

CH Information

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NEWS

(source *CHEManager*)

14.10.2015 Bayer may have to pay as much as 90 million Swiss francs to compensate winegrowers whose crops treated with its Moon Privilege fungicide suffered damage. The German agrochemical and pharmaceutical giant said it would offer compensation to the Swiss growers without accepting blame. While Bayer said there was “no clear proof,” around 900 Swiss growers have claimed that Moon Privilege was responsible for the poor yields. The affected plants are said to have deformed leaves and dried, shriveled grapes. According to the **Swiss Winegrowers’ Federation**, problems related to the fungicide led to a 5% decline in the country’s 2015 grape harvest. A documentary aired in September by Swiss public television station RTS claimed that around 2,000 hectares of the overall 15,000 crops had been affected negatively by Moon Privilege. Without disclosing the total sum, Bayer said individual offers of compensation would be made to winegrowers beginning in early 2016. The expected payout total was calculated by Winegrowers Federation based on the number of complaints. The German group said in a statement that while its investigations into the possible cause of the damage were continuing, it believed a combination of factors was in play during the 2014 season, in particular that the growth anomalies mostly arose when Moon Privilege was applied in the final growth phases of the vines and in extremely wet weather. In September, Bayer advised wine grape growers not to use the fungicide until it had properly investigated the problem. The Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture suspended authorization for Moon Privilege as early as July as a precautionary measure and to avoid further damage in 2016.

06.10.2015 Specialty chemicals producer **Clariant** said it intends to acquire a part of Vivimed Labs’ personal care portfolio. Clariant said the acquisition of the Indian company will enable its wholly owned subsidiary Clariant India to strengthen its personal care portfolio within the Industrial & Consumer Specialties (ICS) business unit and offer a wider product portfolio within the sun, skin, hair and oral care range as well as anti-microbial preservatives. Santosh Varalwar, CEO of Vivimed Labs, said the deal with Clariant will “significantly improve” his company’s financial flexibility and position it for further growth across its specialty chemicals and pharmaceuticals businesses.

25.09.2015 **Siegfried** Holding said it has completed all closing conditions for its acquisition of the custom synthesis business of BASF and parts of the German group’s current active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), as announced in May. Among the most crucial requirements, financing has been secured, and Swissmedic, Switzerland’s regulatory agency for drugs and medical devices, has given the necessary clearance for the Evionnaz production site. Transfer of the BASF sites in France, Germany and Switzerland was scheduled to take place on Sept. 30. Siegfried is buying the assets for a total consideration of €270

million. All of the more than 800 employees at the three BASF sites – Minden, Germany, and Saint Vulbas, France, in addition to Evionnaz – will transfer to Siegfried. Following the acquisition, the company plans to increase its total workforce to around 2,200 people at nine sites on three continents. From BASF, Siegfried is acquiring APIs such as ephedrine, pseudoephedrine and caffeine, with annual sales of around €270 million, while the German group is retaining its excipient portfolio and selected APIs, such as ibuprofen, omega-3 fatty acids and polyethylenglycol (PEG). Over the past five years, Siegfried has been on the acquisition trial, taking over California-based AMP and German companies Hameln Pharmaceuticals and Hameln RDS.

CONFERENCES IN SWITZERLAND

01.12.15 – 31.05.2016

17th IIER International Conference on Chemical and Biochemical Engineering (ICCBE)

26.12.2015

Hotel Allegra, Kloten

It aims to be one of the leading International conferences for presenting novel and fundamental advances in the fields of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering.

<http://theiier.org/Conference/Switzerland/3/ICCBE/>

14th Swiss Snow Symposium 2016 by SYCA

22.01.2016–24.01.2016

Panorama Hotel Alphubel***, Saas-Fee

Science meets Snow! Symposium for young chemists up to 36 years with a interesting combination of science, networking, fun & sports.

<http://scg.ch/snowsposium/2016>

20th SASP 2016

07.02.2016–12.02.2016

Sunstar Parkhotel Davos, Davos

The Symposium on Atomic, Cluster and Surface Physics (SASP) is one in a continuing biennial series of conferences (the last one was held in Obergurgl, Austria in 2014) that promotes the growth of scientific knowledge and exchange of information among scientists in the field of atomic, molecular, and surface physics.

<http://icbc.zhaw.ch/de/science/institute-zentren/icbc/sasp-2016.html>

23rd International Academic Conference on Development in Science and Technology (IACDST)

11.02.2016

Hotel Allegra, Kloten

IACDST aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Development in Science and Technology.

<http://academicsworld.org/Conference/Switzerland2016/IACDST/>

23rd International Conference on Environmental Science and Development (ICESD)

12.02.2016

Hotel Allegra, Kloten

ICESD aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Environmental Science and Development.

<http://academicsworld.org/Conference/Switzerland2016/ICESD/>

Research breakthroughs and social impact: Young scientists debate synthetic biology

16.02.2016, 12.30–16.00

Amphipôle, University of Lausanne

Emerging technologies have the potential to offer new solutions for society's challenges but also raise concerns about safety and ethical implications. Synthetic biology is a maturing discipline aiming to modify, rebuild and design biological systems. Possible applications include production of biofuels in microalgae, synthesis of therapeutics in yeast cells or removal of pollutants' from the environment using bacteria.

This event is part of the LS2 Annual Meeting 2016.

<http://ls2-annual-meeting.ch>

<http://www.naturalsciences.ch/synbio2016>

LS² Annual Meeting 2016

15.–16.02.2016

Amphipôle, University of Lausanne

At this meeting, LS² will bring together Swiss Life Scientists from academic backgrounds as well as our industry partners with researchers from all across Europe to explore the large spectrum of "Interdisciplinary Sciences". Listen in on the exciting findings in the field of Chemical Biology over Synthetic Biology to Proteomics and "Classic" Molecular and Cell Biology (and many more), discuss opportunities and challenges of the Swiss Research funding system and the life beyond academia in non-academic professions, and be a part of the emotional debate on careers of men and women in the Life Sciences.

