The potential role of biocontrol centres

Margareta Hökeberg

Director CBC – Centre for Biological Control
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

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There is a constant mortal combat for living space among organisms.

WE CAN USE IT
The use of living organisms to control harmful organisms or restrict their harmful actions.

Takes advantage of fundamental ecological interactions between organisms: predation, parasitism, pathogenicity, competition, antagonism, induced resistance etc.....

Biological control — a crucial component of Integrated Pest Management

P. chlororaphis bacteria on barley kernel
Centre for Biological Control - CBC

Started in 2012

Financed by the Swedish Ministry for Rural Affairs

- Applications in agriculture, horticulture, forestry, animal husbandry and aquaculture.

- Research and development in different areas of biocontrol.

- Promote biocontrol research and research collaboration.

- Cooperation with and support to stakeholders – authorities, companies, extension, grower’s organisations, NGOs etc
CBC organisation

Five research areas:

- Insects/arachnides for biocontrol;
- Fungi for biocontrol;
- Bacteria for biocontrol;
- Microbial stabilisation/formulation;
- Safety and regulation.

Steering group + Advisory group
CBC research

- Fundamental and applied research on biological control to strengthen the knowledge base;

- Facilitate the development and implementation of new biocontrol products and approaches.

Current research focus:
- Biocontrol in agri- and horticultural crops in IPM context
- Inundation/application + conservation biocontrol strategies
- Microbial consortia
- New formulation concepts
- Relevant methods and criteria for safety evaluation
CBC outreaching activities

• Meetings
  - Annual stakeholder meetings on biological control
  - International symposia (IOBC conference Uppsala June 2014)

• Expert support and opinions
  - to authorities (national, EFSA, COM)
  - to companies, assignments
  - to advisors

• Courses
  - for advisors and growers
  - for students - ambassadors for the future

• International research collaboration
Potential role of national biocontrol centres:

- Different national conditions and needs
- Together with stakeholders identify knowledge gaps and obstacles
- Initiate/perform relevant research
- Develop new biocontrol concepts
- International collaboration
- Expert advice functions – national and supranational

Support build-up of knowledge, communication and implementation on biocontrol and IPM
Thank you!