

SYNGENTA AG  
Form 20-F  
March 01, 2006

**As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 1, 2006**

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 20-F**

- REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
OR  
 ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended: December 31, 2005  
OR  
 TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
OR  
 SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission file number: 1-15152

**SYNGENTA AG**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**SWITZERLAND**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**Schwarzwaldallee 215, 4058 Basel, Switzerland**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class:

Name of each exchange on which registered:

**American Depositary Shares, each  
representing  
one-fifth of a common share of Syngenta  
AG,  
nominal value CHF 5.60**

**New York Stock Exchange**

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act: **None**

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

**106,368,247 Common shares, nominal value CHF 5.60 each**

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Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

**Yes**  **No**

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

**Yes**  **No**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

**Yes**  **No**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of [accelerated filer and large accelerated filer] in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

**Large accelerated filer**  **Accelerated filer**  **Non-accelerated filer**   
Indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow:

**Item 17**  **Item 18**

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

**Yes**  **No**

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## Introduction

### NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Syngenta AG (the "Syngenta", the "Company", "we" or "us") is a world-leading agribusiness that is involved in the discovery, development, manufacture and marketing of a range of products designed to improve crop yields and food quality. In addition, Syngenta is a leader in "Professional Products", through the development of products for markets such as Seed Treatment, Turf and Ornamentals, Professional Pest Management, Vector Control and Public Health. Syngenta is headquartered in Basel, Switzerland and was formed by Novartis AG (the "Novartis") and AstraZeneca PLC (the "AstraZeneca") in November 2000 through an agreement to spin off and merge the Novartis crop protection and seeds businesses with the Zeneca agrochemicals business to create a dedicated agribusiness company whose shares were then the subject of a global offering (the "Transactions").

The Transactions were completed on November 13, 2000 (the "Transaction Date"). In this annual report, for periods prior to November 13, 2000, we refer to the businesses contributed to Syngenta by Novartis as the "Novartis agribusiness" and we refer to the businesses contributed to Syngenta by AstraZeneca as the "Zeneca agrochemicals business".

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The statements contained in this annual report that are not historical facts, including, without limitation, statements regarding management's expectations, targets or intentions, including for sales, earnings, earnings per share and synergies, constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and are based on the current expectations and estimates of Syngenta's management. Investors are cautioned that such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and that actual results may differ materially.

We identify the forward-looking statements in this annual report by using the words "will" or "would", or "anticipates", "believes", "expects", "intends" or similar expressions, or the negative of these expressions. We cannot guarantee that any of the events or trends anticipated by the forward-looking statements will actually occur. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results anticipated in the forward-looking statements include, among other things:

- the risk that research and development will not yield new products that achieve commercial success;
- the risks associated with increasing competition in the industry, especially during downturns in the agricultural economy;
- the risk that we will not be able to obtain or maintain the necessary regulatory approvals for our business;
- the risks associated with potential changes in policies of governments and international organizations;
- the risks associated with exposure to liabilities resulting from environmental and health and safety laws;
- the risk that important patents and other intellectual property rights may be challenged;
- the risk of substantial product liability claims;
- the risk that consumer resistance to genetically modified crops and organisms may negatively impact sales;

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- the risk that our crop protection business may be adversely affected by increased use of products derived from biotechnology;
- the risks associated with climatic variations;
- the risk that customers will be unable to pay their debts to us due to local economic conditions;
- the risks associated with exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates;
- the risks associated with entering into single-source supply arrangements;
- the risks associated with conducting operations in certain territories that have been identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism;

- other risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict.

Some of these factors are discussed in more detail herein, including under Item 3 [Key Information], Item 4 [Information on the Company], and Item 5 [Operating and Financial Review and Prospects]. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Syngenta does not intend or assume any obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Introduction	ii
Nature of Operations	ii
Forward-Looking Statements	ii
<b>PART I</b>	<b>2</b>
Item 1 □ Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers	2
Item 2 □ Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable	2
Item 3 □ Key Information	2
Item 4 □ Information on the Company	7
Item 5 □ Operating and Financial Review and Prospects	35
Item 6 □ Directors, Senior Management and Employees	67
Item 7 □ Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions	76
Item 8 □ Financial Information	77
Item 9 □ The Offer and Listing	82
Item 10 □ Additional Information	84
Item 11 □ Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	93
Item 12 □ Description of Securities Other Than Equity Securities	95
<b>PART II</b>	<b>96</b>
Item 13 □ Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies	96
Item 14 □ Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds	96
Item 15 □ Controls and Procedures	96
Item 16 □ [Reserved]	96
Item 16A □ Audit Committee Financial Expert	96
Item 16B □ Code of Ethics	96
Item 16C □ Principal Accountant Fees and Services	97
Item 16D □ Exemptions from the Listing Standards for Audit Committees	97
Item 16E □ Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers	98
<b>PART III</b>	<b>99</b>
Item 17 □ Financial Statements	99
Item 18 □ Financial Statements	99
Item 19 □ Exhibits	100

**PART I**

**ITEM 1 □ IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 2 □ OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 3 □ KEY INFORMATION**

**Financial Highlights**

Syngenta has prepared the consolidated financial statements in US dollars and in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), together with a reconciliation of net income and equity to US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (US GAAP). The basis of preparation of the consolidated financial statements and the key accounting policies are discussed in Notes 1 and 2, respectively, of the consolidated financial statements. For a discussion of the significant differences between IFRS and US GAAP, see Note 33 to the consolidated financial statements.

The selected financial information set out overleaf has been extracted from the consolidated financial statements of Syngenta. Investors should read the whole document and not rely on the summarized information. 2002 and 2003 IFRS financial information has been retrospectively adjusted to include impairment losses of US\$53 million and US\$3 million, respectively, as a result of applying the additional impairment criteria on adopting IAS 39 (revised) in these financial statements. US GAAP financial information is unchanged because these amounts were already recorded as impairment losses for US GAAP. The information includes the results of operations and the net assets of Golden Harvest as from July 31, 2004 and Garst as from September 1, 2004. For further information about these and other acquisitions, see Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.

(US\$ million except where stated)	2005	2004	Year ended December 2003 (adjusted)	2002 (a)
<b>Amounts in accordance with IFRS(1)</b>				
<b>Income statement data</b>				
Sales	8,104	7,269	6,525	
Cost of goods sold	(3,950)	(3,532)	(3,248)	
Gross profit	4,154	3,737	3,277	
Operating expenses	(3,294)	(3,196)	(2,759)	
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>518</b>	
Income/(loss) before taxes	766	466	379	
Income/(loss) from continuing operations	626	536	246	
<b>Net income/(loss) attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>248</b>	
Number of shares - basic	100,017,271	105,208,929	101,682,672	101,682,672
- diluted	101,464,222	106,015,369	101,799,899	101,799,899
<b>Basic earnings/(loss) per share</b>				
From continuing operations	6.22	5.16	2.39	
From discontinued operations	-	(0.79)	0.05	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.22</b>	<b>4.37</b>	<b>2.44</b>	
<b>Diluted earnings/(loss) per share</b>				
From continuing operations	6.13	5.12	2.38	
From discontinued operations	-	(0.78)	0.05	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.13</b>	<b>4.34</b>	<b>2.43</b>	
Cash dividends declared	-	-	0.85	
- US\$ per share equivalent	-	-	0.64	
Par value reduction	2.70	1.70	-	
- US\$ per share equivalent	2.10	1.35	-	
<b>Cash flow data from continuing operations</b>				
Cash flow from operating activities	497	1,309	791	
Cash flow from/(used for) investing activities	(144)	(686)	(232)	
Cash flow from/(used for) financing activities	(74)	(679)	(630)	



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Capital expenditure on tangible fixed assets	(174)	(166)	(211)
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**Balance sheet data**

Current assets less current liabilities	1,747	2,185	1,816
Total assets	11,608	12,008	10,968
Total non-current liabilities	(2,712)	(3,106)	(2,933)
Total liabilities	(6,177)	(6,330)	(5,845)
Share capital	353	525	667
Total shareholders' equity	5,403	5,658	5,056

**Other supplementary income data**

Diluted earnings/(loss) per share from continuing operations, excluding restructuring and impairment(2)	7.67	7.19	3.34
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**Amounts in accordance with US GAAP**

Sales	8,104	7,269	6,525
Net income/(loss) from continuing operations	560	429	247
Net income/(loss) attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders	556	352	250
Total assets (unaudited)	11,731	12,292	11,418
Total non-current liabilities (unaudited)	(2,837)	(3,391)	(3,141)
Total equity	5,417	5,648	5,202
Basic earnings/(loss) per share(3)			
From continuing operations	5.56	4.14	2.42
From discontinued operations	-	(0.79)	0.04
Diluted earnings/(loss) per share(3)			
From continuing operations	5.49	4.10	2.41
From discontinued operations	-	(0.78)	0.04

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- (1) Syngenta has prepared the consolidated financial statements in US dollars and in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), together with a reconciliation of net income and equity to US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (US GAAP).

The basis of preparation of the consolidated financial statements and the key accounting policies are discussed in Notes 1 and 2, respectively, to the consolidated financial statements. For a discussion of the significant differences between IFRS and US GAAP, see Note 33 to the consolidated financial statements.

- (2) Restructuring represents the effect on reported performance of initiating business changes which are considered major and which, in the opinion of management, will have a material effect on the nature and focus of Syngenta's operations, and therefore require separate disclosure to provide a more thorough understanding of business performance. Restructuring includes the effects of completing and integrating significant business combinations and divestments. Restructuring and impairment includes the impairment costs associated with major restructuring and also impairment losses and reversals of impairment losses resulting from major changes in the markets in which a reported segment operates. The incidence of these business changes may be periodic and the effect on reported performance of initiating them will vary from period to period. Because each such business change is different in nature and scope, there will be limited continuity in the detailed composition and size of the reported amounts which affect performance in successive periods. Separate disclosure of these amounts facilitates the understanding of underlying performance.

Restructuring and impairment charges for 2005, 2004 and 2003 are analyzed in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements. Restructuring and impairment for 2002 and 2001 represent the costs of integrating the separate Novartis agribusiness and Zeneca agrochemicals business legacy organizations and the closure of certain manufacturing and research and development sites and refocusing of other continuing sites. A detailed reconciliation of net income and earnings per share before restructuring and impairment to net income and earnings per share according to IFRS is given in Appendix A at the end of this section.

- (3) The number of shares used to calculate US GAAP basic earnings per share is the same as that used under IFRS. The number of shares used to calculate US GAAP diluted earnings per share is adjusted from that used under IFRS due to accounting for hypothetical share issuance proceeds under SFAS 123(R). This adjustment is explained in Note 33 of the consolidated financial statements.

### **Risk Factors**

Syngenta's business, financial condition or results of operations could suffer material adverse effects due to any of the following risks. We have described below the risks that we consider material. Additional risks not known to us or that we now consider immaterial may also impair our business operations.

#### **The Resources Syngenta Devotes to Research and Development May Not Result in Commercially Viable Products**

Syngenta's success depends in part on its ability to develop new products. Research and development in the agribusiness industry is expensive and prolonged, and entails considerable uncertainty. The process of developing a novel crop protection product, plant variety or trait typically takes about six to ten years from discovery through testing and registration to initial product launch, but this period varies considerably from product to product and country to country. Because of the complexities and uncertainties associated with chemical and biotechnological research, compounds or biotechnological products currently under development may neither survive the development process nor ultimately receive the requisite regulatory approvals needed to market such products. Even when such approvals are obtained, there can be no assurance that a new product will be commercially successful. In addition, research undertaken by competitors may lead to the launch of competing or improved products which may affect sales of Syngenta's new products.

#### **Syngenta Faces Increasing Competition in Its Industry, Especially During Downturns in the Agricultural Economy**

Syngenta currently faces significant competition in the markets in which it operates. In most segments of the market, the number of products available to the grower is steadily increasing as new products are introduced, although this trend has recently slowed as some products are withdrawn because they are not re-registered or are subject to voluntary programmes to reduce the range of products offered. At the same time, an increasing number of products are coming off patent and are thus available to generic manufacturers for production. As a result,

Syngenta anticipates that it will continue to face significant competitive challenges.

Declines in commodity crop prices can indirectly affect Syngenta's results. They can result not only in reduced sales, but also in competitive price pressure in certain of our markets. These fluctuations may negatively impact Syngenta's business or results of operations in the future.

**Syngenta May Not Be Able to Obtain or Maintain the Necessary Regulatory Approvals for Some of Its Products, and This Would Restrict Its Ability to Sell Those Products in Some Markets**

Syngenta's products must receive regulatory approval before they can be marketed, but Syngenta may not be able to obtain such approvals. In most markets, including the United States and the EU, crop protection products must be registered after being tested for safety, efficacy and environmental impact. In most of Syngenta's principal markets, after a period of time, Syngenta must also re-register its crop protection products and show that they meet all current standards, which may have become more stringent since the prior registration. For seeds products, in the EU, a new plant variety will be registered only after it has been shown that it is distinct, uniform, stable, and better than existing varieties.

Regulatory standards and trial procedures are continuously changing. Responding to these changes and meeting existing and new requirements may be costly and burdensome. In addition, changing regulatory standards may affect Syngenta's ability to maintain its products on the market.

### **Changes in the Agricultural Policies of Governments and International Organizations May Prove Unfavorable**

In subsidized markets such as the United States, EU and Japan, reduction of subsidies to growers may inhibit the growth of crop protection and seeds markets. In each of these areas there are various pressures to reduce subsidies. However, it is difficult to predict accurately whether and when such changes will occur. We expect that the policies of governments and international organizations will continue to affect the income available to growers to purchase crop protection and seeds products and accordingly the operating results of the agribusiness industry.

### **Syngenta Is Subject to Stringent Environmental, and Health and Safety Laws, Regulations and Standards Which Can Result in Compliance Costs and Remediation Efforts That May Adversely Affect Its Operational and Financial Position**

Syngenta is subject to a broad range of increasingly stringent laws, regulations and standards in all of its operational jurisdictions. This results in significant compliance costs and can expose it to legal liability. These requirements are comprehensive and cover many activities including: air emissions, waste water discharges, the use and handling of hazardous materials, waste disposal practices, the clean-up of existing environmental contamination and the use of chemicals by growers.

