

# Industry News

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Because of some differences in the biochemical mode of action of morpholines vs. triazoles, imidazoles, and pyrimidines, these fungicides can no longer be generally described as sterol inhibitors (SI fungicides). We would like to propose the following nomenclature: morpholines = morpholines; triazoles, imidazoles, and pyrimidines = DMI (C<sub>14</sub> demethylation inhibitors).

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Fisons PLC and Boots Company, deciding they want to concentrate on their pharmaceutical businesses, agreed to sell their agricultural chemicals joint venture, FBC Holdings Ltd., to Schering AG of West Germany for the equivalent of \$182.4 million. This acquisition is expected to double Schering's agrochemical sales.

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Griffin Corporation of Valdosta, GA, announced it has acquired Kocide Chemical Corporation of Houston, TX. With the acquisition, Griffin becomes a major market shareholder in the U.S. copper fungicide market.

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Olin Corporation is for sale and negotiations are under way. Nevertheless, it is foreseen that PCNB will be available for several years to come.

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When the Industry Committee met during the APS annual meeting at Ames, concerns were expressed about the use of the term "seedborne" as it relates to plant disease. Michael Turner of Funk Seeds International offered the following comments on the relative importance of seedborne pathogens: "Seedborne pathogens may be organisms just adhering to the external surface of seed, or they may have become included within the tissues, as when a pathogen infects seed. In order to be classified as a 'seedborne pathogen,' an organism may be in or on a high percentage of seeds, or it may occur in or on a very low percentage. Just as not all diseases are of equal economic significance, neither are all implications of pathogens being 'seedborne' automatically of equal significance. The importance of the fact lies in the use of the information, the biology involved with the host and pathogen, as well as the environment into which the seed is to be utilized. Being seedborne does not automatically guarantee further propagation, and much can be done to minimize the risk to any crop. Industrial efforts in the seed business to produce the best possible product are making advances in this area. Integration and mutual cooperation and understanding among seed industry, chemical industry, university, and government researchers are making such progress possible. We heartily encourage these efforts and emphasize the need to maintain a practical perspective when times of limited funding lead to decisions in adding, cutting, or maintaining programs."

\* \* \* \* \*

This column is prepared by the members of the APS Industry Committee. Items of interest may be sent to: H. V. Morton, Ciba-Geigy Corporation, P.O. Box 18300, Greensboro, NC 27419.

APS 75th  
Anniversary book

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# Challenging Problems in Plant Health

Edited by **Thor Kommedahl**, University of Minnesota, St. Paul; and **Paul H. Williams**, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

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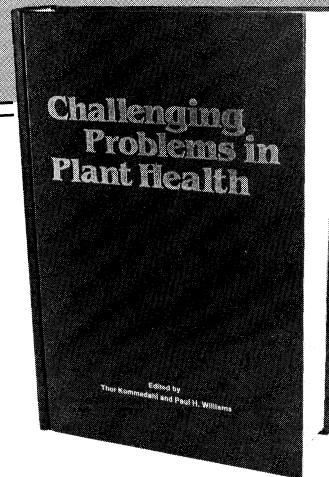
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