<http://ls2-annual-meeting.ch>

36th International Conference on Environment and Natural Science (ICENS)

04.04.2016

Hotel Allegra, Kloten

The idea of the conference is for the scientists, scholars, engineers and students from the Universities all around the world and the industry to present ongoing research activities, and hence to foster research relations between the Universities and the industry.

SCS Spring Meeting 2016

22.04.2016

University of Zurich, Irchel Campus, Zurich

Symposium topic: «Green Chemistry»

The SCS Spring Meeting is a one-day symposium and provides a high quality program with national and international speakers of a certain topic. It is also the platform for the Werner Prize Ceremony and the Werner Award Lecture.

<http://scg.ch/springmeeting/2016>

LECTURES

01.12.15–31.12.2015

University of Zurich, Department of Chemistry

Lecture hall Y15-G-19, 17.00 h

- 01.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. Nicolas Winssinger, University of Geneva*
«Following the lead from Nature, synthesis and discovery of covalent inhibitors»
- 15.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. Chris Tate, University of Cambridge, UK*
«G protein-coupled receptors: Structure, mechanism and drug discovery»

Basel, Syngenta

Syngenta Stein, WST 810.E.75, Auditorium

- 03.12.2015 *Prof. Nuno Maulide, University of Vienna, Austria*
10.30 h
Title to be announced
Syngenta Chemistry Lecture

Universität Basel, Anorganische und Organische Chemie

Kleiner Hörsaal Organische Chemie

- 01.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. Huw M. L. Davies, Emory University*
17.30 h
Atlanta, Atlanta, GA, USA
«Collaborative approach for C-H functionalization»
- 02.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. James K. McCusker, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA*
16.30 h
Title to be announced
- 11.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. Bernhard Hauer, Universität Stuttgart, Germany*
10.45 h
«Squalene Hopene Cyclases as Protonases for Selective Brønsted Acid Catalysis»

Universität Basel, Pharmazeutische Wissenschaften

Lecture Hall 1, Pharmazentrum, 17.00 h

- 02.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. Frank Böckler, Lab for Molecular Design & Pharm. Biophysics, Department of Pharmacy and Biochemistry, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Germany*
«Integrating Halogen Bonding into Drug Discovery: Tools and Applications»
- 09.12.2015 *Dr. Andreas Krause, Senior Director Data Management, Modeling and Simulation Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Actelion Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Basel, Switzerland*
«The virtual patient: developing drugs with modeling and simulation»

Universität Basel, Physikalische Chemie

Physikalische Chemie, Departement Chemie, Universität Basel,
Kleiner Hörsaal, Raum 4.04., 2. Stock, 16.30 h

- 02.12.2015 *Dr. Jeroen Koelemeij, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands*
«Vibrations of the Molecular Hydrogen Ion HD⁺ as a Probe of Fundamental Physical Constants and Laws»
- 09.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. Vasilios Stavros, Department of Chemistry, University of Warwick, UK*
«Photoprotection and Photoactivation of Biomolecules: Lessons Learned from Femtosecond Spectroscopy»

Université Genève, Société Chimique de Genève

Auditoire A. Pictet A100, Bâtiment Sciences II, 17.30 h

- 07.12.2015 *Prof. Martin Beniston, Institute for Environmental Sciences, University of Geneva*
«Régimes hydrologiques en région de montagne dans un climat qui change: conséquences environnementales et économiques»

Université Genève, Chimie organique

Auditoire A-100, 16.30 h

- 03.12.2015 *Prof. Huw Davies, Emory University, Atlanta, USA*
«Collaborative Approach for C-H Functionalization»
- 10.12.2015 *Prof. Dr. ir. Jan C.M. van Hest, Institute for Molecules and Materials, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands*
«Adaptive and Bio-Inspired Nanocompartments»
- Auditoire A-150
- 09.12.2015 *Prof. Eiji Yashima, Nagoya University, Japan*
16.30 h «Biomimetic Helical Polymers and Foldamers as Unique Chiral Materials for Asymmetric Synthesis and Chiral Recognition»

EPFL Lausanne, Institut des Sciences et Ingénierie**Chimiques**

CH G1 495, 16.30 h

- 10.12.2015 *Prof. Kevin Pagel, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany*
«Separation of Carbohydrate and Glycopeptide Isomers using Ion Mobility-Mass Spectrometry»
- 17.12.2015 *Dr. Francesca Calegari, IFN-CNR Milano, Italy*
«Charge migration in amino acids: observing pure electron dynamics induced by XUV attosecond pulses»

ETH Zurich, Chemie- und Bioingenieurwissenschaften (ICB)

ETH Hönggerberg, HCI H8, 10.30 h

- 11.12.2015 *Dr. Anne L. Soerensen, Stockholm University, Sweden*
«Mercury cycling in estuarine and marine environments: insights gained by integrating field observations and model development»
- 18.12.2015 *Filippo Marchione, Institute for Chemical and Bioengineering, ETH Zurich*
«Sequential methodology for process integration»

ETH Zurich, Laboratorium für Physikalische Chemie

ETH Zürich, HCI J3

- 08.12.2015 *Minisymposium Doktorierende / Minisymposium PhD Students*
16:45–17:15 h *Pitt Allmendinger*
«A new method to study ion-molecule reactions at very low temperatures»
- 17:15–17:45 h *Francesco Ravotti*
«A new hybrid approach for protein structure determination: combination of Solid State NMR and Cryo-EM»

The complete and updated lecture calendar is available on
www.scg.ch/lectures