www.jnj.com/complera_8617636.html)

The FDA **approved a once daily HIV treatment** from Johnson & Johnson and Gilead: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/08/10/business-health-care-us-gilead-sciences->



GlaxoSmithKline

GlaxoSmithKline is using gene therapy to **develop treatments for 'bubble boy' disease**: <http://www.medcitynews.com/2011/08/gsk-moves-to-develop-gene-therapy-for-bubble-boy-disease/?edition=pharmaceuticals>

BioLeap helps scientists create new chemical molecules based on the **likelihood that they will connect to specific protein targets**: http://www.xconomy.com/new-york/2011/08/23/gsk-and-unilever-among-early-adopters-of-bioleaps-technology-for-creating-new-molecules/?single_page=true

Aegis Therapeutics patented a process that **stabilizes peptide drugs** so they can be taken orally, injected or inhaled: http://www.nctimes.com/business/article_66df5d09-24c5-52ca-bd7a-56780867c00a.html

Sunscreen could be taken in pill form, using compounds derived from coral: http://bodyodd.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2011/08/31/7544164-sunscreen-in-a-pill-coral-compounds-may-be-key

Researchers believe they have found **evidence of genetic links to Parkinson's disease**: <http://consumer.healthday.com/Article.asp?AID=656368>

Researchers have developed gels that **seal wounds that are too small to be treated with traditional sutures**: <http://scopeblog.stanford.edu/2011/08/reconnecting-severed-blood-vessels-without-sutures/>

Rapid and cheap genome sequencing technology may **be crucial for the treatment of infectious disease outbreaks**: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/30/science/30microbe.html?_r=1

Yale researchers have **synthesized a compound used to treat Alzheimer's disease**: <http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2011/08/22/daily42-Yale-researchers-synthesize-Alzheimers-compound.html>

Researchers have discovered a **protein which appears to spur the onset of Alzheimer's disease**: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2011/08/24/scientists-protein-discovery-could-be-key-to-alzheimers-cure/>

UCLA researchers have discovered **why the human heart can't regenerate itself**: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health/Why-the-human-heart-cant-regenerate-itself/articleshow/9553629.cms>

A new **leukemia treatment cured the disease in two patients** and reduced it by 70% in a third: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/44090512/ns/health-cancer/#.TkLX_I3_I2A

MIT researchers may have discovered **a drug that could cure any viral infection**: <http://www.masshightech.com/stories/2011/08/08/daily33-MIT-docs-may-have-cured-the-common-cold.html>

The **FDA will require much more data for biosimilars** than the traditional approval process: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/03/fda-biosimilars-idUSN1E7720LD20110803>

French researchers have **developed a therapeutic vaccine for Hepatitis C**: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/03/us-hepatitis-vaccine-idUSTRE7725DV20110803>

Disclosure rules for hedge funds have **shed light on recent trades in biotech stocks**: <http://www.cnbc.com/id/44175913>

An innovation guru **paradoxically suggests that Pharma companies should spur innovation by cutting research and development**: <http://blogs.forbes.com/matthewherper/2011/08/03/rallying-pharmas-rebels/>

Industrial & Environmental



Congratulations to Cargill for **winning EPA Energy Star ratings for energy efficiency** at four corn milling plants: <http://www.grainnet.com/article.php?ID=113478>

Prairie Lands Bio-Products purchased the assets of the Chariton Valley Resource Conservation and Development project and will **pursue biomass research opportunities** in Iowa: <http://www.iowaswitchgrass.com/>

Growth Energy is **offering complimentary E85 kits** for gasoline retailers: <http://domesticfuel.com/2011/08/31/growth-energy-offers-retailers-e85-kits/>

Genomatica, a biobased products company, plans **to file for an IPO**:
<http://biorefiningmagazine.com/articles/5755/genomatica-joins-list-of-biorefining-companies-to-file-ipo>

The DoE **approved a \$133.9 million loan guarantee for Abengoa's commercial scale cellulosic ethanol plant** in Hugoton, KS:
<http://ethanolproducer.com/articles/8094/abengoa-gets-doe-133-9-million-conditional-loan-guarantee>

The Billion Ton Study has been updated and projects that **domestic production of 85 billion gallons of biofuels is achievable**:
<http://biorefiningmagazine.com/articles/5718/enough-biofuel-feedstock-identified-for-85-billion-gallons-a-year>

The USDA, Department of Energy and US Navy are **partnering to award \$510 million to support advanced drop-in biofuels for military and marine uses**:
<http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2011/08/16/usda-doe-usn-to-invest-510m-in-advanced-drop-in-biofuels/>

For the first time, **more corn is being used for ethanol than feed**:
<http://thegazette.com/2011/08/15/for-first-time-more-corn-to-be-used-for-ethanol-than-livestock/>

Amyris is **making farnesene, a base chemical for jet fuel, diesel and consumer products**, from sugar cane in Brazil: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/10/us-brazil-amyris-idUSTRE7796P520110810>

Butamax is **continuing its lawsuit against Gevo** for patent infringement:
<http://biorefiningmagazine.com/articles/5714/butamax-granted-new-patent-files-2nd-lawsuit-against-gevo>

Elevance Renewable Sciences entered a collaboration to **use renewable components in rubber compounds**: <http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproductsarticle.php?storyid=2999&mode=simple>

Senator Harkin warned of attacks on ethanol at the ACE conference in Des Moines:
http://www.biofuelsjournal.com/info/bf_articles.html?ID=113244

Biodiesel production surged to 81 million gallons in the month of June, the third month in a row of record production:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2011/08/16/biodiesel-production-surges/>

Automakers are **banding together to oppose usage of E15:**

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/classified/automotive/used/sc-cons-0804-autotips-20110806-15,0,7711185.story>

Wired Magazine **busts 5 common ethanol myths:**

<http://www.wired.com/autopia/2011/06/five-ethanol-myths-busted-2/>

The **energy balance for biodiesel has surpassed 5.5:1**, according to the USDA and University of Idaho: <http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/7948/biodiesel-energy-balance-surpasses-5-5-to-1>

New catalysts could **turn ethanol to isobutene in one step:**

<http://domesticfuel.com/2011/08/01/new-catalyst-for-biomass-production/>

New Members:

If you know of a company that would benefit from the Association's advocacy, financial savings and education/workforce focus; please have them contact the Association at 515-327-9156 or email rachelhurley@iowabio.org. Membership details are also available at www.iowabio.org

Events:

[iExplore STEM](#), Coralville, Sept. 18

[Intellectual Property Update & Startups Start Here](#), Des Moines, Sept. 22

[Partnering for Growth: Where Government and the Private Sector Meet:](#)
Des Moines, Oct.17-18

20th Annual CBB Conference- [Current Topics in Industrial Biotechnology](#),
Iowa City, Oct. 17-18

[SSTI Conference](#) for technology based economic development, Columbus, OH, Nov 8-9

Want to promote your biotechnology conference, symposium or training class? SEND A NOTE TO MICHAEL OTT AT mikeott@iowabio.org Members may submit their event for a free listing in our Monthly Update and on our website www.iowabio.org.

Speakers

IBA staff members are available to give 15-60 minute speeches to interested groups, such as Rotary Clubs, trade associations, or civic groups. A broad range of topics could be discussed, including biotechnology, healthcare, food vs. fuel, legislative policy, investment and more. Contact Rachel Hurley at (515) 327-9156 or rachelhurley@iowabio.org

Today's Thought:

Trust your own instinct. Your mistakes might as well be your own, instead of someone else's.

-Billy Wilder