River Bioscience

*Left to right: Peter Valentyn, Zonia Fortuin, Enrico Ficks, Jerry Botha, Christo Douries, Winston Adoons and Johan Basson*

# River Bioscience adds to its basket of products

ROB ELFICK

Almost a year ago River Bioscience (RB) signed an agreement with a collaborating company for the distribution of its false codling moth (FCM) virus product Cryptogran in East Africa. This work continues, though, due to the registration process first sales are still some way off. In the meantime, other opportunities for collaboration have been explored, like one where RB represents and distributes some of the collaborator's products in SA.

The products identified are listed in the table below, with a brief description of their function and mode of action. All these products are fungi and manufactured through fermentation methodology. To date RB has not planned on pursuing this type of production, as our area of speciality is virus production through insect rearing. When evaluating RB's current product range and immediate pipeline, the products listed would not be replacing or competing with any products in the RB portfolio. In fact, these products would provide a useful extension to our footprint in a growing sector of the biopesticide market.

## People development

The Human Resources strategy for the River Bioscience and X-sit (RBX) group is centred around five key elements: uniformity and consistency in what we do, having an enabling work environment, a high-performance culture, being an employer of choice, and a focus on transformation.

A significant part of this strategy is ensuring that all staff are given the opportunity to learn new skills, attend training programmes and embark on a self-development journey.

Over the past 12 months, 222 employees across the group have attended some form of training. The RBX management team is very proud of all those who have attended and participated in these training opportunities.

One such course was attended by the employees pictured above, who completed a Basic Management Principles course, and passed with flying colours.

Citrus Growers' Association of Southern Africa
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| Trade name | Organism | Function and target pest |
|---|---|---|
| Beauvitech | *Beauveria bassiana* | Bioinsecticide<br>White fly |
| Mytech | *Paecilomyces lilacinus* | Bionematicide<br>Control of plant parasitic nematodes (root knot nematodes, cyst nematodes, root lesion nematodes, burrowing nematodes and reniform nematodes amongst others) |
| Trichotech | *Trichoderma asperellum* | Biofungicide<br>Armillaria, Botrytis Blight, Crown Gall, Fusarium, Pythium, Rhizoctonia, Root Rots, Sclerotinia, stem cankers |