
Iowa Biotech Association Monthly Update November 2010

This message was sent to you as a benefit of membership in the IBA. If you would like more information on any topic or no longer wish to receive these messages, please email Michael Ott at otterm@gmail.com or call (319) 621-8580

Breaking News

Congratulations to Advanced Analytical Technologies, Cellular Engineering Technologies, KemPharm, MedCara Pharmaceuticals and New Link Genetics who were **awarded a Qualifying Therapeutic Discovery Program Grant** from the IRS. In total, they **received over \$1.4 million**. This shows all the awardees from Iowa:

<http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=228982,00.html>

Welcome to New Members

Novartis, a massive provider of healthcare solutions. <http://www.novartis.com/>

Compleware, who provides state-of-the-art services, software, and support for electronic processes used to perform clinical trials. www.compleware.com

Food & Agriculture



Syngenta **donated \$100,000 from sales** of Halex GT corn to Weeding Out Hunger, a hunger relief campaign. \$3,500 went to the Food Bank of Iowa:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=201011040340>

Del Monte will be **sold for \$5.3 billion** to a conglomeration of private equity groups:

<http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2010/11/25/del-monte-to-be-sold-to-k-k-r-and-others-for-5-billion/?nl=business&emc=dlbka9>

This may **stimulate further activity in the food sector**, where companies typically have strong cash flows and low debt levels: <http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2010/11/26/after-del-monte-whos-next-on-the-shopping-list/?nl=business&emc=dlbka31>

Wal-Mart is examining the sustainability of the food it sells and **expects farmers to re-examine their practices**:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101107/BUSINESS01/11070329/1030/Walmart-wants-lowans-to-farm-by-its-principles>

China **rejected a shipment of US corn** after determining that it contained unallowable GM strains: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE69S23U20101029>

Despite lower yields, the **2010 corn crop was the 3rd largest ever**:

http://www.agnetwork.com/friday_newsletter.aspx?oid=1282280&tid=Archive&hq_e=el&hq_m=869291&hq_l=17&hq_v=5f53f8d16f

Farmland prices rose 10% last quarter due to increasing demand and crop prices:

http://www.agnetwork.com/monday_newsletter.aspx?oid=1284592&tid=Archive&hq_e=el&hq_m=876820&hq_l=16&hq_v=5f53f8d16f

Hogs are **gaining weight faster** because corn from the 2010 harvest is drier and perhaps 'tastier' than that from 2009:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101109/BUSINESS01/11090357/1030/Hogs-getting-fat-and-happy-on-harvest-s-drier-corn>

A USDA program has been effective in increasing cheese sales, but **obesity rates are also rising**:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/07/us/07fat.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=th1>

Meat and milk from cloned cattle show no difference in composition from that of traditionally bred cows and so are **unlikely to pose a food safety risk**. Consumers will likely demand adequate labeling:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6AP2S220101126>

Fertilizer purchases indicate that **more than 90 million acres of corn will be planted in 2011**:

http://www.agnetwork.com/thursday_newsletter.aspx?oid=1279659&tid=Archive&hq_e=el&hq_m=862025&hq_l=19&hq_v=5f53f8d16f

Canadian regulators **won't allow BHP to take over Potash**:

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/04/business/global/04potash.html?_r=1&=dbk

Now PhosAgro, a **Russian fertilizer company, is interested in pursuing Potash**:

<http://dealbook.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/03/phosagro-of-russia-said-eye-potash-bid/>

Industrial & Environmental

Gevo received **EPA approval to use biobutanol** as a fuel additive:

http://ethanolproducer.com/article.jsp?article_id=7164

The advanced biofuels industry is **facing challenges, but they are not insurmountable**:
<http://www.forbes.com/2010/11/17/ethanol-energy-challenges-technology-biofuels.html?boxes=techchanneltopstories>

Jim Nussle has been named President and COO of Growth Energy:
http://biofuelsjournal.com/articles/Growth_Energy_Names_Former_Office_of_Management_and_Budget_Director_Jim_Nussle_President_and_COO-100801.html

Brazil is considering the benefits of **making ethanol from its excess corn**:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE69Q5SQ20101027>

The advanced biofuel industry is **not expected to meet the 250 million gallon mandate** that refiners are required to utilize by law:
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101106/BUSINESS01/11060335/U.S.-biofuel-production-use-lags>

The California Air Resource Board (CARB) **will reduce the impact of indirect land use charge (ILUC)** in its next low carbon fuel standard:
http://www.ethanolproducer.com/article.jsp?article_id=7160

President Obama has been **advised to remove loan guarantees for renewable energy** projects as a way to cut government spending:
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703506904575592843603174132.html?mod=dist_smartbrief

