



i2LResearch

EXPRESS

i2LResearch Ltd's Newsletter, Winter 2008

Message from the MD

Dear Sponsors,

As we begin the New Year, the Company is able to reflect on another successful year of trading and would like to thank all of you for your continuing support. We have been through a number of changes in 2007, including a name change, a significant expansion of our field trials capability at i2LNorthEast in Newcastle, an increased focus on biocides and professional products testing in Cardiff and the appointment of Pavel Foltan to manage projects in the Czech Republic, as part of our on-going collaboration with the University of South Bohemia.. We have also seen an expansion of our Market Analysis business, and Graham Small discusses this below. We were fortunate in 2007 to be able to purchase and install new specialist testing equipment in Cardiff, including two new Peet-Grady chambers, and this is reviewed overleaf.



The Welsh Assembly Government kindly supported this facility upgrade and their support is gratefully acknowledged here. Finally, we ended 2007 with the announcement of a Strategic Alliance with Agri2000 of Italy. Further information on the Alliance is given overleaf, and we look forward to developing this relationship in 2008. The next year looks to be a very interesting one – I wish a prosperous 2008 to you all.

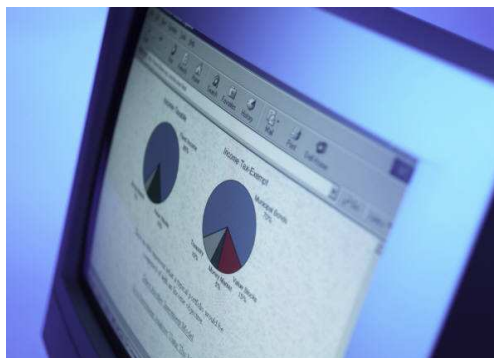
i2LResearch Market Analysis

Since we launched the service in June 2006, i2LResearch Market Analysis has become an increasingly important part of our business. The service brings together i2LResearch's expert knowledge in the field of pest control with the specialist expertise of our regulatory and market research consultants. We are now building an impressive portfolio of market analysis studies with clients including Japanese agrochemicals companies, a multinational animal health company, a UK university and a business support agency. These studies were on a diverse range of topics including pesticide resistance to a specific group of pesticides in Europe, re-purposing of an agricultural pesticide for animal health applications and the potential applications of plant extracts to plant protection and animal health.

The aim of i2LResearch Market Analysis is to offer our clients a comprehensive service in the area of pest control. The service includes:

- Research into country, regional and worldwide market size and structure for different pest control sectors;
- Identification of potential new products and market trends;
- Required characteristics of products in different sectors (e.g. animal health, seed treatments);
- Application of pesticides or groups of pesticides in different pest control sectors.

For further details on this service, please contact Graham Small, email graham@i2lresearch.com



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**..Rapid
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Facility Upgrade in Cardiff

i2LResearch has significantly upgraded its facility in order to maximise study throughput and efficiency. We have installed two Peet-Grady chambers for spray application trials on flying insects, an aerosol application device made to order by Yasuda Seiki Seisakusho Ltd of Japan to enable precisely timed deliveries of product from spray cans and a Burkard microapplicator for precise and rapid droplet application.

This new equipment will contribute greatly to the higher throughput and efficiency required for the increasing number of rapid screening programmes requested by our sponsors.

For further information on our specialist facilities, please contact Helena Waters, email helena@i2lresearch.com.

A Peet-Grady Chamber at i2LResearch Ltd



Pests in the news - Robot Roaches!

To try to understand how individual cockroaches in a population interact, a group of scientists at the Universite Libre de Bruxelles in Belgium have created robotic cockroaches that can behave just like real cockroaches and can persuade the insects to congregate in unusual places. The robot roaches don't really look like real roaches – they look more like matchboxes on wheels – but by programming them to behave like a roach and by coating them with cockroach pheromones, the real roaches don't seem to notice the difference.

Cockroaches are gregarious insects with a tendency to congregate in one spot, usually a darker sheltered area. The experiments were conducted in an arena with two shelters, with one shelter darker than the other. First, robots were programmed to behave just like their real counterparts, wandering around randomly but spending more time in a dark place. Before long, all the robots and insects were under the same shelter. Then, the robots were reprogrammed to prefer the lighter shelters. About 60% of the time, the robots managed to influence the insects into congregating under the lighter shelter too. The experiment, therefore, showed the behaviour of just a few individual cockroaches could dramatically effect that of the whole group. This probably won't develop into a new method of cockroach control with robot roaches wandering our homes and luring their real counterparts into a trap. To do that, they'd have to build them with the ability to climb up walls or wander through pipes. Still, even if isn't applicable to pest control, this is pretty cool science!

i2LResearch Resistance Monitoring Service

Efficient resistance monitoring and diagnosis enable a pest control company to detect the appearance of resistance at an early stage, and are key elements in the management of a company's product portfolio. In addition, resistance risk assessment is a requirement under current European legislation for the registration and review of pesticides. i2LResearch launched a resistance monitoring service in April 2003 to provide our clients with a comprehensive, high quality pesticide resistance diagnosis and monitoring service at a competitive price. Our expertise, combined with our high quality facilities, enables us to tailor our service to our clients' needs. Recent studies have included: insecticide susceptibility baseline monitoring of products on houseflies, aphids and whiteflies; pesticide cross-resistance bioassays of products on two-spotted spider mite, houseflies and bed bugs; and resistance diagnosis in cat fleas by biochemical and molecular assays.



Facilities in our resistance monitoring laboratory include controlled environment units for pest rearing and pesticide bioassays, specialist insecticide application equipment (Potter Tower and a Burkard automatic microapplicator) and laboratory equipment including a Molecular Devices VersaMax™ microplate reader for use in resistance diagnosis by biochemical assays. In addition, we have access to state-of-the-art molecular biology facilities and glasshouses at Cardiff University.

For further details on this service, please contact Graham Small, email graham@i2lresearch.com

Strategic Alliance with Agri2000 Soc. Coop.

In December we announced the formation of a Strategic Alliance between i2LResearch and Agri2000 Soc. Coop. (Bologna, Italy). This exciting new venture allows both groups to offer a pan-European service to their sponsors, combining complementary skills to provide a wide range of services:

- Horticultural and agricultural field trials – wide range of crops
- GLP and GEP field trials
- Ecotoxicology trials at different tiers
- Side effects on beneficials
- Resistance monitoring and risk management strategies
- Studies on nematodes
- Studies on GM crops
- Annex II and III dossiers in crop protection
- Biocides and professional products – laboratory and field trials
- Mollusc trials
- Market research and analysis
- Tree health monitoring

The service is provided through a lean but efficient network that includes 8 sites in Italy, 2 in the UK, and 1 in the Czech Republic, together with partnerships in the most important EU and Mediterranean countries, and collaborations with many Universities and Research Centres.

i2LResearch Express Editor & Designer: Graham Small

Further information on the services mentioned in this newsletter, and on all our other services, can be obtained from our website: www.i2lresearch.com

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