Environmental and health and safety laws, regulations and standards expose Syngenta to the risk of substantial costs and liabilities, including liabilities associated with assets that have been sold and activities that have been discontinued. In addition, many of our manufacturing sites have a long history of industrial use. As is typical for businesses like Syngenta's, soil and groundwater contamination has occurred in the past at some sites, and may be identified at other sites in the future. Disposal of waste from our business at off-site locations also exposes Syngenta to potential remediation costs. Consistent with past practice Syngenta is continuing to investigate and remediate, or monitor soil and groundwater contamination at a number of these sites. Despite our efforts to comply with environmental laws, Syngenta may face remediation liabilities and legal proceedings concerning environmental matters.

Based on information presently available, Syngenta has budgeted expenditures for environmental improvement projects and has established provisions for known environmental remediation liabilities that are probable and capable of estimation. However, it cannot predict environmental matters with certainty, and the budgeted amounts and established provisions may not be adequate for all purposes. In addition, the development or discovery of new facts, events, circumstances, changes in law or conditions, including future decisions to close plants which may trigger remediation liabilities, could result in increased costs and liabilities or prevent or restrict some of Syngenta's operations.

### **Third Parties May Challenge Some of Syngenta's Intellectual Property Rights or Assert That Syngenta Has Infringed Theirs**

Scientific and technological innovation is critical to the long-term success of our businesses. However, third parties may challenge the measures that Syngenta takes to protect processes, compounds, organisms and methods of use through patents and other intellectual property rights and, as a result, our products may not always have the full benefit of intellectual property rights.

Third parties may also assert that Syngenta's products violate their intellectual property rights. As the number of biotechnological products used in agriculture increases and the functionality of these products further overlap, Syngenta believes that it may continue to be subject to infringement claims. Even claims without merit are time-consuming and expensive to defend. As a result of these claims, Syngenta could be required to enter into license arrangements, develop non-infringing products or engage in litigation that could be costly.

**Syngenta May Be Required to Pay Substantial Damages as a Result of Product Liability Claims for Which Insurance Coverage is Not Available**

Product liability claims are a commercial risk for Syngenta, particularly as we are involved in the supply of chemical products which can be harmful to humans and the environment. Courts have levied substantial damages in the United States and elsewhere against a number of crop protection and seeds companies in past years based upon claims for injuries allegedly caused by the use of their products. While we have a global insurance program in place, a substantial product liability claim that is not covered by insurance could have a material adverse effect on Syngenta's operating results or financial condition.

### **Consumer and Government Resistance to Genetically Modified Organisms May Negatively Affect Syngenta's Public Image and Reduce Sales**

Syngenta is active in the field of genetically modified organisms in the seeds area and in biotechnology research and development in seeds and crop protection, with a current focus on North and South America. However, the high public profile of biotechnology and lack of consumer acceptance of products to which Syngenta has devoted substantial resources could negatively affect its public image and results. The current resistance from consumer groups, particularly in Europe, to products based on genetically modified organisms because of concerns over their effects on food safety and the environment, may spread to and influence the acceptance of products developed through biotechnology in other regions of the world, which could limit the commercial opportunities to exploit biotechnology. In addition, some government authorities have enacted and others in the future might enact regulations regarding genetically modified organisms which may delay and limit or even prohibit the development and sale of such products.

### **Syngenta's Crop Protection Business May Be Adversely Affected by Increased Use of Products Derived Through Biotechnology**

The adoption of the products derived through biotechnology could have a negative impact on areas of Syngenta's traditional crop protection business. This may not be offset, in whole or in part, by the opportunities presented to our seeds and plant science businesses, which are more actively pursuing products and traits developed through biotechnology. Crop protection accounted for 78% of sales in 2005, whereas seeds accounted for 22% of sales. The area of Syngenta's crop protection business where genetically modified seeds have had the largest adverse impact to date is that of selective herbicides for use on oilseed crops, although genetically modified seeds' impact on the crop protection markets in corn and cotton is also significant and growing.

### **Syngenta's Results May Be Affected by Climatic Variations**

The agribusiness industry is subject to seasonal and weather factors, which make its operations relatively unpredictable. The weather can affect the presence of disease and pests in the short term on a regional basis, and accordingly can affect the demand for crop protection products and the mix of products used (positively or negatively).

### **Syngenta's Customers May Be Unable to Pay Their Debts to Syngenta Due to Local Economic Conditions**

Normally Syngenta delivers its products against future payment. Syngenta's credit terms vary according to local market practice, but for Europe and NAFTA our credit terms usually range from 30 to 180 days. However, Syngenta's customers, particularly in developing economies such as Latin America, may be exposed to downturns which may impact their ability to pay their debts, which could adversely affect our results.

### **Currency Fluctuations May Have a Harmful Impact on Syngenta's Financial Results or May Increase Its Liabilities**

Syngenta reports its results in US dollars; however a substantial portion of our sales and product costs is denominated in currencies other than the US dollar. Fluctuations in the values of these currencies, especially in the US dollar against the Swiss franc, British pound and euro, can have a material impact on our financial results.

### **Syngenta Maintains a Single Supplier for Some Raw Materials, Which May Affect Its Ability to Obtain Sufficient Amounts of Those Materials**

While Syngenta generally maintains multiple sources of supply and obtains supplies of raw materials from a number of countries, there are a limited number of instances where Syngenta has entered into single-source supply contracts or where Syngenta routinely makes spot purchases from a single supplier in respect of active ingredients, intermediates or raw materials for certain important products where there is no viable alternative source or where there is sufficient commercial benefit and security of supply can be assured. Such single supplier arrangements account for approximately 20% of our purchases of active ingredients, intermediates and raw

materials, as determined by cost. Syngenta cannot assure you that its ability to obtain sufficient amounts of those materials will not be adversely affected by unforeseen developments that would cause it to lose a supplier without notice.

**Syngenta Conducts Business in Most Countries of the World, Including in Certain Territories that Have Been Identified by the U.S. Government as State Sponsors of Terrorism**

Syngenta conducts business in most countries of the world, and thus it has minor operations in high risk territories, including Cuba, Iran, Syria and the Sudan, some of which have been identified by the U.S. government as state sponsors of terrorism. Syngenta's operations in these countries are quantitatively immaterial, and it is Syngenta's belief that supporting agriculture in these countries is beneficial to their wider population, for whom food is often in short supply. However, certain investors may choose not to hold investments in companies that have operations of any size in these countries and several U.S. states have enacted, and others may in the future enact, legislation requiring public entities with investments in companies with operations in

these countries to disclose this fact or in some cases to divest these investments. Any such divestment is not currently expected to have a material impact on the value of Syngenta shares.

### **Syngenta's Share Price May Be Volatile and Subject to Sudden and Significant Drops**

The trading price of Syngenta shares and ADRs has been, and could in the future continue to be, subject to significant fluctuations in response to variations in Syngenta's financial performance, regulatory and business conditions in its industry, general economic trends and other factors, some of which are unrelated to the operating performance of Syngenta.

### **If You Hold Syngenta ADRs It May Be More Difficult for You to Exercise Your Rights**

The rights of holders of Syngenta ADRs are governed by the deposit agreement between Syngenta and The Bank of New York. These rights are different from those of holders of Syngenta shares, including with respect to the receipt of information, the receipt of dividends or other distributions, the exercise of voting rights and attending shareholders' meetings. As a result, it may be more difficult for you to exercise those rights.

## **ITEM 4 - INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY**

### **History and Development of the Company**

#### **The Company**

Syngenta AG was formed in November 1999 under the laws of Switzerland and became a public company in November 2000. Syngenta is domiciled in and governed by the laws of Switzerland. It has its registered office and principal business office at Schwarzwaldallee 215, 4058 Basel, Switzerland. The telephone number of Syngenta is 41-61-323-1111. Syngenta's registered agent for service of process in the United States is CT Corporation System. CT Corporation System's address is 111 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York 10011, United States.

Syngenta was created by Novartis AG and AstraZeneca PLC in November 2000 through an agreement to spin off and merge the Novartis agribusiness and the Zeneca agrochemicals business to create a dedicated agribusiness company whose shares were then the subject of a global offering (the "Transactions").

As at December 31, 2005, the company is listed on the Swiss Stock Exchange (SWX) under the symbol SYNN and the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol SYT. Syngenta de-listed its shares from the London Stock Exchange and the Stockholm Stock Exchange as of December 30, 2003 due to the low level of trading on these exchanges. The shares were listed on these two stock exchanges at the time of Syngenta's floatation to reflect the shareholder base of the two legacy companies.

Prior to the Transactions, Novartis agribusiness was a leading supplier of crop protection products and seeds. Novartis agribusiness operated in more than 120 countries worldwide and employed approximately 15,500 permanent employees at the time of the Transactions. Novartis agribusiness had US\$4,678 million in sales in 1999, making it the world's second largest agribusiness company. Its parent company, Novartis AG, was created by the merger of Sandoz AG ("Sandoz") and Ciba-Geigy AG ("Ciba-Geigy") in December 1996. Through this merger, Sandoz's and Ciba-Geigy's seed and crop protection businesses, which had existed since the 1930's, became Novartis agribusiness. Novartis agribusiness subsequently enlarged its portfolio and geographic reach through acquisitions.

Zeneca agrochemicals business was one of the world's leading suppliers of crop protection products in terms of sales prior to the Transactions. Its sales in 1999 totaled US\$2,657 million. Zeneca agrochemicals business operated in more than 120 countries worldwide and employed approximately 8,300 people at December 31, 1999. Zeneca agrochemicals business was demerged from ICI PLC in 1993, together with the pharmaceuticals and specialty chemicals businesses. ICI had originally entered the agrochemicals market in the 1930's.

#### **The Demergers and Combinations to Form Syngenta**



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The boards of directors of Novartis and AstraZeneca announced on December 2, 1999 that they had unanimously agreed to spin-off and merge Novartis agribusiness and Zeneca agrochemicals business. These transactions were effected by means of the demerger of Novartis agribusiness and Zeneca agrochemicals business from the remaining businesses of Novartis and AstraZeneca, respectively, and the combination of Novartis agribusiness and Zeneca agrochemicals business into Syngenta, subject to the conditions and further terms described in this annual report below under Item 10 □Additional Information□Material Contracts□.

### **Regulatory Approval**

The required waiting period for completion of the Transactions under the United States Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, ended on November 1, 2000. Novartis and AstraZeneca divested certain businesses, principally acetochlor-based products which are sold under a number of trade names, including Surpass®, and the businesses associated with the strobilurin fungicide product line Flint®, which comprises the range of products based on the chemical trifloxystrobin and includes the brands Flint®/Stratego®/Twist®/Sphere®/Agora® and Rombus®. The FTC provisionally approved an Agreement Containing Consent Orders including these divestitures and the Transactions as of November 1, 2000 and Syngenta was formed on November 13, 2000. The FTC gave final approval to the Agreement Containing Consent Orders as of December 22, 2000.

In addition, Novartis and AstraZeneca were required, prior to completing the Transactions, to obtain approval from the European Commission. Following discussions with the European Commission, Novartis and AstraZeneca offered commitments to the European Commission to divest some businesses, principally businesses associated with the strobilurin fungicide product line Flint® and acetochlor-based product ranges which were also sold to obtain FTC approval. On the basis of these commitments the European Commission approved the Transactions on July 26, 2000. The parties fulfilled their commitments in December 2001.

### **Possible Retroactive Tax Consequences of the Transactions for Syngenta**

#### *Switzerland*

Under the terms of the Swiss tax rulings obtained by Novartis and granted by the Swiss Federal and certain Cantonal Tax Administrations, certain transactions in connection with the demergers and combinations qualified as tax-privileged transactions under Swiss tax laws provided the transactions are effected in a manner consistent with the ruling.

#### Corporate Income and Real Estate Taxes

Novartis confirmed to the Swiss Federal and Cantonal Tax Administrations that the demerger of Novartis agribusiness was not being made with the intention to sell Novartis agribusiness to a third party, and that no plan existed to concentrate the majority of the Syngenta shares in the hands of a single shareholder or related group of shareholders. If, however, such a concentration were to occur within five years from the date of the demerger, the Swiss Federal and Cantonal Tax Administration might revoke the benefits of the tax privileged transactions and assess corporate income and real estate gains taxes on the excess of the fair market value over the tax value of the transferred Novartis agribusiness determined as of the date of the transfer (real estate gains taxes would only be levied on real estate involved in the transaction). Furthermore, the transfers of real estate assets would be subject to real estate transfer taxes. Corporate and real estate gains and additional real estate transfer taxes might also be due if Syngenta were to dispose of voting rights of certain Swiss subsidiary companies which were involved in tax-free transactions for Swiss corporate income, Swiss real estate gains or transfer tax purposes in the course of the separation of Novartis agribusiness. Under the terms of the tax rulings, Syngenta would have to bear the corporate income and real estate gains taxes so assessed.

However, should the majority of Syngenta shares be transferred in the course of another tax privileged transaction (e.g., a merger) taking place within the five-year blocking period, the retroactive taxation would not be triggered if certain conditions are fulfilled.

#### Stamp Duty

If a shareholder or a group of shareholders acting in concert were to acquire, directly or indirectly, more than one third of the voting rights of either Syngenta or a subsidiary of Syngenta which has been involved in tax-free transactions for Swiss stamp duty purposes within five years of the completion of the Transactions, then Syngenta or such other subsidiary would have to pay Swiss stamp duty in the amount of 1% of the fair market value of the issued shares as at the date of the completion of the Transactions. If, however, more than one third of the voting rights of such company were transferred in the course of another tax-privileged transaction (e.g., a merger) taking

place within the five-year blocking period, such retroactive taxation would not be triggered.

The possible adverse tax consequences to Syngenta described above may discourage future transactions involving a change in control of Syngenta.

Under the tax deed between Syngenta and Novartis, Syngenta has agreed with Novartis to be liable, subject to certain limitations, for the payment of all Swiss withholding or other Swiss taxes and duties arising out of or that are connected to Novartis agribusiness whether such taxes become due prior to or after the completion of the Transactions.

### *United States*

Under Section 355(e) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, Novartis may be held liable for United States federal income tax in respect of its distribution of Novartis Agribusiness Holding Inc. if shareholders of Novartis fail to continue to own, indirectly through their ownership of Syngenta shares or ADRs, more than 50% of the stock of Novartis Agribusiness Holding Inc., and such failure is attributable to a plan found to exist as of the time of such distribution.