The oil industry is joining with food manufacturers, livestock producers and fast-food restaurants in an effort to **block the EPA's recent approval of E15**:
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101110/BUSINESS01/11100347/1030/Oil-industry-joins-others-attempting-to-block-E15>

The EPA will **again delay a ruling on E15** for 2001-'06 autos:
http://www.ethanolproducer.com/article.jsp?article_id=7167

DNP Green bought all remaining shares of BioAmber and will continue **its pursuit of biobased succinic acid**: <http://www.icis.com/blogs/green-chemicals/2010/11/dnp-green-becomes-bioamber.html>

Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals



GlaxoSmithKline

GlaxoSmithKline received approval to begin a Phase 1 trial of an **influenza vaccine derived from duck stem cells**:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE6AN0GK20101124>



Eli Lilly spent **\$800 million to acquire Avid Radiopharmaceuticals**, which sells diagnostic treatments for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and diabetes:

http://www.molecularimaging.net/index.php?option=com_articles&view=article&id=25017&division=mii

Lilly also received FDA approval for **Axiron as a replacement therapy for men with low testosterone**: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9JMHOG80.htm>



Bayer is undertaking a **\$1.4 billion restructuring that will cut 4,500 jobs and add 2,500 jobs** in emerging markets:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE6AH20M20101118>



Vertex submitted its **NDA for its Hepatitis C drug telaprevir**: http://www.boston.com/business/ticker/2010/11/vetex_submits_a.html



BIO Urges **Renewal of Therapeutic Discovery Project To Accelerate Research for New Therapies, Create Jobs And Maintain US Competitiveness**

<http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=228690,00.html>

Genentech recently started offering a **secret incentive program to doctors** to help sales of Lucentis: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/04/business/04eye.html?nl=&emc=a25>

Researchers at the University of Cambridge are making **progress on a cancer vaccine**: <http://www.source.ly/10A6q>

Some cancers may be caused by a gene mutation which directs **stem cells to reproduce uncontrollably**:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g2aPqCtDm_gyza74_-8Ga797BRpw?docId=CNG.69598132ca2e86edd7b8a0dae271499b.991

If Human Genome Sciences' lupus drug is approved, it would become a **nice takeover target for larger biotech or pharmaceutical companies**:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-11/human-genome-may-be-takeover-target-if-us-approves-lupus-drug-benlysta.html>

Roche is **preparing to compete with the first generic biotech drugs**, which will hit the market in a couple years:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304354104575568333806179778.html?mod=dist_smartbrief

IBio is **encouraging the FDA to allow biosimilars** and move quickly:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20101103/BUSINESS/11030315/-1/PAGECURL01>

Autism may be caused by abnormal 'wiring' in the brain, caused by a common risk gene: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6A279H20101103>

CT scans **cut lung cancer deaths** and catch many other diseases early:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/05/health/research/05cancer.html?nl=&emc=a1>

The FDA is weighing **incentives to stimulate research into antibiotics** that are effective against superbugs, including tax credits and longer patent protection:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/06/health/policy/06germ.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=tha24>

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 (319)-621-8580 or email otterm@gmail.com. Membership details available at www.iowaBiotech.com.

Events

BIO Pacific Rim Summit, Honolulu, HI, Dec. 11-14 <http://www.bio.org/pacrim/>

BIO World Congress on Bioprocessing, Toronto, CA, May 8-11

<http://www.bio.org/worldcongress/>

BIO International Convention, Washington DC, June 27-30 <http://convention.bio.org/>

Want to promote your biotechnology conference, symposium or training class? SEND A NOTE TO MICHAEL OTT AT OTTERM@GMAIL.COM Members may submit their event for a free listing on the Event Calendar that appears on IowaBiotech.com and other affiliate state associations. Discounted rates are available for prospective members.

PURCHASING AGREEMENTS:

One of the largest benefits of membership in the IBA is access to discounted merchandise through our purchasing partners. Please contact us at 515-327-9156 for details on:

Lab Equipment Supplies and Chemicals: Primary Contract- **Thermo Fisher Scientific**

Secondary Contract- **VWR**

Lab Casework & Equipment:

Primary contract- **Fisher Hamilton/Wynn O. Jones**

Secondary - **TMI & Kewaunee/Innovative Lab Sys.**

Analytical Equipment & Supplies

Shimadzu Scientific and Beckman Coulter

Office equipment, Supplies & Furniture

OfficeMax

Speakers

IBA staff 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, included biotechnology, healthcare, food vs. fuel, legislative policy, investment and more. Contact Rachel Hurley at (515) 327-9156 or rhurley.iowabiotech@gmail.com

Today's Thought:

In the case of good books, the point is not how many of them you can get through, but rather how many can get through to you.

-Mortimer J. Adler