

PRESS RELEASE

ECODIAN SL BIOSOLUTION: AUTHORIZATION FOR DISTRIBUTION ON THE ITALIAN MARKET OBTAINED

Milan, May 31st, 2016 - **Isagro S.p.A.**, a worldwide Italian company operating on a global basis in about 70 countries in the market of the agricultural crop protection and nutrition products - investing in activities focused on the innovation and development of new molecules and other active principles with a low environmental impact – announces to the market that its *biosolution* **ECODIAN SL** obtained the **Ministry of Health authorization for distribution on the Italian market.**

Another piece is therefore added to the Isagro industrial project. ECODIAN SL witnesses the dramatic growth aimed at by the Company regarding the *biosolutions* dedicated line. It is worth to remember that the *biosolutions* world market is valued 2,5 billions of dollars, 10% of which is located in Italy where, in the next three years, the usage volumes are foreseen to double.

«We wish to extend our weight in this area - says **Isagro President Giorgio Basile** - and Italy is an important market. We have always believed in the *biosolutions* right as the solution and response to the growing demands of production increase with unchanged land availability, but above all, thanks to them, Isagro aims at strengthening the ever more technical-agronomical skills shown by the Italian agricultural firms in the integrated plant protection efforts».

HOW ECODIAN SL WORKS

ECODIAN SL (designed for horticulture and floriculture, either in open field or greenhouses) controls a dreaded phytophagous insect, the *Spodoptera littoralis* (known as the Cotton Black Cutworm), through the “sexual disorientation”, in the sense of preventing the male from reaching and fertilizing the female who, as a consequence, won't give birth to eggs and larvae, that are held responsible for the crop damages. There's no mating thanks to the release of pheromones (identical to the virgin females ones) from a thread in cellulose (**Isagro** patented technology) covered with **MATER-BI (Novamont** exclusive material), by creating some pheromone “traces” that prevail on those belonging to the females; this way, the male follows these artificial traces without ever joining the females, thus the mating is no longer feasible.

The insect containment happens therefore by using a smaller quantity of synthetic insecticides, in line with the principles of the agricultural crops sustainability.

ECODIAN SL, after 150-180 days of exposition to the atmospheric agents, is to be considered used up and can be left in the soil where it will be degraded by the existing micro-organisms.

ECODIAN S.L, AS A RESULT OF THE SYNERGIES BETWEEN ISAGRO AND NOVAMONT

ECODIAN SL has a double content of advanced research and development that are fully made in Novara, the Piedmontese town referred to as the story writer of the Italian and world Chemical Industry.

Actually, Novara hosts **Isagro Research Center** and **Novamont Research and Development Center**: both companies inherited the tradition of Montecatini first and Montedison afterwards.

“Such result, which roots are to be found in Montedison tradition, underlines the values of interdisciplinarity and connection between tradition and innovation in the service of a better



environmental quality for the agriculture world, being the key sector where to rebuild a future of quality ", as **Catia Bastioli, Novamont Managing Director**, stated.

Isagro S.p.A. is the holding company of a group which, in twenty years, has become a qualified operator in the crop protection business, with global sales of around € 160 million and over 600 employees worldwide. Listed on the Italian Stock Exchange since 2003, Isagro is active in the innovative research, development, production and marketing, on a worldwide scale, of proprietary crop protection products, as well as in their distribution in some key markets.

Novamont is a leading Group in the development and production of materials and biochemical through the integration of Chemistry, Environment and Agriculture. With 412 employees, the Novamont Group closed the year 2014 with a 145 million Euros turnover and steady investments in research and development activities (7,2% on the 2014 turnover); the Group has a portfolio of about 1.000 patents. Its headquarter is in Novara, its manufacturing site is in Terni and its research laboratories are in Novara, Terni and Piana di Monte Verna (CE). The Group has some associated partners in Porto Torres (SS), Bottrighe (RO), Terni and Patrica (FR). It operates in Germany, France and United States with its trading locations and its own distributors in Benelux, Scandinavia, Denmark, United Kingdom, China, Japan, Canada, Australia and New Zealand

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