

Axter Agrosience signs an exclusive research and distribution agreement with INRS-Institut Armand-Frappier on antimicrobial bio-inputs in the fight against *Xanthomonas*

Mont-St-Hilaire (Québec), December 11, 2018—Mr. Pierre Migner, agronomist and president of Axter Agrosience inc, is pleased to announce the signing of a major industrial partnership agreement with INRS—Institut Armand-Frappier. The agreement deals with a research project on biological antimicrobial agents to be used against the *Xanthomonas* phytopathogen that attacks fruit and vegetables at the heart of our diet.

The economic impact of this common disease - which attacks fruit and vegetables among the most popular across the world such as tomatoes, apples, lettuce, rice, and bananas - calls for measures to stop its spread in an efficient way without further adding to the environmental and economic challenges food producers are faced with in the present market.

Under the supervision of Prof. Eric Déziel, a microbiologist specialized in bacterial multicellularity, the research program to fight *Xanthomonas* will see the development in laboratories of an antimicrobial agent comparable in efficiency to the synthesized chemical products largely used in agriculture today but based on natural beneficial bacteria found directly in the soil.

“Agricultural production is faced with a major challenge to meet consumer demand for more organic product. Through our research, we are attempting to fight diseases in an eco-friendly way while reducing the price of organic product and respecting market preferences as to aesthetics”, explained Prof. Déziel.

Participation in this research project will directly benefit Axter Agrosience which will become the *de facto* exclusive distributor of the product once it reaches the marketing phase

“Expanding our product offer by adding antimicrobial biological products that complement our biostimulants and micro-nutriments represents a great opportunity to position Axter Agrosience as an important player in food production in the country at a time when practices in the field and consumer requirements are changing in important ways”, said Pierre Migner.

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Source: Axter Agrosience inc

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