

customers in combating the increasingly rapid development of weed resistance,” says the president of BASF Agricultural Solutions, Vincent Gros.

The product is undergoing a US registration process and will be made available in the country in the next few years. It is also planned to be launched in other relevant regions. The comprehensive patent protection for this new technology puts BASF in a strong competitive position for the coming years, the company says.

Isagro to acquire Phoenix-Del

18 September 2020

Italian agrochemical company Isagro (Milan) has agreed a deal to acquire fellow Italian agrochemical company, Phoenix-Del. Quotaholders of Phoenix have accepted a €3.6 million (\$4.3 million at the current rate) binding offer from Isagro, subject to due diligence. Isagro expects to close the acquisition by the end of next month.

Phoenix-Del is dedicated to the registration and sale of copper-based agrochemicals. It generated a turnover in 2019 of some €5 million (\$6 million). The company anticipates a doubling of sales “in the next years” because of already signed commercial deals. Last year’s earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) totalled some €300,000 (\$357,000), while the net financial position showed debt of €700,000 (\$834,000).

Isagro would pay €2.4 million (\$2.9 million) on closing of the Phoenix-Del deal and €1.2 million (\$1.4 million) after one year subject to the occurrence of certain conditions with reference to the obtainability of industrial synergies. It has amended its [business model](#), planning growth in biologicals and copper compounds through acquisitions. That would be financed by the divestment of “selected organic chemical assets, the book values of which are estimated to be lower than their market values”.

Enviros appeal court decision to uphold herbicide registration

21 September 2020

Environmental groups are pressing on with their bid to upend the US EPA’s registration of Corteva Agriscience’s Enlist Duo (2,4-D choline + glyphosate) herbicide. They argue that the agency has failed to properly assess the potential risks to hundreds of endangered species.

Led by the Center for the Food Safety, the organisations are taking aim at a [July ruling](#) by a three-judge panel of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit that denied their challenge of the EPA’s registration and have asked the full court to review the decision.

Six years and running

The petition for an appeal continues a legal fight that stretches back to [a lawsuit](#) filed in late 2014 after the EPA had [registered](#) Enlist Duo to be sprayed on maize and soybeans genetically engineered to tolerate the herbicide. The initial registration covered six states.

The coalition of environmentalist groups alleged that the EPA had failed to fully assess the human health impacts of the product’s two active ingredients under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and ignored its obligations to ensure legal uses do not pose undue harm to species protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA).