

XiteBio Technologies Inc.

Innovation, Research, and Development of inoculants and growth promoters



XiteBio CEO Dr. Manas Banerjee (left) discusses SoyRhizo soybean liquid inoculant with researcher Jeremy Voth at the company's IRD (Innovation, Research, and Development) Centre. (XiteBio photo)

XiteBio Technologies, Inc.

"Thriving Through Innovation"

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Key Personnel

- Manas Banerjee, PhD, President/CEO
- Garry Van Den Bussche, Director of Sales and Marketing

Products

- XiteBio® SoyRhizo® premium soybean liquid inoculant and PeasRhizo premium liquid inoculant for pea and lentil crops.
- XiteBio® Yield+ post-emergent biological for canola based on plant growth promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR).
- Pipeline products include XiteBio® Yield+ biological patent-pending technology for corn, wheat, and barley.

XITEBIO TECHNOLOGIES is a privately-owned biotech company that researches, tests, and develops inoculants, biofertilizers, and plant growth promoters for agricultural crops. Established in 2010, the company's headquarters and research center are in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

"Innovation is the cornerstone of XiteBio's product development. Every concept of a product must be innovative," says XiteBio President and CEO Manas Banerjee, PhD. "We have an IRD Centre – innovation, research, and development, not just a R&D lab typical of so many industries.

"Starting with state-of-the-art research equipment; high-quality, unique inoculum; and an aseptic product facility we can ensure the best results in research and in the field," Banerjee says. "We confidently guarantee the quality and quantity of microbes in every lot of every product we deliver."

Product Innovation

Throughout the history of inoculant development, one feature that has remained constant is that the bacteria in the inoculant must out-compete native soil microbial life in order to successfully form root nodules on the crop.

"We began by questioning this basic inherent assumption and asked why must inoculant's bacteria fight against the beneficial bacteria of the soil?" Banerjee explains. "The revolutionary answer that came out of XiteBio's IRD Centre is that they don't need to; they can create synergy and work together to promote crop growth and nodule formation."

Researchers at XiteBio also work with crop roots to identify bacteria that promotes beneficial interactions among the soil, microbes, and plants.

"All crops interact with soil bacteria and microbes as they grow. Roots and rhizosphere are the major sites of microbial activity within the soil and those microbes can help the plant's growth in a variety of ways," he says.

Building on the results of its basic research, XiteBio has developed Advanced Growth Promoting Technology (AGPT®) which promotes positive interactions between inoculant bacteria and native soil microflora.

The company's newest product is XiteBio® Yield+ for canola, a tank-mixable post-emergent biological based on PGPR (Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria) technology. It had a limited launch in the United States market in 2014. Full commercial launch in Canada is anticipated for the 2015-2016 growing season pending CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) registration.

"We are passionate about research, but more than that, we are passionate about providing next generation 'go-green' technologies to our customers and making a difference in the field of agriculture," says Banerjee. ■