In this regard, under the terms of the tax deed entered into between Syngenta and Novartis, Syngenta was prevented from substantially changing its shareholder base for at least two years after the completion of the Transactions, which period ended in 2002. In the event that Syngenta did take any such actions, it would be required, under the terms of the tax deed with Novartis, to indemnify Novartis for any resulting tax liabilities incurred under United States federal income tax law. This indemnity would cover, in particular, any United States federal income tax liability incurred by Novartis if such actions caused the demerger of the Novartis agribusiness to no longer be treated as a tax-free spin-off for United States federal income tax purposes. See Item 10 "Additional Information" Material Contracts The Separation Agreements Tax Deed.

### **Investments and Divestments**

#### ***Investments***

On October 14, 2005, Syngenta acquired an additional membership interest in Dulcinea Farms, LLC, increasing its interest from 51% to 100%. On September 16, 2005, Syngenta purchased the Dutch bee breeding business of Bunting Brinkman Bees B.V. It previously held a 49% shareholding in that entity. In February 2005, Syngenta purchased additional shares in Syngenta Nantong Crop Protection Ltd., increasing its shareholding from 98% to 100%. The aggregate purchase price of these acquisitions was US\$10 million, paid in cash.

In 2004, Syngenta made a number of investments to strengthen its Seeds Field Crops business in the North American corn and soybean markets. These investments included corn germplasm, breeding materials and inbreds from the U.S. based company CHS Research LLC, acquisition of a 90% stake in the Golden Harvest® "family" of companies for US\$154 million net of cash in the acquired companies, the acquisition of 90% of the North American corn, soybean and wheat business of Advanta BV for US\$327 million net of cash in the acquired companies, and purchase of glyphosate tolerance technology for corn (GA21) from Bayer CropScience. Syngenta also purchased the remaining 67% of the outstanding shares of Dia-Engei, a Japanese flower seed company. In 2003, Syngenta acquired additional shares in the publicly listed subsidiary Syngenta India Limited, increasing Syngenta's shareholding to 84% from 51% at a cost of US\$29 million. In another transaction, Syngenta granted an exclusive, royalty-free perpetual license for certain intellectual property for use in the pharmaceutical field to Diversa Corporation in exchange for stock and warrants representing 14% and 3% respectively of Diversa's then outstanding stock pro forma for the equity issuances. Syngenta also entered into a minimum five year research collaboration agreement with Diversa as part of this transaction.

#### ***Divestments***

On September 30, 2004, Syngenta sold its 75% interest in its sulphur and chlorine-based chemical intermediates business, SF-Chem AG, to a private equity buyer for US\$46 million. This business was previously shown as part of the Crop Protection segment, and is now presented as a discontinued operation in the consolidated income statement and segmental results. This transaction is further described in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements. There were no major business or product divestments in 2005 or 2003.

### **Syngenta's Strategy**

Syngenta's goal is to create value for its shareholders by being the leading provider of innovative products and solutions to growers and the food and feed chain.

There are five principal components to Syngenta's strategy to achieve this goal:

***Capitalize on the Strengths of Syngenta's Global Crop Protection and Seeds Businesses***

One of Syngenta's key strengths is its broad base of strong, profitable products in its two main divisions: crop protection and seeds. Syngenta builds on these strengths by continuing to manage crop protection and seeds as independent divisions with strong management focus and accountability, while applying common systems and performance measures to achieve the transparency necessary to meet corporate expectations. Wherever appropriate, Syngenta looks for opportunities to capture synergies across these two divisions, primarily in research and development and marketing and support services.

**Actively Manage the Product Portfolio, Focus on Growers' Needs and the Demands of the Entire Feed and Food Chain, and Deliver Increasingly Tailored Local Solutions**

Syngenta seeks to balance the global management of strong individual products and local customization to meet growers' needs by:

- *Focusing on a core range of products tailored for local needs*

We direct our development activities principally to a core range of global products in an optimized array of formulations adapted to meet local needs. This continues to drive sales while exploiting operational efficiencies.

- *Meeting the demands of growers and the downstream food and feed chain*

Growers need products that will help them meet the increasing demands for more affordable, healthier, higher quality foods and feeds. These range from generalized demands from consumers to specific demands from processors and retailers that appear as recommendations, lists and protocols for qualifying inputs. Accordingly, a key element of our strategy is to ensure that we fully understand the diverse needs and expectations of these customer segments which vary by region, crop and crop destination, and furthermore help meet these needs and expectations with practical, sustainable solutions. Syngenta intends to accomplish this by focusing its global marketing and distribution network to deliver the highest quality service and support and to build deep, lasting relationships with these customer segments. This understanding drives our development effort and research targeting.

- *Providing tailored solutions*

We offer value-adding solutions tailored to local customer needs. Growers are increasingly requiring integrated solutions for their needs. They want a range of products and service offerings and combinations developed specifically for their crop and seed technology requirements. Accordingly, tailored solutions are often highly localized. These solutions include crop protection products, seeds, diagnostic testing, field services, performance assurances, information support and e-business tools. We believe we are positioned to be the leading supplier of these tailored solutions given our product breadth and marketing reach.

- *Sustaining and developing strong and long-standing relationships with major channel partners in all territories worldwide*

Technological, social and economic drivers are creating new distribution options and changing historic patterns of influence in the markets. Syngenta works closely with its channel partners to understand these influences. We will seek to develop our relationships in order to position Syngenta for these changes while pursuing a strategy of deepening our understanding of the needs of growers and the downstream food and feed chain.

**Exploit Research and Development Opportunities That Have the Potential to Deliver Innovative Products and Solutions**

Investment in technology and development capabilities is a critical enabler of Syngenta's future growth. We believe that investments in these areas will continue to add value to the crop protection and seeds businesses in the form of new products and, in due course, lead to new business opportunities. In addition, our scale allows us to build and exploit a range of important technology platforms, and deliver greater product and solution benefits to growers and the entire food and feed chain.

We aim to:

- *Discover and bring to market new products with improved efficacy and safety profiles which contribute to the development of sustainable agriculture*

In the past decade there has been a paradigm shift in methodology for the generation of leads for new chemical products. The integration of genomics to identify targets and establish modes of action together with fast high-throughput automated screens to detect leads has provided a powerful engine for lead discovery and optimization. Similarly, techniques such as toxicogenomics and environmental profiling are minimizing the attrition rate in the development process.

We focus on improved ways to direct our research towards areas of health and environmental safety. An example of the success delivered by the process is given by CALLISTO®, which showed a favorable environmental profile and became the leading selective herbicide for corn in the United States within three years.

- *Harness the full potential of our established products and technologies, including the extension of their life cycles through research and development activities*

We believe that we possess one of the broadest ranges of chemical crop protection products and technologies in the industry. We plan to refresh and improve this range, in the form of individual compounds and as innovative mixtures. We employ some of the best scientists in chemistry, physiology, bioperformance enhancement and formulation to achieve our objective. Attractive opportunities exist for combinations of products to provide tailored crop solutions for the specific requirements of growers. We believe that the integration of chemical and gene-based solutions offers a particularly attractive opportunity for the future.

In process chemistry, we are dedicated to improving existing manufacturing technologies and to innovating in technologies for key products in our existing range to ensure the optimal cost base.

- *Continue to build strong germplasm in target seeds segments that will increase our seed product improvement from traditional breeding and provide a delivery vehicle for new technologies, contributing to superior seed products and integrated product offerings.*

Advances in biotechnology have revolutionized processes and deliverables of crop improvement. For example, marker-assisted breeding is a powerful tool for trait selection for new varieties and also for significantly accelerating the breeding process. Integration of genomics tools, biochemical analysis and consumer mapping will be a crucial step in meeting the ever increasing demands for quality and nutrition, especially in our vegetable crops. Syngenta is very well positioned to benefit from its scientific skills and broad germplasm base.

Crop improvement programs represented in Syngenta's current research projects are exemplified by:

- ◆ *Self-protection against pests and diseases (e.g., in insect-resistant corn, disease-resistant sugarbeet, sunflower, wheat, barley and oilseed rape, multi-disease resistant vegetables)*
- ◆ *Productivity improvements, higher and more reliable yields and improved crop composition (e.g., in high sugar concentrated sugar beet and high-yield oilseed rape)*
- ◆ *Agronomic benefits such as drought, heat and cold tolerance, and adaptation to saline conditions (e.g., drought tolerant corn, winter hardiness of oilseed rape)*
- ◆ *Improved safety and nutritional quality of animal feed (e.g., enhanced phosphorus nutrition, low mycotoxin wheat and maize)*
- ◆ *Corn enhanced through biotechnology that expresses high levels of amylase for ethanol production (improved process efficiency could lead to environmental benefits and production cost savings)*
- ◆ *Improved quality of food crops and better processing characteristics (e.g., improved wheat for breadmaking, improved barley for higher brewing yield, high oleic sunflower)*
- ◆ *Innovations in the area of fresh vegetables, directly aimed at consumer benefits: PureHeart® watermelon, Tuscan style melon, Kumato® tomato etc.*
- ◆ *Dietary contributions to health (e.g., high beta-carotene rice)*
- ◆ *Non GM herbicide tolerant crops (IMI resistant sunflowers)*

We believe our skills and experience in health assessment, human safety and risk assessment are key to success. We believe that we are well positioned to lead the development of human nutrition through crops by focusing upon the dietary component of health delivered through a food matrix.



- ◆ *Capture value of innovation and technologies through an industry-leading patent portfolio and by the creation of new ventures*

Innovations based upon biochemical processes can enjoy broad utility outside the scope of a conventional agribusiness, or indeed in very different business areas. In the case of the former, Syngenta pursues growth opportunities largely in

house. In the case of the latter, several of our developments can produce intellectual property of equal relevance to discovery programs in the pharmaceutical industry. We plan to continue to develop our outlicensing business through broad exploitation of our intellectual property.

Our assembly of an industry-leading elite corn germplasm base, resulting from our ongoing research efforts and targeted acquisition, has enabled the launch of a foundation seed business which is fuelling growth in our share of the corn germplasm and trait markets.

- ◆ *Leverage our broad set of technology partners and internal business development functions to create new business opportunities*

Syngenta regards collaboration with external scientists as a critical competence. We intend to use these numerous partnerships with institutes and companies worldwide, and our external network to enrich in-house programs in the quest for the next generation of technology.

- *Develop products based on biotechnology*

Syngenta believes it is one of very few global agribusiness companies that is well positioned to develop products based on biotechnology because of its multi-disciplinary understanding of the fundamental science involved and global capability. It is Syngenta's intention to devote an appropriate, sustained and competitive level of resources to pursue the opportunities it believes biotechnology can deliver.

Syngenta believes that through plant biotechnology, it has the potential to bring considerable benefits to mankind in both developed and developing countries. Syngenta remains committed to the use of gene-based technologies that are safe and effective. At the same time we recognize the current debate surrounding the use of biotechnology. These attitudes vary greatly from region to region. In North America and many emerging markets, this technology has been generally accepted. However, in Europe, genetic modification as a route to novel foods and feed continues to be the subject of debate. Political parties, consumer groups, and some governments have expressed their concerns in terms of food safety and environmental issues. Delays in the regulatory and political processes in the EU have meant a delay in product approvals, and although recent developments have indicated an unblocking of this process, significant progress has yet to occur.

Syngenta is a major participant in the public debate. Syngenta's activities have been conducted in conjunction with its local constituencies and through trade associations around the world. Syngenta's approach to its involvement in biotechnology has been one of openness and dissemination of information based upon:

- ◆ *education through sharing information about plant science and genetics*
- ◆ *clear statements of the benefits of biotechnology in terms of cost and quality*
- ◆ *emphasis on consumer choice*

Syngenta's approach to innovation seeks to take into full consideration the range of public attitudes around the world. For instance in Europe, it will be important to focus on consumer benefits in order to foster widespread confidence. In the developing world, the promise of biotechnology for food production and health improvement is considerable. For example, Syngenta is contributing to the development of "Golden Rice", which produces beta-carotene, a precursor of vitamin A, in partnership with the public sector. In many developing countries, vitamin A deficiency is a common cause of illness and is an important contributor to blindness, especially in children. As Syngenta's science develops, it will introduce techniques that mitigate perceived risks. For example, Syngenta has introduced a novel marker gene system called POSITECH as a new and efficient alternative to antibiotic resistance markers. Furthermore, Syngenta has a research project to produce wheat varieties which resist the fungal disease fusarium graminearum, thus reducing levels of mycotoxin in the resulting grain.

As the public becomes more informed about products with consumer benefits and about the use of science to explore and understand safety issues and risks, Syngenta believes that products created through biotechnology will gain widespread public acceptance. However, attitudes toward biotechnology continue to evolve and Syngenta cannot provide absolute assurance of how quickly such products will receive widespread support.

### ***Realize Cost Savings from the Operational Efficiency Program***

On February 11, 2004, Syngenta announced an Operational Efficiency cost saving program. The aim of this program is to realize significant cost savings after the completion of the integration of the former Novartis and Zeneca businesses and in response to low underlying growth in Crop Protection markets. This program will include the relocation of production to lower cost regions, a further reduction of the asset base, an increase in the globalization of purchasing, further consolidation of research and development sites and the outsourcing of some administrative processes. The total cash cost of the program was forecast to be around US\$500 million over the five years beginning in 2004 and non-cash charges, principally writing-down the value of fixed assets, to be around US\$350 million over the same period. These forecasts remain current. In 2005, the closure of two Crop Protection production sites and partial closure of another were announced. In 2004, the closure of three Crop Protection production sites and rationalization of two further sites were announced. Production from these closing sites will be relocated. In addition, in 2004, the rationalization of Syngenta's Research activities, including the concentration of biotechnology research at Research Triangle Park in North Carolina and, at expected completion in 2007 / 2008, the closure of the Basel chemistry facility, were announced. Restructuring costs related to all these announcements are included in the above program totals. See Item 5 "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects" Overview "Operational Efficiency Program" for more information on the charges incurred under this program.

In 2005, savings from the program realized in cost of goods sold offset the impact of higher oil and gas prices and the rationalization of research activities kept the growth in research and development expenditure at 2% despite the acquisitions in Seeds in 2004 and increased resource behind trait development.

### ***Attract, Retain and Develop the Best-Qualified Employees in Our Industry***

The crop protection and seeds businesses are complex with distinct geographical, product, crop, technology and customer drivers. Given this complexity, and our strategy, which requires a high degree of change, we need to utilize fully the breadth and depth of our employees' talent. To achieve this we have established clear and decisive management processes that include:

- *Uniform, transparent, global reporting systems and clear decision-making processes for Syngenta managers;*
- *Clear personnel management processes that appropriately identify, recognize, develop and reward our best employees;*
- *Local empowerment of management with clear accountability and success criteria; and*
- *Performance-driven employee compensation.*

Syngenta also operates a long-term equity-based incentive program as part of an effective and well-balanced executive remuneration structure. The remuneration structure is designed to ensure that we attract, retain and motivate the key talent necessary to succeed in a competitive and international environment.

