



i2LResearch

EXPRESS

i2LResearch Ltd's Newsletter, Summer 2008

Message from the MD

Dear Sponsors,

The slightly elevated temperatures, despite the continuing rainfall, tell me that we have entered into another 'glorious' Welsh summer. As I write, **i2LResearch** is starting its new Financial Year, having shown continued growth in 2007/08. Many thanks, as always, to you for your continued custom!

The biggest development at **i2LResearch** in 2008 has been the launch of i2L-East, our new Branch Office, in České Budějovice, in the Czech Republic. The Company has worked closely with the University of South Bohemia, in particular our office manager, Pavel Foltan, for some years now and we felt it would be beneficial to have an official legal presence in the Czech Republic. The University has been extremely supportive and welcoming, and Pavel, who has an MSc in Animal Ecology, is a very driven and highly competent addition to the **i2LResearch** team. Rapid expansion of i2L-East is anticipated.

i2LNorthEast, our other Branch Office in Newcastle, England, has shown rapid expansion in the last year, especially in the areas of molluscicides and herbicides testing. With recent agreements to use more field sites in the Newcastle area, further rapid growth is likely.

Cardiff remains the **i2LResearch** HQ, concentrating on laboratory studies, professional products testing, pesticide resistance monitoring, and market



analysis services. With increased demand for professional product testing, and given our investments in equipment in 2007/08, Cardiff too can look forward to a period of growth.

I am pleased to announce that three excellent staff members, Miles Taylor, Lucy Hopkins, and Cheryl Rigg, have recently been promoted to the position of Study Director. Over the summer period, Montaña Diaz Diaz, Pavla Blazkova, and Jake Evans have been making important contributions in their roles as Trials Officers. Two further Trials Officers, Charlotte Spencer-Jones and Peter Morrison have recently joined the Cardiff office.

i2LResearch is optimistic about its future. We will continue to offer our rapid, responsive, and reliable service to our sponsors and we look forward to continuing to work with you in the coming months and years.

Biocidal Products Testing at i2LResearch

Now that active substances have been notified and are slowly (ever so slowly!) working their way through the Biocidal Products Directive (Directive 98/8/EC) authorisation process for listing on the relevant Annex, companies are looking to fill efficacy data gaps to support product label claims. **i2LResearch** is very well placed to assist our clients in generating these data. In addition to our many years of experience in biocidal products testing on a wide range of pest arthropods, we have invested heavily in our test facility to increase our versatility and maximise

our efficiency for running studies. Our facility now includes Peet-Grady chambers for spray application trials on flying insects, an aerosol application device to enable precisely timed deliveries of product from spray cans and a large number of glass arenas of different shapes and dimensions.

For more information on our biocidal products testing service, or to discuss your specific test requirements, please contact Helena Waters, Head of Biocides and Professional Products, email helena@i2lresearch.com

IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM THE MD

BIOCIDAL PRODUCTS TESTING AT i2LRESEARCH

i2LRESEARCH EXPANDS INTO EASTERN EUROPE

PESTS IN THE NEWS - WASPS BLAMED FOR ABORTED JET TAKE-OFFS!

MOLLUSC CENTRE OF EXPERTISE

i2LRESEARCH AT LARGE



..Rapid Responsive Reliable

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i2LResearch expands into Eastern Europe

i2LResearch is pleased to announce the opening of a new Branch Office, i2L-East, based in České Budějovice in the Czech Republic. The new office, managed by Mr Pavel Foltan, works closely with the University of South Bohemia, allowing the Company to draw on a wide range of expertise and facilities. i2L-East will initially concentrate on professional product laboratory and field trials, and insect production, including dog ticks. Rapid expansion is expected, including a move into horticultural and agricultural studies in 2009.

Pavel Foltan stated "i2L-East represents an exciting and timely move for **i2LResearch** into an important emerging market. The capabilities and expertise of i2L-East complement those of the UK offices, adding significantly to the range of trials that we can undertake".

For further information on i2L-East, please contact the Managing Director, Peter McEwen (peter@i2LResearch.com) or Pavel Foltan (pavel@i2LResearch.com).



Pests in the news - Wasps blamed for aborted jet take-offs

A report into a number of aborted jet take-offs at Brisbane International Airport during early 2006 has found that these were caused by wasps. The problem was apparently associated with an open-ended tube attached to the nose of aircraft that is part of their airspeed information system. The tube proved very attractive to wasps, which happened to be nesting in a number of places around the airport, as later inspections found 'wasp-related debris' to be obstructing the tube. As a result, there were several incidents in which pilots found discrepancies in airspeed readings and had to abort take-off. In one particularly alarming incident, the pilot was forced to abort take-off at a speed of over 120 knots, causing six of the planes eight main landing gear tyres to burst and bringing fire engines onto the tarmac.

The report into the incident stated that 25 to 30 wasp nests had been found during an inspection of the airport but that initial attempts to control these had been "ineffective and slow in gaining control of the wasp infestation". Eventually, in April of 2006, dozens of wasp nests were destroyed and a weekly programme of inspection and eradication was instigated, which has since kept the problem under control.

Mollusc Centre of Expertise

In a joint venture between i2LNorthEast, a branch office of **i2LResearch**, and Newcastle University, a Mollusc Centre of Expertise has been established to promote pioneering research and development into the biology and behaviour of molluscs and the control of mollusc pests. The Centre is led by Dr Catherine Whaley and Dr Gordon Port, both internationally recognised experts in the field of slug biology, behaviour and control. **i2LResearch** and Newcastle University have a long standing alliance and the Mollusc Centre of Expertise enables them to combine their expertise to undertake innovative research and training.

The range of activities encompassed by the Centre is briefly described below:

- Mollusc senses
 - > attractants
 - > repellents
 - > arrestants
- Mollusc feeding
 - > plant preferences
 - > food acceptance

- Mollusc activity
 - > recording nocturnal activity
 - > effects of weather and environmental conditions
- Mollusc growth
 - > survival analysis
 - > growth curves
- Mollusc reproduction
 - > rates of egg production
 - > percentage viability
- Slug species including *Deroceras reticulatum*, *Arion distinctus*, *Arion fasciatus*, *Tandonia budapestensis* and *Arion lusitanicus* and snail species including *Helix aspersa*, *Cepea* spp and the strawberry snail *Trichia striolata*.

For further information about the Mollusc Centre of Expertise and what it can do for you, please contact either Catherine Whaley (Tel +44 (0)7876 157913; email: catherine@i2lresearch.com) or Dr Gordon Port (Tel +44 (0)191 222 6894; email: Gordon.Port@newcastle.ac.uk)

i2LResearch at large

i2LResearch will be attending a number of conventions and exhibitions over the coming months. These include:

- GLEE (Birmingham, 21st-23rd September),
- NPMA PestWorld 2008 (USA, 22nd-25th October),
- 20th FAOPMA 2008 Tokyo Convention & Exhibition (Japan, 4th-6th November)
- PestTech 2008 (Birmingham, 5th November).

If you will be attending one or more of these events, please contact us. We'd appreciate the opportunity of meeting you there.

N.B. For those of you who were planning to attend the BCPC Congress, due to be held in Glasgow later this year, this event has now been cancelled due to low uptake of exhibition space and hospitality suites.

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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