

An interview
with



**Enrique
Riquelme,**

**CEO,
Grupo Agrotecnología**



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Can you introduce Grupo Agrotecnología and provide an interesting fact about your company that we may not know?

Enrique Riquelme, CEO, Grupo Agrotecnología



Grupo Agrotecnología S.L. is a company dedicated to research, development, manufacture and sale of products environmentally friendly for the protection and nutrition of crops.

Its headquarters are located in Spain, from where it serves European and African markets, and also has branches in Mexico, Chile, Peru, Colombia and China.

The added value of Grupo Agrotecnología is to offer a second disruptive generation of biopesticides, biostimulants and biofertilizers. These are biorational solutions capable of achieving an unprecedented and hopeful efficiency index for both the environment and agriculture. New agriculture will not have to choose between profitable and sustainable.

Agrotecnología produce many innovative products-what products are the Grupo Agrotecnología team working on at the moment that you can share some information on? Anything new/ exciting/ novel?

The main strategy of Grupo Agrotecnología is to use the world as a generator of ideas and natural substances. Grupo Agrotecnología coworks with universities, research centers and private or government laboratories, that constantly generate new ideas.

Our R+D department develops a line specifically designed to obtain biostimulants based on microorganisms against abiotic stresses, such as drought or salinity. We are also working on obtaining microbial based biostimulants for the absorption and fixation of macroelements. Finally, it is worth mentioning an interesting project to develop a screening of microorganisms with repellent activity against nematodes.

Do you have any video clips or links to articles that you can share to give more information about your company?

Clip: Promicell Technology aTec-fort: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljkdYEYclQE>

Clip Corporate video:

Technical articles

<http://agrotecnologia.net/en/medios.asp>

Are biostimulant products at a stage whereby they are easily accessible to farmers or is more work needed to educate farmers and growers to the benefits that such products can provide?

Market research company, DunhamTrimmer, estimates the value of the global biostimulant market in excess of U.S. \$2.2 billion today and projects the market to surpass \$5 billion by 2025.

The growth is driven by a global need to continue to increase crop production using sustainable practices, using a reduced quantity and lower risk inputs. Consumer demands for sustainable production practices, combined with a desire to have a wide variety of fruits and vegetables available year-round, have forced growers to seek and adopt new practices to boost crop efficiency. Biostimulants play a key role in these changes to production practices by improving crop resistance to abiotic stress and therefore allowing plants to make more efficient use of inputs under adverse growing conditions.

The biostimulants segment is just beginning, the new technology is unstoppable and all companies in the sector are investing in R&D, something that will produce a change and a bigger use by the producer.

Once the basic regulatory framework that will regulate this product category has been established, it is undoubtedly necessary that the sector increase the dissemination, education and promotion of biostimulant products in all agricultural forums, through the specific ways of communication of agriculture and also generic, attendance at conferences, events, agricultural fairs and all those activities in which distributors, cooperatives, professional agricultural organizations and, above all, our key client, who is the farmer.