## **Business Overview**

### **Industry Overview**

Syngenta is a world leading agribusiness operating in the Crop Protection and Seeds businesses. Crop Protection chemicals include herbicides, insecticides and fungicides to control weeds, insect pests and diseases in crops, and are essential inputs enabling growers around the world to improve agricultural productivity and food quality. Many of these products also have application in the professional products sector in areas such as public health, seed treatment and turf and ornamental markets. The Seeds business operates in two high value commercial sectors: seeds for field crops including corn, oilseeds, cereals and sugar beet; and vegetable and flower seeds. Syngenta is also developing a Plant Science business applying biotechnology to areas including improving growers' yield and food quality. Syngenta aims to be the partner of choice for Syngenta's grower customers with its unparalleled

product offer and innovative marketing, creating value for customers and shareholders.

**Syngenta's Business**

Syngenta's business divides generally into three segments: crop protection, seeds and plant science. These segments are described in greater detail below.

**Crop Protection****Products**

Syngenta has a broad product range, making Syngenta number one or two in all of its target segments, underpinned by strong worldwide market coverage. Syngenta focuses on all major crops, in particular corn, cereals, field crops, vegetables and rice, and applies its technologies to other crops, such as, sugar beets, cotton, fruits and grapes, and to turf and ornamentals.

Syngenta is active in herbicides, especially for corn, cereals, soybean and rice; fungicides mainly for cereals, fruits, grapes, rice, soybean and vegetables; insecticides for fruits, vegetables and cotton; and professional products, such as seed treatments, products for public health and products for turf and ornamentals. Herbicides are products that prevent or reduce weeds that compete with the crop for nutrients, light and water. Herbicides can be subdivided into (i) non-selective herbicides, which reduce or halt the growth of all vegetation with which they come in contact and (ii) selective herbicides, which are crop-specific and control weeds without harming the crop. Fungicides are products that prevent and cure fungal plant diseases that affect crop yield and quality. Insecticides are products that control chewing pests such as caterpillars and sucking pests such as aphids, which reduce crop yields and quality. Professional products are herbicides, insecticides and fungicides used in markets beyond commercial agriculture, together with seeds treatments where insecticides and fungicides protect growth during the early stages.

The following table sets out 2005, 2004 and 2003 crop protection sales:

<b>Syngenta Sales</b>						
<b>Products</b>	<b>2005</b>		<b>2004</b>		<b>2003</b>	
	(US\$ million)	(%)	(US\$ million)	(%)	(US\$ million)	(%)
Selective herbicides	1,889	30	1,867	31	1,717	32
Non-selective herbicides	688	11	645	11	616	11
Fungicides	1,779	28	1,702	28	1,438	26
Insecticides	1,100	17	1,049	17	960	18
Professional products	807	13	720	12	650	12
Others	67	1	59	1	48	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,330</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,429</b>	<b>100</b>

The tables below show Syngenta's principal products: (1) currently in development; (2) recently launched; and (3) key marketed. Products in development are those we are currently planning to bring to market. Recently launched products are those that we have introduced in the past five years.

<b>Products in Late Stage Development</b>		
<b>Active Substance</b>	<b>Crop Use</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Fungicide</b>		
New fungicide 446	Fruits and vegetables	In development
<b>Seed Treatment</b>		
AVICTA (Abamectin)	Cotton and vegetables	In development / Launch 2006

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**Recently Launched Products (last 5 years)**


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<b>Active Substance</b>	<b>Selected Brand Names(1)</b>	<b>Crop Use</b>	<b>Targets</b>
<b>Selective Herbicides</b>			
Pyriproxyfen	<i>APIRO</i> ®	Rice	Annual grasses in transplanted rice
Mesotrione(2)	<i>CALLISTO</i> ® / <i>LUMAX</i> ® / <i>LEXAR</i> ® / <i>CAMIX</i> ®	Corn	Broad-leaved weeds / full spectrum
Trifloxysulfuron	<i>ENVOKE</i> ® , <i>KRISMAT</i> ® , <i>MONUMENT</i> ®	Cotton, sugarcane, turf	Post-emergence selective herbicide against broad-leaved weeds, sedges and grasses
Pinoxaden	<i>AXIAL</i> ®	Cereals	Premium wheat and barley post- emergent grass herbicide

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**Recently Launched Products (last 5 years)**


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Active Substance	Selected Brand Names(1)	Crop Use	Targets
<b>Fungicides</b>			
Picoxystrobin	ACANTO®	Wheat and barley	Broad spectrum
<b>Insecticides</b>			
Thiamethoxam	ACTARA® /CRUISER®	Broad range of crops including seed treatment	Foliar sucking pests and soil dwelling insects

(1) Products may have different brand names depending on the market in which they are sold.

(2) In connection with the divestiture of its acetochlor business, Syngenta has granted to Dow AgroSciences LLC the right to formulate, market and sell in North America a mixture product of mesotrione and acetochlor.

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**Key Marketed Products**


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Active Substance	Selected Brand Names(1)	Crop Use	Targets
<b>Selective Herbicides</b>			
Atrazine	AATREX® /GESAPRIM®(2)	Corn, sorghum, sugarcane	Annual grasses and some broad-leaved weeds
Clodinafop	TOPIK® /HORIZON® / CELIO® / DISCOVER®	Wheat, rye, triticale	Annual grasses
Dicamba	BANVEL®	Cereals, corn, turf, sugarcane	Annual and perennial broad-leaved weeds
Dimethachlor	COLZOR TRIO®	Colza	Broad spectrum
Fluazifop-P-Butyl	FUSILADE®	Soybeans, cotton, oilseed rape, fruit and vegetables	Grass weeds
Fomesafen	FLEX® /REFLEX®	Soybeans	Broad-leaved weeds
Molinate	ORDRAM®(3)	Rice	Annual grasses
Nicosulfuron	MILAGRO®(4)	Corn	Grass weeds
Pretilachlor	RIFIT® /SOFIT®	Rice	Grasses, sedges and some broadleaved weeds
S-metolachlor	DUAL MAGNUM® /DUAL GOLD® /BICEP MAGNUM®	Corn, soybeans, peanuts, sugar beet, sunflowers	Annual grasses and some broad-leaved weeds
Tralkoxydim	ACHIEVE® /GRASP®	Wheat, barley	Grass weeds
Triasulfuron	LOGRAN® /AMBER®	Cereals, transplanted rice	Annual broad-leaved weeds and some grasses
<b>Non-Selective Herbicides</b>			
Diamonium Glyphosate	TOUCHDOWN® /ZAPP® / OURAGAN®	Cotton, all field crops, fruits and vegetables	Broad spectrum weed control
Diquat	REGLONE®	Wheat, sunflower, oilseed rape, potatoes	Broad spectrum weed control and desiccation
Paraquat	GRAMOXONE®	Cereals, rice, soybeans, corn, fruit and vegetables	Broad spectrum weed control
<b>Fungicides</b>			



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Azoxystrobin	AMISTAR® /QUADRIS® / AMISTAR OPTI® / HERITAGE® /ABOUND®	Wheat, barley, fruit and vegetables, rice, turf	Broad spectrum disease con
Chlorothalonil	BRAVO® /DACONIL®	Fruit and vegetables, wheat, turf	Broad spectrum disease con
Cyproconazole	ALTO® (5)	Cereals, coffee, peanuts, rice, sugar beet, stone fruits	Powdery mildew, rust, leaf s
Cyprodinil	UNIX® /STEREO® (6) /SWITCH® CHORUS®	Pome fruits, stone fruits, cereals, grapes, vegetables	Scab, Alternaria, powdery m eyespot, Botrytis, grey mold
Difenoconazole	SCORE® /DIVIDEND®	Vegetables, field crops, plantation crops and seed treatment	Broad spectrum disease con
Fluazinam(7)	SHIRLAN®	Potatoes	Potato late blight, flower bul

## Key Marketed Products

Active Substance	Selected Brand Names(1)	Crop Use	Targets
Fludioxonil	CELEST® /MAXIM® / GEOXE® /MEDALLION®	Seed treatment, grapes, turf, vegetables	onion diseases Bunt, snow mold seedling blight, scurf, Botrytis, dollar spot
MEFENOXAM(9)	RIDOMIL GOLD® /FOLIO GOLD/APRON® XL/ SUBDUE®	Broad range, including potatoes, grapes, vegetables, seed treatment and turf and ornamentals	Late blight, downy mildew and damping off diseases
Propiconazole	TILT®(8) /BANNER®	Cereals, bananas, rice and turf	Broad spectrum disease control
Trinexapac-ethyl	MODDUS® /PRIMO®	Sugarcane, cereals, turf	Increases sugar content, antilodging, reduces grass growth
<b>Insecticides</b>			
Abamectin	VERTIMEC® /AGRIMEK®	Citrus fruits, vegetables, pome fruits, ornamentals	Mites, leafminers and some caterpillars
Emamectin Benzoate	PROCLAIM® /AGRIMEC®/AFFIRM®	Vegetables, cotton	Caterpillars
Methidathion	SUPRACIDE®	Fruits, nuts	Scales, caterpillars
Lambda-cyhalothrin	KARATE® /ICON®	Cotton, corn, fruit and vegetables, soybeans, public health	Broad spectrum insect control
Lufenuron	MATCH®	Corn, potatoes, citrus, vegetables, cotton	Caterpillars, leafminers, western flower thrips
Fosthiazate	NEMATHORIN®(4)	Potato, banana, tomato	Nematodes
Pymetrozine	CHESS® /PLENUM®	Vegetables, fruits, potatoes	Aphids, white flies and leaf hoppers
Profenofos	CURACRON®	Cotton, potatoes, soybeans and vegetables	Caterpillars, sucking insects,
Tefluthrin	FORCE®	Corn	Corn rootworm

- (1) Products may have different brand names depending on the market in which they are sold.
- (2) Pursuant to the commitments given to the European Commission, Syngenta has agreed to stop commercializing atrazine directly (including the trade mark GESAPRIM®) in France. In the US, the EPA granted atrazine a favorable registration decision. However, atrazine and its sister herbicides simazine were not granted re-registration in the European Union.
- (3) Pursuant to the commitments given to the European Commission, Syngenta has agreed to divest to a third party by way of an exclusive license to manufacture and sell, or an exclusive right to distribute, the molinate-based formulation of ORDRAM® SOPRA in France for use on rice until 2008.
- In the US, Syngenta has announced its intention to phase out molinate and to cancel its US registrations by the end of June 2008.
- (4) Product distributed on behalf of Isihara Sangyo Kaisha Ltd. (ISK).
- (5) Pursuant to the commitments given to the European Commission, Syngenta granted an exclusive license to manufacture, use and sell cyproconazole directly in the EEA to Bayer, under Bayer's own trade name. Syngenta will be permitted to recommence sales of cyproconazole directly, under the ALTO® (or other) name, in 2005 at the latest.

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- (6) Pursuant to the commitments given to the European Commission, Syngenta granted an exclusive right to Makhteshim Agan Industries Ltd. to use and sell STEREO<sup>®</sup> formulation for use on cereals for the duration of its registration in Denmark, Finland and Sweden.
- (7) Product that is distributed, but not manufactured, by Syngenta.
- (8) Pursuant to the commitments given to the European Commission, Syngenta granted an exclusive right to Makhteshim Agan Industries Ltd. to use and sell TILT<sup>®</sup> 250EC and TILT<sup>®</sup> 6.25GL formulations for use on cereals in Denmark, Finland and Sweden for the duration of their registrations.
- (9) In the United States Mefenoxam is a generic expression whereas in other countries MEFENOXAM<sup>□</sup> is a trademark of Syngenta Participations AG to denominate the active ingredient Metalaxyl-M (ISO name).

### Selective Herbicides

We have a broad range of selective herbicides that control grasses and broad-leaved weeds and are applicable to most crops with a special emphasis on corn and cereals.

### Recently Launched Products

- *APIRO® was successfully launched in South Korea (2002) and Japan (2003). This family of products contains pyriftalid in combination with proprietary pretilachlor and other rice herbicides.*
- *CALLISTO® was successfully launched in the United States, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Austria, Holland and other countries. It has received registration in the United States under the reduced risk scheme reflecting its favorable environmental and toxicological profile and was recognized as the most successful product launch in the market the year it was introduced by the American Agricultural Marketing Association. This is a post-emergent herbicide with a very broad spectrum against key broad-leaved weeds in corn.*
- *LUMAX®, LEXAR® and CAMIX® are combination products from the Callisto family containing mesotrione, S-metolachlor and atrazine (LUMAX® LEXAR®) or mesotrione and S-metolachlor (CAMIX®). They are pre-emergence products for use in corn and provide broad spectrum weed control. LUMAX® and CAMIX® received registrations in the United States and were successfully launched in the 2003 season and LEXAR® received registration in the United States in 2004 with full launch in the 2005 season.*
- *ENVOKE® and KRISMAT® have been launched in Brazil as new broad-spectrum herbicides in cotton and sugarcane against grasses, dicots and sedges. Syngenta has already received registrations for use on sugarcane in Colombia and in several Central American countries (KRISMAT®) as well as for use on cotton in Brazil, Argentina and Australia (ENVOKE®). Registration in the United States was obtained in the third quarter of 2003 for use on cotton, sugarcane and tomatoes and launched in the 2004 season.*
- *AXIAL® was successfully launched in the United Kingdom (2005). It is an innovative post-emergent selective Grassweed herbicide, for use in both wheat and barley. Employing our new active ingredient Pinoxaden, it offers the grower efficacy, selectivity and flexibility.*

