



PRESS RELEASE

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ZUG, SWITZERLAND – January 10, 2010 – Signed December 15, 2009, the EU-Latin America Bananas Agreement ended one of the world's longest-running trade battles, cutting import tariffs on bananas from Latin America to the EU. The settlement ensures lower banana prices for Europeans, and greater sales for Latin American growers, as they gain access to the world's largest (\$6.7 billion) banana market.

Since the signing of this agreement, the Stockton Group, holder of Timorex Gold, the residue-free bio-fungicide for the control of Black Sigatoka in Banana, has seen a significant rise in interest in its product from numerous international banana companies and Latin American plantations. These entities are eager to meet the EU preference requirement for residue free bananas while still ensuring high yields volume and quality.

Considered one of the most damaging and costly banana diseases, Black Sigatoka is a leaf spot disease caused by the *Mycosphaerella fijiensis* fungus. Banana plants damaged by Black Sigatoka yield up to 50% less fruit, and control of the fungus accounts for up to 30% of total banana production costs worldwide.

Timorex Gold has been proven effective as a prophylactic and eradicator, controlling Black Sigatoka in bananas while maintaining excellent crop quality criteria, with no effect on banana organoleptic and physicochemical properties. Non-residue Timorex Gold is already registered in most banana-growing countries - Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Republic Dominican and Philippines.

“At Stockton, we are committed to effective, sustainable solutions to pressing agricultural problems,” said Mr. Jimmy Lewensohn, Commercial Manager for the Stockton Group. *“Timorex Gold is a clear choice for Latin American growers – offering effective control of Black Sigatoka damage, while meeting European demands to reduce both fruit chemical load and environmental damage,”* he concluded.

About The Stockton Group

The Stockton Group is a global supplier of high quality crop protection products and innovative eco-friendly solutions to a large and diverse group of customers worldwide.

Our comprehensive range of expertly formulated herbicide, fungicide and insecticide solutions, coupled with superb service and support, offers exceptional product performance, reliability, and safety – meeting the evolving needs of both growers and crops, season after season.

For further information, please visit www.stockton-agrimor.com or email TimorexGold@Stockton-Ag.com

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