

Partners Group to acquire Rovensa

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Switzerland-based private equity firm Partners Group has agreed to acquire a major equity stake in Portuguese crop input company Rovensa from private equity group Bridgepoint. Rovensa is a provider of crop protection, biopesticide and biostimulant products. The transaction values the company at an enterprise value of around €1 billion (\$1.1 billion).

Rovensa became the new name of Portuguese agrochemical company Sapec Agro Business, after a rebrand occurred [in 2019](#). The name of Sapec Agro Business' legacy brand Sapec Agro was [changed](#) a few months prior to that to Ascenza. Bridgepoint acquired Sapec Agro Business (Rovensa) [in 2016](#). Spanish company Idai Nature, acquired [in 2018](#), represents Rovensa's biostimulant and biocontrols business. Rovensa says that its products are sold in more than 70 countries and generate an annual revenue of approximately €360 million (\$405 million).

Following the investment, Partners Group will work closely with Rovensa's management team, led by chief executive officer Eric van Innis, on several key strategic initiatives, including the accelerated development of the company's biological solutions portfolio, the continued "internationalisation" of the company, and select further acquisitions to continue to build its capabilities. In addition, Partners Group plans to continue to support the company's research and development culture, focusing on high-growth market niches. "We are convinced that Partners Group, with its global presence and focus on entrepreneurial ownership, is the right partner with which to continue building Rovensa's platform and seize those opportunities," says Mr Van Innis.

Partners Group's managing director, Andrew Deakin, says that the company is ideally positioned to capitalise on the growing trend towards sustainable agricultural products, which will be a core element of the strategy it will continue to pursue." The company claims to have made a "significant" leap forward through continued organic development as well as "six strategic add-on acquisitions".

FMC progresses on acquisition of Isagro's fluindapyr

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FMC and Italian agrochemical company Isagro have signed the "asset purchase agreement" for the sale to FMC of Isagro's assets relevant to the fungicide, fluindapyr, for €55 million (\$61.8 million). The book value for the active ingredient to Isagro is around €25 million (\$28.1 million). The deal was [agreed in May](#) and included all intellectual property, know-how, registrations, product formulations and other global assets of the fungicide. But, it excluded liabilities, Isagro sites and workforce.

The closing of the deal is subject to "some conditions precedent" and is expected to take place by the end of the third quarter "and, in any case, by the end of the current year", Isagro says. The company says that the sale is in line with its strategy of selling "valorised" assets relevant to organic chemistry to finance development of copper fungicides and biosolutions, focusing on "integrated crop management".

EU Agric Ministers still concerned over impact of Farm to Fork strategy

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EU Agriculture Ministers have once again raised several concerns over the impact of use-reduction targets on pesticides and other inputs in the European Commission's Farm to Fork [strategy](#). They discussed the issue with EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides in July. Ms Kyriakides assured Ministers that impact assessments would be carried out before the targets become legally binding. "We are at the beginning of an interactive process," she stressed.