### Key Marketed Products

- *AATREX® and GESAPRIM® act mainly against annual grasses and broad-leaved weeds. Although the active substance, atrazine, was introduced in 1957, and has been off patent for a number of years, it remains an important product for broad-leaved weed control in corn. It is currently going through a reregistration process in major markets and has received favorable evaluation in the United States by the EPA's Scientific Advisory Panel. In the European Union atrazine was not granted re-registration. In European markets Syngenta will extend the use of terbuthylazine which has already been safely used in Germany and Italy for several years.*
- *DUAL GOLD® and DUAL MAGNUM® are replacing our top-selling metolachlor products of the DUAL® family. These products contain S-metolachlor, which is used at a 35% to 40% lower rate than metolachlor. This not only reduces the amount of product sprayed on fields, thus responding to the pesticide reduction goals established by many countries, but decreases the energy required to produce, transport and store the product, as well as decreasing total packaging material. S-metolachlor is well tolerated and can be safely used on more than 70 different crops. It may also be used effectively in combination with triazine herbicides such as in BICEP MAGNUM®, GARDO® GOLD® or PRIMAGRAM® GOLD®.*
- *MILAGRO® is distributed on behalf of Isihara Sangyo Kaisha Ltd. and used post-emergence in corn against grass weeds. It completes the spectrum of our newly launched CALLISTO®.*



- *TOPIK<sup>®</sup> , HORIZON<sup>®</sup> , CELIO<sup>®</sup> and DISCOVER<sup>®</sup> are grass herbicides. They provide the broadest spectrum of annual grass control currently available for wheat. To further increase crop safety in cereals the active substance clodinafop is mixed with the safener cloquintocet, which selectively enhances the degradation of clodinafop in wheat but not in the grass weeds.*
- *BANVEL<sup>®</sup> is a herbicide that controls broad-leaved weeds in corn and small grain cereals and that is used also in turf and ornamentals, pastures and non-crop land. Dicamba has an excellent toxicological and environmental profile. Rights to sell the active substance dicamba in the United States and Canada were sold to BASF in 1996 pursuant to an FTC decision. Syngenta may still sell the active substance dicamba and established products outside the United States and Canada and new products combining dicamba with other active substances worldwide.*
- *LOGRAN<sup>®</sup> or AMBER<sup>®</sup> is a post-emergence herbicide for use in small grain cereals that also can be used in transplanted rice. It controls major annual broad-leaved weeds and some grasses. Triasulfuron is absorbed by leaves and roots. It is rapidly transported within the plant and acts by inhibiting biosynthesis of essential amino acids, hence stopping cell division and plant growth.*
- *FUSILADE<sup>®</sup> is one of the leading products for post-emergence control of grass weed. It is registered for use in over 60 crops with major outlets in cotton and soybeans in the United States and sugar beet and oilseed rape in Europe. The selective action of FUSILADE<sup>®</sup> allows growers to target applications when grass weeds appear, allowing cost-effective weed control.*
- *FLEX<sup>®</sup> is a post-emergence selective herbicide for control of broad-leaved weeds in soybeans and drybeans, complementary to FUSILADE<sup>®</sup>.*
- *ACHIEVE<sup>®</sup> is a post-emergence selective herbicide which controls grass weeds in wheat and barley.*
- *RIFIT<sup>®</sup> is a pre-emergence grass killer for use in transplanted rice. In its safened form, under the trademark SOFIT<sup>®</sup> , it can also be used on wet sown rice.*
- *COLZOR TRIO<sup>®</sup> is a broad-spectrum herbicide for use in oilseed rape.*

#### Non-Selective Herbicides

#### Key Marketed Products

- *GRAMOXONE<sup>®</sup> is our principal brand name for paraquat, a non-selective contact herbicide first introduced in 1962. Paraquat is one of the world's largest selling herbicides. It has been a vital product in the development of minimum tillage cropping systems, the adoption of which continues to increase because of benefits such as the reduction of soil erosion. GRAMOXONE<sup>®</sup> is registered in over 120 countries around the world. In 2003, Paraquat was included in Annex I allowing for continued registration of Paraquat products in EU countries, while re-registration in Malaysia was granted, albeit with a limited use label. In 2005, Syngenta registered a new formulation, GRAMOXONE<sup>®</sup> INTEON □ where the new herbicide also contains new features to further improve user safety and handling.*
- *TOUCHDOWN<sup>®</sup> , a non-selective herbicide with systemic activity, is a premium product in the market for glyphosate-based products. The product has been enhanced by the launch of the IQ<sup>®</sup> technology which*

*positions the product at the top end of glyphosate performance. Differentiated from other herbicides of its class by its speed of action and tolerance of heavy rain, TOUCHDOWN® is now registered in over 90 countries, including for use on herbicide tolerant soybeans in the United States. New and improved formulations of Touchdown have been registered in the US including Touchdown IQ® , Touchdown® CF and Touchdown Total*.

- *REGLONE® , a non-selective contact herbicide is mainly used as a desiccant to allow easier harvesting and reduce drying costs.*

## Fungicides

### Product In Development

- 446, a new fungicide for fruit and vegetables to combat late blight and downy mildew, which complements our existing product range.

### Recently Launched Product

- ACANTO®, a new strobilurin fungicide for early treatment in wheat and barley, is sold in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Ireland, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium and the Netherlands. See note 35 to the consolidated financial statements for additional information.

### Key Marketed Products

- AMISTAR®, a strobilurin fungicide introduced in 1997 and widely launched in 1998 and 1999, is the world's best selling proprietary fungicide and our largest selling fungicide. It is registered for use in over 60 countries and for over 60 crops. In Brazil, it is successfully being used to control Asian rust in soybeans in a mixture with ALTO® branded as PRIORI XTRA. In the USA, it is successfully being used to control Asian rust in soybeans in a mixture with TILT®, branded as QUILT®.
- BRAVO®, acquired in 1998, is a world-leading fungicide in terms of sales. With its multi-site mode of action, it is a good partner for AMISTAR® and is being increasingly integrated into disease control programs which use both products. AMISTAR OPTI® was successfully launched in the UK in the 2004 season to combat Septoria resistance. Registration for BRAVO® was received in Germany in 2004.
- TILT®, originally licensed from Janssen, was introduced in 1980 and has developed into our most successful foliar fungicide for broad spectrum disease control in cereals, bananas, rice, corn, peanuts, sugar beet, turf and other food and non-food crops. Propiconazole, its active substance, is systemic and provides a strong curative and protective activity against a wide range of plant pathogens including powdery mildews, rusts and other leaf spot pathogens of cereals, bananas, rice, corn, peanuts, sugar beet, and turf. Pursuant to the commitments given to the European Commission, Syngenta has agreed to grant an exclusive right to Makhteshim Agan Industries Ltd. to use and sell its TILT® 250EC and TILT® 6.25GL formulations for use on cereals in Denmark, Finland and Sweden for the duration of their registrations.
- SCORE®, based on difenoconazole, is a systemic triazole fungicide with broad-spectrum activity against plant diseases, particularly leaf spots of pome fruit, vegetables, field crops and plantation crops. Long-lasting protective and strong curative activity make it well suited for threshold based plant disease management whereby the plant is treated only when the development of the disease has passed a certain point. Target crop pathosystems include Cercospora, Alternaria, Septoria and other leaf spots, powdery mildews and scabs in wheat, bananas, sugar beets, peanuts, potatoes, pome fruits, grapes, rice and vegetables.
- RIDOMIL GOLD® is based on MEFENOXAM(1), and acts against late blight and downy mildew diseases. It is applied to foliage or soil and is effective on potatoes, grapes, tobacco, vegetables, citrus, soybeans, turf and ornamentals. It has been introduced in major markets and will continue to be introduced in additional countries.
- UNIX® is based on cyprodinil and is a powerful fungicide for use on cereals. It is used to control eyespot, powdery mildew and leaf spot diseases. Because it has a new mode of action, it is a particularly effective



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*solution where resistance to other fungicides has developed. CHORUS® and SWITCH® are cyprodinil-based formulations which are used on pome fruit (such as apples and pears) or on grapes and vegetables, respectively.*

- *ALTO® contains the systemic fungicide cyproconazole with broad-spectrum activity, especially against rust and leaf spot in cereals, sugar beet and coffee. Pursuant to the commitments given to the European*

(1) In the United States Mefenoxam is a generic expression whereas in other countries MEFENOXAM is a trademark of Syngenta Participations AG to denominate the active ingredient Metalaxyl-M (ISO name).

*Commission, Syngenta has granted an exclusive license to manufacture, use and sell cyproconazole directly in the European Economic Area to Bayer, under Bayer's own trade name. Syngenta will be permitted to re-commence sales of cyproconazole directly, under the ALTO® (or other) brand name, in 2005 at the latest.*

- *MODDUS® is based on trinexapac-ethyl, a plant growth regulator. In cereals it reduces growth so that treated plants stay shorter and have stronger stems, enhancing their ability to withstand storms and remain upright until harvest. In sugarcane it is a yield enhancer and harvest management tool.*
- *SHIRLAN® is a fungicide for control of potato blight.*

### *Insecticides*

#### *Product In Development*

*Syngenta is actively involved in development projects in bisamide chemistry. Following completion of the acquisition from DuPont of exclusive rights to RYNAXPYR™ in mixtures with Syngenta insect control products, announced on February 23, 2006, these projects will be integrated with the RYNAXPYR™ program. See note 35 to the consolidated financial statements.*

#### *Recently Launched Products*

- *ACTARA® is highly active at low use rates against a broad spectrum of soil and sucking insects. It is highly systemic and well suited for application as a foliar spray, drench or drip irrigation. It is fast acting, works equally well under dry and wet conditions and has a favorable safety and environmental profile. Its mode of action differs from that of older products, which makes it effective against insect strains that have developed resistance to those products. It is being developed on a broad range of crops, including vegetables, potatoes, cotton, soybeans, rice, pome fruits, stone fruits (such as peaches or plums) and tobacco. Additional registrations in Italy, Portugal and Switzerland were achieved in 2003.*

#### *Key Marketed Products*

- *KARATE® , the world's leading agricultural pyrethroid brand, is our largest selling insecticide. A novel product branded KARATE® with ZEON® technology was launched in the United States in 1998 and registration approvals and launches in other major markets have continued apace. ZEON® technology offers performance benefits and enhanced user and environmental safety.*
- *PROCLAIM® or AFFIRM® provides control of caterpillars on vegetables, cotton and fruits, combining a unique mode of action with extremely low use rates and is compatible with integrated pest management. It has been launched in major markets such as Japan, Korea, the United States, Mexico, Australia and India and is under registration in many other countries.*
- *VERTIMEC® or AGRIMEC® /AGRIMEK® contains abamectin, which is produced by fermentation. This potent insecticide and acaricide is used at very low dose rates against mites, leafminers and some other insects in fruits, vegetables, cotton and ornamentals. Abamectin rapidly penetrates the plants, and is a useful product for integrated pest management.*
- *CURACRON® offers good control of caterpillars. It is a broad-spectrum product, and because of its good penetration, sucking insects like mites and thrips are also well controlled. The main field of application is in cotton, but it is also used in vegetables, soybeans and potatoes.*

- *SUPRACIDE® is used to control scale insects in fruits and nuts (e.g., citrus, olives, pome and stone fruits).*
- *MATCH® is an insect growth regulator that controls caterpillars in corn, potatoes, cotton, vegetables and fruits. It is a leading insecticide in terms of sales in its chemical class.*
- *FORCE® is the market leader in the corn soil insecticide sector. As the only stand-alone granular pyrethroid launched in this sector, it offers growers both highly effective control of a wide range of pests and an alternative to the older products available in this sector.*

*Professional Products*

Through professional products, Syngenta expands the use of its crop protection products into additional areas, such as seed treatment, turf, ornamentals and public health.

#### Product In Development

- *AVICTA*, a new seed treatment for the control of nematodes.

#### Recently Launched Products

- *CRUISER*® is a seed treatment brand (see below for description of seed treatment) for the insecticide thiamethoxam. It has systemic activity in a wide range of crops including cereals, cotton, soybeans, canola, sugar beet, corn, sunflower and rice. Its properties are such that it provides a consistent performance under a wide range of growing conditions. Thiamethoxam acts against a wide range of early season sucking and chewing, leaf feeding and soil-dwelling insects like aphids, thrips, jassids, wireworms, flea beetles and leafminers.
- *IMPASSE*® is a new innovative technology which offers pre-construction termite control for new homes and buildings. The product was registered in the United States in October 2002 and the company launched the *IMPASSE*® Termite System for the building industry in 2003.

#### Key Marketed Products

##### Seed treatment

The use of seed treatment products is an effective, efficient, and targeted method to protect the seedling and the young plant against diseases and pests during the period when they are most vulnerable. Our broad range of fungicides and insecticides allows us to provide a modern portfolio of safe and highly effective products. As seeds increase in value, seed protection becomes more important. The following are our key marketed products:

- *DIVIDEND*® is active against a broad range of diseases including bunts, smut and damping off on cereals, cotton, soybeans and oilseed rape. This product is highly systemic and provides a long lasting, high-level effect. It is safe for the seed and the seedling and provides for a faster germination than other products in the market.
- *APRON*® XL is a *MEFENOXAM*<sup>(1)</sup>-based product used for the control of seed and soil-borne diseases caused by fungi such as *Pythium*, *Phytophthora* and downy mildews. It is used worldwide on a wide variety of crops, including field, vegetable, oil and fiber crops. *MEFENOXAM* is also used as a mixing partner for seed protection at low use rates.
- *MAXIM*® or *CELEST*® is a contact fungicide with residual activity. Derived from a natural compound, the active substance fludioxonil combines crop tolerance with low use rates. Its spectrum of targets includes seed and soil-borne diseases like damping off, bunt, smut and leaf stripe on cereals. Used alone or in mixtures with other active substances, it is also effective on corn, rice, cotton, potatoes and peas.

##### Turf and ornamentals

We offer a range of specialized products for use in turf (golf courses and sports fields), ornamentals (cut flowers, bedding plants and nurseries), vegetation management (roads, railroads and rights-of-way) and for home and garden use. The following are our major products:

- *BARRICADE*® is a leading pre-emergence grass and broad-leaved weed herbicide in turf.
- *PRIMO MAXX*® is a plant growth regulator for turf that increases stress tolerance and decreases clippings.

- *AVID® is a leading acaricide in ornamentals against mites.*
- *HERITAGE® provides broad-spectrum disease control in turf. The major outlet is golf courses.*

(1) In the United States Mefenoxam is a generic expression whereas in other countries *MEFENOXAM* is a trademark of Syngenta Participations AG to denominate the active ingredient Metalaxyl-M (ISO name).

