

Ginkgo Bioworks and Bayer Extend Multi-Year Strategic Partnership to Accelerate Next Generation Biological Solutions for Agriculture

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Ginkgo Bioworks announced that the company has extended its multi-year strategic partnership with Bayer to advance research and development of biological products for agriculture. With the extension of this partnership, which began in 2017, both parties will build on the success of their ongoing collaboration to develop innovative microbial nitrogen fixation. As with the original agreement, Bayer retains the right to commercialize the resulting biological products as a complement to synthetic fertilizers in the coming years.



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Bayer continues to be a major partner of Ginkgo Bioworks' expanded agricultural biologicals platform, which includes Ginkgo's Agriculture Biologicals Research & Development site in West Sacramento. Ginkgo's discovery and lead optimization platform supports collaborations in the areas of biological crop protection, nitrogen fixation, and carbon sequestration to identify next-generation technologies that provide clear benefits to growers.

"The future will bring increasingly severe challenges for farmers, and we will best meet these challenges together with leading innovators from around the world through the open innovation ecosystem," said Dr. Mike Graham, Head of R&D at Bayer's Crop Science Division. "When complemented by leading seeds & traits, digital tools, and chemical crop protection, biologicals can help growers achieve the best results in their fields by providing increased options that complement, and provide alternatives to, traditional chemistry-based solutions."

Ginkgo Bioworks aims to develop and advance agricultural biological solutions across crops and geographies through platform technologies that address diverse market needs. Ginkgo Bioworks will continue to work independently with different partners in the discovery and optimization of biological products for agriculture.

"Ginkgo is committed to the power of advanced biological tools to deliver innovative products for growers at the forefront of food production and food security worldwide," said Michael Miille, General Manager of Ginkgo's Agriculture Business Unit.

"We look forward to continuing our partnerships with Bayer and other innovative companies, and to bringing on new partners to Ginkgo's agricultural biologicals platform."