- *DACONIL® is used on turf in the United States, often on golf courses, where it complements HERITAGE®.*

#### Public health

We offer a range of products for use in controlling insect pests such as mosquitoes and termites:

- *ICON® is used in public health outlets for control of malaria and other tropical diseases and nuisance pests, such as house flies and cockroaches. It was the first pyrethroid to be approved for malaria control by the World Health Organization. In addition to being sprayed, it can be incorporated into bednets to offer added protection.*

#### Principal Markets

The following table sets out sales for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 of our crop protection products by region:

Products	Syngenta Sales					
	2005 (US\$ million)		2004 (US\$ million)		2003 (US\$ million)	
		(%)		(%)		(%)
Europe & AME	2,283	36	2,256	37	1,982	36
NAFTA	2,081	33	1,873	31	1,851	34
Latin America	1,027	16	1,020	17	749	14
Asia Pacific	939	15	893	15	847	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,330</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,429</b>	<b>100</b>

Syngenta sells its products in over 120 countries and has a strong presence in all regions.

#### Production

The manufacture of crop protection products can be divided into three phases:

- *manufacture of the active substance*
- *formulation of products from these active substances into a form which optimizes the efficacy and safety of the product in the field*
- *packaging of the products to closely align them with local customer needs*

Syngenta's major production sites for active ingredients are located in Switzerland, the United States, United Kingdom, China and India. While individual active substances are normally produced at one manufacturing site, formulations are produced and packaged at several different strategically located plants, close to the principal markets in which those products are sold. Syngenta operates major formulation and packing plants in Belgium, Brazil, China, France, India, South Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Syngenta manages its supply chain globally and on a product-by-product basis, from raw materials through to delivery to the customer, in order to maximize both cost and capital efficiency and responsiveness. We outsource the manufacture of a wide range of raw materials, from commodities through fine chemicals to dedicated intermediates and active ingredients. Sourcing decisions are based on a combination of logistical, geographical and commercial factors. Syngenta has a strategy of maintaining, when available, multiple sources of supply. Most of

our supply chain materials purchasing spend is directly or indirectly influenced by commodity price volatility, due to price dependence on gas and oil. Our total raw material spend is approximately 30% of sales.

Significant cost savings have been realized in global manufacturing and supply following the merger of the Novartis agribusiness and the Zeneca agrochemicals business due to optimizing production capacity and closing redundant facilities. From 48 sites at the time of the merger in 2001, Syngenta now operates on 30 sites and closure plans were announced in 2004 for two of these sites as part of the Operational Efficiency program. In February 2005, Syngenta further announced the closure

of part of the Huddersfield facility though production will continue on this site and in October 2005, Syngenta announced the closure of the Bayport facility.

### **Marketing and Distribution**

We have marketing organizations in all our major markets with dedicated sales forces that provide customer and technical service, product promotion and market support. Products are sold to the end user through independent distributors and dealers, most of whom also handle other manufacturers' products. Our products are normally sold through a two-step or three-step distribution chain. In the two-step chain we sell our products to cooperatives or independent distributors, which then sell to the grower as the end user. In the three-step system, we sell to distributors or cooperative unions who act as wholesalers and sell the product to independent dealers or primary cooperatives before on-selling to growers. We also sell directly to large growers in some countries. Our marketing network enables us to launch our products quickly and effectively and to exploit our range of existing products. We focus on key crop opportunities in each territory. In those countries where we do not have our own marketing organization, we market and distribute through other distribution channels. Generally, the marketing and distribution system in a country does not vary by product.

Our marketing activities are directed towards the distributors, agricultural consultants and growers. They consist of a broad range of advertising and promotional tools, such as meetings with growers and distributors, field demonstrations, advertisements in specialized publications, direct marketing activities, or information via the Internet. We also are in constant contact with the food and feed chain to evaluate current and future needs and expectations.

A key element of our marketing is grower support and education. This is particularly important with respect to small growers in developing countries. For many years, we have held numerous courses around the world for growers as a result of which tens of thousands of people have been trained in the safe and sustainable use of crop protection products. We also train agricultural extension workers and distributors so that they can further disseminate good practice and reach an even wider audience.

### **Research and Development**

Syngenta has major crop protection research centers in Basel/Stein, Switzerland; and Jealott's Hill, United Kingdom. The total spent on research and development in crop protection was US\$509 million in 2005, US\$499 million in 2004 and US\$453 million in 2003.

We are continuously improving the research process, building on well-established platforms in chemistry, biology and biotechnology. Syngenta's investment in genomics underpins all of the product outputs, and the increasing emphasis on integrated crop solutions is leading to converging research goals and programs across chemicals, seeds and traits. Novel tools, methods and information services allow us to evaluate a greater range of diverse chemicals more quickly and efficiently than ever before. We use high throughput screening to test over two hundred thousand compounds each year using in-vivo test systems. Combinatorial chemistry and high-speed synthesis have been advanced in order to prepare a sufficient number of compounds for these tests. A crucial feature is library design, a structured approach to combinatorial chemistry which ensures that the chemical entities possess properties which relate to the desired product profile. Compounds showing promising activity are further characterized in screening systems consisting of a series of project-specific, customized greenhouse and growth-chamber tests, including indicator tests for environmental parameters (e.g., soil persistence, leach-ability) and tests to provide early indications of safety issues for humans. Those compounds showing advantages in efficacy and safety over the best commercial standards are broadly evaluated in the field.

Once we select a compound for development, we test it worldwide on the most important crops under different climatic conditions and in varying soils. In parallel, an industrial scale manufacturing process is identified and optimized, and appropriate formulations and packages are developed. The use of multidisciplinary research teams to refresh the existing product range is key to continued success in the face of competition, even after patent expiry.



We perform an extensive investigation of all safety aspects involving many tests to ensure the safety of our products. The human safety assessments address potential risks to both the users of the product and the consumers of food and feed, while in environmental safety we seek assurance that the product will not adversely affect soil, water, air, flora and fauna.

In addition to our own research and development efforts, we have strengthened our business platform through targeted acquisitions. We have also entered into a number of research and development agreements around the world for combinatorial chemical libraries, high throughput screening and follow-up of leads.

## **Environment**

We designed our environmental management program with the aim of ensuring that our products and their manufacture pose minimal risks to the environment and humans. The crop protection industry is subject to environmental risks in three main areas: manufacturing, distribution and use of product. We aim to minimize or eliminate environmental risks by using appropriate equipment, adopting "best industry practice" and providing grower training and education.

The entire chain of business activities, from research and development to end use, operates according to the principles of product stewardship. We are strongly committed to the responsible and ethical management of our products from invention through ultimate use. We employ environmental scientists around the world who study all aspects of a product's environmental behaviour.

Specially designed transportation and storage containers are used for the distribution of hazardous products and efficient inventory control procedures minimize the creation of obsolete stocks.

Regarding risks relating to the use of our products, we have developed a rigorous screening and development process. All active substances and products must meet both our internal standards and regulatory requirements.

We provide support to growers on a local level such as training in application techniques and assistance in calibrating spray equipment in order to promote safe handling of our products. We extend product stewardship long after sales in several ways, for example, by collecting and safely destroying outdated products, and providing returnable containers to reduce waste.

Crop protection products are subject to rigorous registration procedures, which are aimed at ensuring safe product usage in the field. In addition to complying with these regulatory requirements, we have adopted our own Health, Safety and Environment ("HSE") management system. This provides a clear framework of management processes applicable at all sites, whatever the regulatory requirements in the country in which the site is situated.

We maintain a register of sites to identify manufacturing and distribution sites and locations that may have been contaminated in the past. The register is the basis for the allocation of appropriate provisions and action programs regarding measures to be taken. A risk portfolio is prepared for each site and reviewed annually. The risk portfolio is also applied to third-party manufacturers in order to identify and exclude poorly performing companies.

See Note 29 to Syngenta's consolidated financial statements for a further discussion of environmental matters.

## **Intellectual Property**

We protect our investment in research and development, manufacturing and marketing through patents, design rights and trademarks. In addition to patent protection for a specific active substance, patent protection may be obtained for processes of manufacture, formulations, assays, mixtures, and intermediates. These patent applications may be filed to cover continuing research throughout the life of a product and may remain in force after the expiry of a product's per se patents in order to provide ongoing protection. The territorial coverage of patent filings and the scope of protection obtained vary depending on the circumstances and the country concerned.

Patents relating to gene-based crop protection and enhancement may cover transgenic plants and seeds gene effects, genetic constructs and individual components thereof and enabling technology for producing transgenic plants and seeds.

Trademark protection may be obtained to cover a trademark for a specific active substance and there may be more than one trademark covering the same active substance. Other trademarks may cover formulations, mixtures, intermediates and a variety of ancillary services. The trademarks may remain in force after the expiry of a product's patents in order to provide ongoing protection. The territorial cover of trademark filings and the scope of protection obtained vary depending on the circumstances and the country concerned.

Registration and re-registration procedures apply in all major markets.

Products must obtain governmental regulatory approval prior to marketing. The regulatory framework for crop protection products is designed to ensure the protection of the consumer, the grower and the environment.

Most of our principal markets have regular re-registration procedures for crop protection products. Within certain time periods a product's technical dossier is reviewed with the goal of ensuring that it adheres to all standards, which may have changed or

been added to since the product was initially registered. The standards and requested trial protocols change over time. Reregistration of a product or compound may not be granted if the registration package fails to meet the then-current requirements.

We enforce our intellectual property rights, including through litigation if necessary.

**Competitive Environment**

The leading companies in the crop protection industry are mainly units of dedicated agribusinesses or large chemical companies based in Western Europe and North America. Companies compete on the basis of strength and breadth of product range, product development and differentiation, geographical coverage, price and customer service. Market pressures and the need to achieve a high level of research and development capability, particularly with the advent of biotechnology, have led to consolidation in the industry. The top six such companies account for more than 75% of the worldwide market. Syngenta’s key competitors include BASF, Bayer, Dow, DuPont and Monsanto. In many countries, generic producers of off-patent compounds are additional competitors to the research-based companies in the commodity segment of the market.

**Seeds**

**Products**

We develop, produce and market seeds and plants that have been developed using advanced genetics and related technologies. We sell our products in all major markets.

Our seed portfolio is one of the broadest in the industry, offering over 100 product lines and 5000 varieties of our own proprietary genetics. We have a leading market share in vegetables, flowers, corn, cereals, sugar beet and oilseeds combined based on sales. Seed products are derived from a germplasm pool and trait portfolio and developed further utilizing sophisticated plant-breeding methods. We divide our products into field crops such as corn, oilseeds and sugar beet, and horticultural crops, which consist of flowers and vegetables. In 2005, we launched around 550 products. Syngenta, as described earlier, also made a number of investments to strengthen its Seeds Field Crops business in the North American corn and soybean markets. These investments included corn germplasm, breeding materials and inbreds from the U.S. based company CHS Research LLC, acquisition of a 90% stake in the Golden Harvest® “family” of companies, acquisition of 90% of the North American corn and soybean business of Advanta BV, which trades as Garst®, and purchase of glyphosate tolerance technology for corn (GA21) from Bayer CropScience. In addition to increasing Syngenta’s range of high-quality germplasm, these transactions enabled Syngenta to offer a complete range of biotechnology input traits in both corn and soya in 2005. Below are tables showing examples of products in development and recently launched products. Products in development are those that we are planning to bring to market. Recently launched products are those that we have introduced in the past two years. These lists are not comprehensive, but provide an indication of the large number of products in our range.

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**Products in Development**

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**Crop Species**

**Targets**

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**Field Crops**

Corn	Combined glyphosate tolerance, European corn borer and corn rootworm control High extractable starch
Soybean	High yield, stress tolerance and improved agronomic characteristics High yield, herbicide tolerance, cyst nematode resistance, root rot and disease resistance High oil and high protein

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Sunflowers	High yield, drought tolerance, unsaturated fatty acids Broomrape resistance, disease resistance, herbicide tolerance
Winter Oilseed Rape	High yield hybrids with improved disease resistance, high oleic content
Wheat	Fusarium tolerance High yield, improved and novel quality
Barley	High brewing yield
Sugar beet	Broad spectrum disease and virus resistance
Rice	High nutrition rice

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**Products in Development**


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**Crop Species****Targets****Vegetables and Flowers**

Tomatoes, lettuce, melons and peppers	Virus and fungal disease resistance
Dulcinea® Sunnygold™ Golden Honeydew	Fruit quality
Pelargonium	New series from cuttings
New Guinea Impatiens	New flowers product line

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**Recently Launched Products**


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**Product****Crop Use****Targets****Market****Field Crops**

NK® brand N36-R6	Corn hybrid	Yield, insect resistance and herbicide tolerance	United States
NK® brand N46-J7	Corn hybrid	Insect resistance and herbicide tolerance	United States
NK® brand N35-B8	Corn hybrid	Yield, insect resistance and herbicide tolerance	United States
NK® brand S28-L9	Soybean variety	Herbicide tolerance, cyst nematode resistance, root rot and disease resistance	NAFTA
Boost	Hybrid Barley	Yield, agronomic performance, standing strength. First Hybrid Barley launched in France.	France
Flagon	Winter Barley	High yield Winter Malting Barley type with strong disease resistance	United Kingdom
NFC Tipple	Spring Barley	Spring Malting Barley with pan-European adaptability. Very good yield and high malting quality.	Europe
Instinct	Winter Wheat	High bread making quality and disease resistance	France
Platte	Winter Wheat	Superior quality White Wheat grain, good yield and agronomic characteristics	Central and Southern Plains, USA
Coker® 9553	Soft Wheat	High yield and stripe rust resistance	Southern and Eastern Soft Wheat Regions, USA
Agripro AP 603CL	Winter Wheat	First 2 gene variety tolerant to herbicide □Beyond□ part of BASF□s Clearfield production system	Montana and North Dakota, USA
Proven 5602HR	Spring Wheat	Very high protein and high yield	Canada

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UNIPEL□	Sugar beet	Seed pellet for speed of emergence and buffer effect for seed treatment	United States
Tropical sugar beet	Sugar beet	Adaptation to tropical growing conditions	India
NK® brand Tekny	Sunflower	High yield	France / EE
NK® brand Sanay	Sunflower	IMI-herbicide tolerance	Turkey / Spain
NK Fair	Oilseed rape	High yield	Germany
NK Bravour	Oilseed rape	High yield	Germany, UK

**Vegetables and Flowers**

Dulcinea® brand Extra Sweet Tuscan Style□ Cantaloupe	Melon	Full-flavored, super-sweet, juicy fruit	United States
Kumato®	Tomato	Sweet tasting tomato with a dark colored skin	Europe
Toscanello□ tomato	Tomato	Small sweet tomato	Switzerland, Netherlands

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**Recently Launched Products**


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<b>Product</b>	<b>Crop Use</b>	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Market</b>
Millennium® melon	Melon	Sweet, long tasting melon with year round supply	Europe
A Cut Above®	Vegetative cuttings	Consistent quality cuttings for flower production	United States
Sanguna® series	Petunia	Early blooming trailing type from cuttings	United States, Europe
Braveheart® begonia variety	Begonia	Early blooming with vibrant, early color	United States
Moonstruck® marigold variety	Marigold	Double blooms with large, round flower heads	United States

*Products in Development*

We seek to produce improved hybrid and varietal seeds to meet the varying circumstances and demands of our customers. We work towards further improvement of traits advantageous to the grower, i.e., input traits, such as resistance to diseases and insects, and greater yield. We are also concentrating on developing products that are advantageous to the food and feed industry and to the consumer, i.e., output traits such as improved digestibility and net protein utilization for crops used for animal feed, oilseeds that produce higher quantities or healthier oils and vegetables with improved flavor, texture and appeal.

*Recently Launched Products*

The following recently launched products illustrate our capability as a technology integrator and our commitment to the food chain:

- *Dulcinea Farms LLC , following the acquisition of the minority shareholding, is a 100% owned subsidiary currently aimed at growing, distributing and promoting an assortment of premium watermelon and melon varieties. In 2005, sales volumes grew nearly 50% further strengthening the brand Dulcinea Farms and Pureheart® within the fresh produce category of major retailers in the United States. Efforts to further strengthen the pipeline continue with test marketing of similar products in the United States, Europe and other parts of the world.*
- *2005 saw the introduction of Agrisure GT Syngenta's proprietary glyphosate tolerance corn trait, and the establishment of GreenLeaf Genetics and Agrisure traits as new business channels for the expanded commercialization (beyond our proprietary seed brands) of our elite corn germplasm and proprietary traits.*
- *Syngenta is working with two partners in the United Kingdom in a pilot project to turn oilseed rape into electricity, using an NK® brand oilseed rape hybrid and Syngenta Crop Protection products. This is the first such commercial project in Europe.*
- *Our US Wheat programme has generated innovative White Wheat varieties, for example Platte, which allow flour to be produced with higher fibre and nutritional content for the baking industry.*

*Key Marketed Products*

## Field Crops



- *Corn. We offer NK® , as well as the newly acquired Garst® and Golden Harvest® , brand corn hybrids via established distribution channels covering a full range of maturities. In addition, hybrids and inbred lines are licensed to other seed companies via the GreenLeaf Genetics business unit. Syngenta hybrids are characterized by their high yield potential, stability of performance, uniformity and vigor. In addition to a large range of conventional corn hybrids, we offer genetically enhanced Bt corn products, known as NK® brand YIELDGARD® hybrids which have built-in insect protection, and Agrisure® GT products with tolerance to glyphosate herbicide. (YIELDGARD® is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company, Agrisure® is a trademark of a Syngenta Group Company).*

- *Sugar beet.* HILLESÖG® brand sugar beet seeds are bred to develop high yielding varieties with good disease tolerance, high sugar content, low soil tare and improved juice purity.
- *Oilseeds.* We offer NK® brand sunflowers, soybeans and oilseed rape. Our sunflower seed varieties are bred for high yield as well as disease resistance and herbicide tolerance. Syngenta's soybean varieties combine high yield and genetic superiority and, in some cases, herbicide tolerance, which gives growers flexibility in their weed control. The company's oilseed rape varieties offer good oil production and plant health.
- *Cereals.* NK® , NFC New Farm Crops® , AgriPro® , Coker® and C.C. Benoist® Wheat and Barley varieties combine high yield, superior disease resistance and agronomic characteristics coupled with excellent grain quality for the malting and milling industry.

#### Vegetables and Flowers

- *Vegetables.* Under the S&G® and ROGERS® brand names, Syngenta offers a full range of vegetable seeds, including cauliflower, sweet corn, beans, peas, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, watermelons, oriental radish, cabbage, squash and melons. We breed varieties with high-yield potential that can resist and tolerate pests and diseases. We develop genetics that address the needs of consumers and distributors as well as processors and commercial growers. In 2005, we launched more than 150 new varieties into the high value European and North American market, in the key pepper, fresh market tomato and watermelon markets. Further, we strengthened our direct to retailer fresh produce activity, Dulcinea Farms®, in the United States.
- *Flowers.* Under the S&G® brand name, we breed flower seeds, plugs and vegetative multiplication material (cuttings) which we sell to professional growers of horticultural crops. We focus on breeding a full range of innovative flower varieties, including popular bedding plants such as begonia and petunia; pot plants, such as cyclamen; cuttings for, amongst others, the growing market of hanging baskets, such as impatiens and verbenas; and a wide range of attractive perennials.

#### Principal Markets

The following table sets out 2005, 2004 and 2003 sales of our seed products by region:

<b>Syngenta Sales</b>							
<b>Products</b>	<b>2005</b>		<b>2004</b>		<b>2003</b>		
	(US\$ million)	(%)	(US\$ million)	(%)	(US\$ million)	(%)	
Europe & AME	699	39	641	52	565	51	
NAFTA	903	50	437	35	400	36	
Latin America	107	6	86	7	79	7	
Asia Pacific	88	5	75	6	60	6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>100</b>	

#### Production

Independent contract growers tend and harvest our seed near Syngenta facilities throughout the world. After the harvest, the raw seed is sent to our processing facilities, where it is cleaned, calibrated, treated and packaged. The largest facilities are located in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, France, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United States. For large seed products, seed production tends to occur as close to the intended markets as possible, in order to achieve cost effectiveness and match the seeds with the growing conditions that are optimal for the variety. This also eases logistics for seed products that require secure storage and timely delivery for the use season.

Due to our global presence, we can engage in seed production year-round and reduce the weather-related seed production risk. In addition, because our facilities are located in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres, we can shorten the time from breeder seed to commercial production so that we can produce marketable quantities more quickly than if we were dependent on only one growing season.

## **Marketing and Distribution**

Our products are marketed throughout the world through well-known brands, some of which have been established for over 100 years. Our flagship brands are NK®, GOLDEN HARVEST®, GARST®, HILLESÖG®, S&G® and ROGERS®. The NK® brand is used for corn, soybean, sunflowers and oilseed rape, and several other specialty crops. GOLDEN HARVEST® and GARST® are predominantly used in corn and soybeans. The HILLESÖG® brand is used in sugar beets and appears in every major market in Europe, Japan and the United States. The S&G® brand is a leading brand for vegetables in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia, and is also known throughout the world for flower seeds, cuttings and young plants. The ROGERS® brand is well known in the Americas to growers and the food-processing industry for vegetable seeds. Our sales force markets the majority of our brands, to customers directly, in partnership with distributors, or through a network of dealers.

Seed and crop protection products have traditionally been marketed separately. However, to provide integrated crop solutions and services, especially those tailored to local customer needs, our seeds business is increasingly working together with our crop protection business to develop joint marketing approaches and initiatives. The objective has been to combine and capitalize on the strength of each segment to maximize their competitive advantages. This strategy is primarily focused on corn, soybeans, vegetables, cereals and rice which, collectively, represent more than half of our crop protection and seed products combined sales. Where beneficial, crop protection and seed sales forces coordinate customer approaches and jointly promote products offering crop solutions that include broad product combinations and services.

## **Research and Development**

We operate around 80 breeding and germplasm enhancement centers, which focus on advancing the performance, stability and quality of seed varieties for more than 16 food and feed crops. Because our customers need locally adapted crop varieties, and in order to satisfy local concerns, our centers are strategically located around the world. At these centers, around one thousand permanent employees leverage our global germplasm, trait, biotech and knowledge resources to focus our research efforts on creating new varieties with greater productivity, tolerance to pests and other environmental stresses, and better quality characteristics such as nutritional composition, safety, consumer appeal and shelf life.

We operate biotechnology and seed technology research technology sites in Brazil, France, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Thailand and the United States. At these sites, we apply advanced marker-assisted breeding, and seed processing, pelleting, coating and upgrading technologies to seed products. Total research and development spending was US\$213 million in 2005, US\$186 million in 2004 and US\$164 million in 2003.

We expect that end users such as livestock feeders, grain processors, food processors and other partners in the food chain will continue to demand specific qualities in the crops they use as inputs. We have entered into a number of targeted alliances with other enterprises in order to broaden further our germplasm and trait base that enables us to create more valuable products. None of these alliances are currently material to our business, and it is difficult to predict which of these alliances is most likely to produce a successful product in the future. In most cases, royalties are payable upon commercial exploitation. The list below is a sample of the alliances in which we are currently engaged:

- *Secobra Recherche SA, a minority shareholding in a malting barley research consortium with major malting and brewing interests.*
- *Maisadour Semences SA, a minority shareholding in a corn and sunflower seed company in France.*
- *In addition, we have entered into a number of research and development agreements with companies and academic institutions around the world, including agreements with: Wageningen Agricultural University for GIS technologies for Europe.*
- *Koipesol semillas SA, a majority shareholding in a sunflower seeds company, shared with SOS, a leading Spanish company in the edible oil and food industry.*

**Competitive Environment**

The main competitive factor in the seeds industry remains the quality of the seed and plant germplasm including that for traits. Historically, competition in the seeds industry has been fragmented, with small producers competing in local markets. More recently, however, technological advances requiring higher research and development spending, along with price competition brought about by oversupply, have forced new alliances and created greater competition in product development, marketing and pricing. This environment favors the companies that have a biotechnological platform and the competition is increasingly

differentiated on this basis. At present, Syngenta's leading competitors in terms of sales in the seed market are: Ball, Bayer, Dow (Mycogen), KWS, Limagrain, Monsanto/Seminis, Pioneer/DuPont, Sakata, and Takii.

### ***Intellectual Property***

We maintain the ownership of, and control the use of, our inbreds and varieties by means of intellectual property rights, including, but not limited to, the use of patents, trademarks, limited licenses, trade secrets, plant variety protection certificates and contractual language placed on packaging. The level of protection varies from country to country according to local laws and international agreements. We do not expect that the expiration of patents in the near future will have a material impact on our sales.

In the United States, conventional seed is not subject to regulation. Genetically modified crops are regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, and under some circumstances the Environmental Protection Agency.

In the EU, new varieties of vegetable and agricultural (field crop) species, whether transgenic or not, must be registered on an Official List before they may be commercialized. Such varieties are subjected to field tests at an official examining institute and must be distinct from other known varieties, as well as be sufficiently uniform and stable. New agricultural plant varieties are additionally subjected to tests for agronomic or agricultural value. The agronomic value of the new variety must be better than that of the existing varieties.

With respect to genetically modified crops, the EU has adopted legislation specific to genetically modified organisms, including Directive 2001/18/EEC on the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms, and Regulation (EC) No. 258/97, which addresses food safety.

The International Seed Testing Association has established standards for seed purity, which are required to be met by all seed certified for trade between countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). There are different categories of seed (basic seed, certified seed, standard seed), which have their own minimum standards. In addition, there are minimum national standards.

### ***Plant Science***

From improved food, to more efficient fiber and pollution-reducing animal feed, biotechnology holds enormous promise for humanity. While they have had a significant impact on agriculture, the biotechnology products introduced to date only hint at the benefits that are possible for growers and consumers alike. With its strong research capabilities, intellectual property and leadership across multiple areas of agribusiness, Syngenta believes it is well positioned to realize the potential of this science.

The Plant Science business is built around a core of independent business teams with responsibilities for specific crops or other areas of emphasis. The mission of Plant Science is to capitalize upon the company's considerable strengths and marshal the resources needed to take Syngenta to the forefront of commercial biotechnology.

Plant Science directs early stage research and technology expenditure as well as expenditure for development and marketing activities to create new business opportunities. This sharp focus will allow Syngenta to identify the best new ideas in biotechnology and let both strong science and good business judgment drive its investment choices.

### ***Production***

Plant Science manufactures and sells one product, QUANTUM® Phytase, a microbial produced animal feed supplement, which is commercially available in Mexico and Brazil. There are two stages to the microbial phytase manufacturing process, production of the active enzyme by fermentation and formulation. Both processes are currently carried out under toll manufacture arrangements.

### ***Products in Development***

Plant Science generates some income through product sales of QUANTUM® Phytase in Mexico, with registration in the United States awaited, and through outlicensing of technology. Syngenta expects future income to arise from new product development, licensing and other arrangements. To drive near term success, Plant Science has put emphasis on the commercialization of close-to-market projects that are aligned with the strengths of the Syngenta Crop Protection and Seeds businesses.

Work on pharmaceutical compounds progressed in 2005 to the stage of clinical trials; however, in view of the extended time lines and associated costs of full commercialization, Syngenta decided at the end of 2005 to seek third parties to take these projects through development to commercial launch.

Some of the Plant Science projects described here are within five years of commercial availability.

Sectors	Targets
Cotton	VipCot® for improved resistance to insects Herbicide (glyphosate) tolerance
Animal Feed	QUANTUM® Phytase providing reduced pollution and improved production economics
Crop processing	Amylase corn for use in the production of ethanol
Rice	Humanitarian Golden Rice □ working in public-private partnership to increase levels of beta carotene in rice as one potential solution to Vitamin A deficiency for the developing world

### **Research and Development**

Syngenta maintains its primary center for biotechnology research at Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc. (SBI) in Research Triangle Park in the United States. This site is dedicated to research in agricultural genomics and biotechnology and in June 2004 Syngenta announced that it would transfer biotechnology research work from its Jealotts Hill facility and concentrate biotech research at SBI. In-house work is complemented and strengthened through numerous alliances and collaborations. In February 2003, Syngenta and Diversa Corporation formed a broad collaboration to establish a shared biotechnology research platform for new plant science applications and enzyme discovery, as well as for selected antibody generation and other biopharma product development. Pursuant to the collaboration, in February 2003, Diversa acquired certain technology rights from Syngenta for pharmaceutical applications and in exchange, Syngenta received an increased equity stake in Diversa.

In 2004, Syngenta and Diversa concluded a new agreement that folded their earlier animal feed collaboration that commenced in 1999 into the broader research agreement concluded in 2003. In addition to Diversa, examples of other Syngenta external alliances include a licensing agreement with Delta and Pine Land Company of the USA for insect control in cotton

- *Delta and Pine Land Company of the USA: licensing arrangement for insect control in cotton.*
- *SemBioSys: provided Syngenta with access to oilbody technology that is useful across a number of future products in biopharma.*

The following are key capabilities in developing transgenic crops:

- *Ability to find useful genes: Syngenta is capitalizing on its pioneering work in mapping the rice genome and also accessing external sources through its collaborations with various university labs around the world and through its Diversa strategic alliance.*
- *Plant transformation: This is the process of introducing new genes into the existing genetic constitution of plants. Pioneering work in this area is done in Syngenta's research center at SBI.*
- *Use of marker genes: There has been significant public and regulatory debate over the use of microbial antibiotic resistance as a marker technology. Syngenta has developed and patented an alternative sugar based system trademarked □Positech□ that is widely used by researchers.*
- *Trait expression: This is the process of regulating genes to achieve various levels of expression in different tissues. This is achieved through specialized promoter DNA sequences. Syngenta's work with the rice genome has resulted in the discovery and patenting of a wide range of promoters.*





All biotechnology products are subject to intense regulatory scrutiny. An extensive Syngenta network of regulatory specialists around the world ensures continued dialogue and compliance with the authorities regarding regulatory dossier submissions, insect resistance management programs and participation in further development of the biotech regulatory framework.

Total research and development spending for Plant Science was US\$100 million in 2005, US\$124 million in 2004 and US\$109 million in 2003.

### ***Principal Markets***

The market environment for products enhanced through biotechnology is complex. In the Americas, Australia and Asia, benefits such as better protection from pests and improved farming efficiency have been realized and the technology widely accepted. Although there has been progress recently in the European market, consumer opinion is mixed and the regulatory framework remains stalled.

### ***Competition***

The major investors in biotechnology are the main crop protection and seed companies: Monsanto, DuPont/Pioneer, Syngenta, Bayer and Dow. The majority of the transgenic products commercialized to date are traits that improve performance and farming efficiency in major world crops such as corn, soya, cotton and canola (input traits). As a result, access to germplasm as a platform for trait commercialization is a key competitive advantage. In the future, we expect that increased emphasis will be placed on developing products that provide benefits to food and feed processors, retail trade and consumers (output traits). One future competitive advantage is expected to be the ability to develop partnerships to allow delivery of biotechnology traits to the target market sectors. In the future, Syngenta's move into new markets may result in other companies becoming competitors. In the animal feed market, for example, major companies include DSM, Novozymes, Danisco and BASF.

### ***Intellectual Property***

Intellectual property laws protect products developed through biotechnology in the countries in which they are made and marketed. Syngenta takes advantage of the full spectrum of intellectual property laws, including utility patents, plant variety protection certificates, plant breeders' rights, plant patents, trade secrets, and trademarks. The level and type of protection varies from country to country according to local laws and international agreements. Syngenta has one of the broadest patent and trademark portfolios in the industry. In addition to income from development and commercialization of transgenic products, income is generated from licensing arrangements. Syngenta respects the intellectual property rights of others and will defend its intellectual property rights as necessary.

### ***Government Regulation***

The field-testing, production, import, marketing and use of our products are subject to extensive regulation and numerous government approvals.

Registration and re-registration procedures apply in all major markets.

Products must obtain governmental regulatory approval prior to marketing. The regulatory framework for such products is designed to ensure the protection of the consumer, the grower and the environment. Examples of the regulatory bodies governing the science include the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Food and Drug Administration.

Regulatory bodies can require ongoing review of products derived from biotechnology based upon many factors including the need for insect resistance management. Even after approval, products can be reviewed with the goal of ensuring that they continue to adhere to all standards, which may have changed or been added to since the product was initially approved. This type of ongoing review applies in most major markets.

Government regulations, regulatory systems, and the politics that influence them vary widely among jurisdictions. Obtaining necessary regulatory approval is time consuming and costly, and there can be no guarantee of the timing or success in obtaining approvals.

**Organizational Structure**

Please refer to Note 32 to the consolidated financial statements for a description of the significant legal entities comprising the Syngenta group.

**Property, Plants and Equipment**

Our principal executive offices are located in Basel, Switzerland. Our businesses operate through a number of offices, research facilities and production sites.

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The following is a summary of our principal properties (production sites are crop protection unless otherwise stated):

Locations	Freehold/Leasehold	Approximate area (square feet)	Principal Use
Rosental, Basel, Switzerland	Freehold	838,400	Headquarters, research (1) Administration, marketing.
Dielsdorf, Switzerland	Freehold	2,306,000	Manufacturing ceased at the end of 2002.
Greensboro, North Carolina, USA	Freehold	2,970,000	United States Headquarters, research
St. Gabriel, Louisiana, USA	Freehold	54,663,400	Production
Jealott's Hill, Berkshire, UK	Freehold	26,910,000	Research center
Bayport, Texas, USA	Freehold	16,945,350	Production until 2006/2007 (5)
Monthey, Switzerland	Freehold	12,010,000	Production
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, UK	Freehold	10,756,200	Production
Cold Creek, Texas, USA	Freehold	9,539,900	Production until 2006/2007
Goa, India	Freehold	8,668,000	Production
Grangemouth, Falkirk, UK	Freehold	8,000,000	Production
Landskrona, Sweden	Freehold	6,610,800	Research, production and marketing (2)
Greens Bayou, Texas, USA	Freehold	5,898,800	Production Administration, research and marketing (2)
Enkhuizen, The Netherlands	Freehold	4,305,600	(2)
Stein, Switzerland	Freehold	1,949,990	Research center
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA	Freehold	1,195,300	Research center
Aigues-Vives, France	Freehold	1,538,680(3)	Production
Nérac, France	Freehold	1,225,800	Production (2)
Saint-Sauveur, France	Freehold	1,279,500	Administration, research (2)
Nantong, China	Leasehold	896,264	Production
Münchwilen, Switzerland	Freehold	610,300	Production Formerly production. Plant closed at the end of 2003.
Grimsby, UK	Freehold	181,300	end of 2003.
Kaisten, Switzerland	Freehold	71,000(4)	Production

(1) Used for crop protection and seed business.

(2) Used for seed business.

(3) Only 875,850 square feet are currently used and developed.

(4) Surface area of building/factory which is owned; land itself (143,000 square feet) is owned by third party.

(5) Closure of production site announced.

Please also see Item 4 "Information on the Company" Business Overview for a description of the products produced at the various properties listed above.

## ITEM 5 □ OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

### Introduction

The following discussion includes forward-looking statements subject to risks and uncertainty. See "Introduction" □ Forward-Looking Statements". This discussion also includes non-GAAP financial data in addition to GAAP results. See Appendix A to Operating and Financial Review and Prospects and Note 2 to the financial highlights for a reconciliation of this data and explanation of the reasons for presenting such data.

### Constant Exchange Rates

Approximately 63% of Syngenta's sales and 67% of Syngenta's costs in 2005 were denominated in currencies other than US dollars. Therefore Syngenta's results for the period covered by the review were significantly impacted by the movements in exchange rates. Sales in 2005 were 11% higher than 2004 on a reported basis, but were 9% higher when calculated at constant rates of exchange. The Company therefore provides analysis of results calculated at constant exchange rates (CER) and also actual results to allow an assessment of performance before and after taking account of currency fluctuations. To present CER information, current period results for entities reporting in currencies other than US dollars are converted into US dollars at the prior period's exchange rates, rather than the exchange rates for this year. An example of this calculation is included in Appendix A of this section.

### Overview

Syngenta is a world leading agribusiness operating in the Crop Protection and Seeds businesses. Crop Protection chemicals include herbicides, insecticides and fungicides to control weeds, insect pests and diseases in crops, and are essential inputs enabling growers around the world to improve agricultural productivity and food quality. Many of these products also have application in the professional products sector in areas such as public health, seed treatment and turf and ornamental markets. The Seeds business operates in high value commercial sectors: seeds for field crops including corn & soybean and diverse field crops such as oilseeds and sugar beet; and vegetable and flower seeds. Syngenta is also developing a Plant Science business applying biotechnology to improve growers' yield and food quality. Syngenta aims to be the partner of choice for Syngenta's grower customers with its unparalleled product offer and innovative marketing, creating value for customers and shareholders.

Syngenta's results are affected, both positively and negatively, by, among other factors: general economic conditions; weather conditions (which can influence the demand for certain products over the course of a season); commodity crop prices and exchange rate fluctuations. Government measures, such as subsidies or rules regulating the areas allowed to be planted with certain crops, also can have an impact on Syngenta's industry. Syngenta's results are also affected by the growing importance of biotechnology to agriculture and the use of genetically modified crops.

Syngenta operates globally to exploit its technology and marketing base. Syngenta's largest markets are Europe, Africa and the Middle East (EAME), and NAFTA, which both represent approximately 37% of consolidated sales in 2005 (2004: 40% and 32%, 2003: 39% and 34%). Both sales and operating profit are seasonal and are weighted towards the first half of the calendar year, which largely reflects the northern hemisphere planting and growing cycle.

Manufacturing and research and development are largely based in Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in US dollars, as this is the major currency in which revenues are denominated. However, significant, but differing proportions of Syngenta's revenues, costs, assets and liabilities are denominated in currencies other than US dollars. Approximately 24% of sales in 2005 were denominated in euros, while a significant proportion of costs for research and development, administration, general overhead and manufacturing were denominated in Swiss francs and British pounds sterling. Sales in Swiss francs and British pounds sterling together make up 3% of total sales. Marketing and distribution costs are more closely linked to the currency split of the sales. As a result, operating profit in US dollars can be significantly affected by movements in exchange rates, in particular movements of the Swiss franc, British pound sterling and the euro relative to the US dollar, and the relative impact on operating profit may differ to that on sales. The effects of currency fluctuations have been reduced by risk management strategies such as hedging.

The consolidated financial statements are based upon Syngenta's accounting policies and, where necessary, the results of management estimations. Syngenta believes that the critical accounting policies and estimations underpinning the financial

statements are, (i) adjustments for doubtful receivables, (ii) environmental provisions, (iii) impairment (iv) defined benefit pensions and (v) uncertain tax positions. These policies are described in more detail later in this report.

Results in 2005 benefited significantly from the acquisitions in the Seeds business in 2004. Syngenta estimates that Crop Protection markets slowed in 2005. In addition, after strong sales growth in 2003 and 2004, the strength of the Brazilian real in 2005 had an adverse impact on the competitiveness of the agricultural export sector in Brazil and reduced underlying demand for Crop Protection products. These factors were offset by strong demand for the recently launched CALLISTO® family of products in the USA and significant growth in KARATE® and AMISTAR®, leading Crop Protection sales in the critical US market to grow by more than the estimated market growth. This was the key driver for top line growth in the segment. In addition to the acquisitions, underlying demand in Corn & Soybean seeds was strong, though growth is expected to moderate in 2006. Sales of sunflowers and sugar beet seeds were also strong in Europe. Gross margins benefited from cost savings in the Crop Protection business, but these were offset by increased costs resulting from high oil and gas prices. Expenses in 2005 reflected the acquisitions, completed in the second half of 2004, increased patent and other litigation costs and also the costs associated with the impact of unintended release of Bt10 corn into commercial sale, offsetting lower restructuring and impairment charges and the impact of ceasing goodwill amortization after adoption of IFRS 3. Sales volume growth offset the increase in expenses and impact of the high oil price and despite the unusually low tax rate 2004, Syngenta reported a 20% increase in diluted earnings per share from continuing operations in 2005 compared to 2004.

In 2004, improved sales reflected agricultural market recovery in Europe following the 2003 drought and continued strength in Latin America. Net income growth was driven by the top line growth, additionally benefiting from a negative tax rate following recognition of previously unrecognized tax losses offset by the consolidation of costs from the acquired Seeds companies, which did not contribute to 2004 revenues due to completion after the main selling season. Results of operations in 2003 reflect the impact of low crop commodity prices and difficult agricultural market conditions together with the above mentioned drought, though there were some signs of stabilization in the crop protection market in the second half of 2003.

### **Seeds 2004 Acquisitions**

On July 31, 2004, in a single transaction, Syngenta acquired a 90% voting interest in each of the following entities which are collectively referred to as "Golden Harvest": Garwood Seed Co.; Golden Seed Co. LLC; Golden Seed Co. Inc.; J C Robinson Seeds Inc.; Sommer Bros Seed Co.; Thorp Seed Co.; and Golden Harvest Seeds Inc. The cost of the acquisition, net of cash acquired, was US\$154 million.

On September 1, 2004, after Fox Paine & Co acquired a 10% interest in the Advanta corn, soybean and wheat seed business in North America, Syngenta acquired 100% of the shares of Advanta B.V. On September 8, 2004, Syngenta sold Advanta B.V.'s European, Asian and Latin American subsidiaries and other parts of its North America business to Fox Paine & Co. The net cash cost of acquisition, after deducting proceeds of assets purchased exclusively for resale and cash in the acquired companies was US\$327 million. Syngenta retains a 90% interest in Advanta's former corn, soybean and wheat seed business in North America, which trades as Garst®.

These transactions are described in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements. Since completion of the transactions occurred after the end of the main 2004 selling season, their contribution to sales was largely in 2005 rather than 2004.

### **Operational Efficiency Program**

On February 11, 2004, Syngenta announced an Operational Efficiency cost saving program. The program was initiated to realize further cost savings after completion of the integration of the former Novartis and Zeneca businesses and in response to low underlying growth in the Crop Protection markets. Cash costs of the program were estimated at around US\$500 million, expected to be largely spent over the period 2004 to 2008 and non-cash charges were estimated at approximately US\$350 million over a similar period. These estimates remain current. In 2004, the closure of three Crop Protection production sites and rationalization of two further sites were announced. In 2005, the closure of two Crop Protection production sites and partial closure of another were announced. In addition, in 2004, the rationalization of Syngenta's research activities, including the concentration of biotechnology research at Research Triangle Park in North Carolina and, at expected completion in 2007 / 2008, the closure of the



Basel chemistry facility, were announced. Charges of US\$320 million were recorded in 2004 under the program, of which US\$184 million were non-cash, and US\$150 million were recorded in 2005, of which US\$25 million were non-cash. These initiatives only made a minor contribution to cost savings in 2004, but in 2005 were a factor in offsetting the impact of higher oil prices and in lower Research and Development expenditure, particularly in Plant Science.

The integration of the Golden Harvest and Garst businesses, purchased in 2004, gave rise to cash costs of US\$38 million in the year, and cost of goods sold was increased by US\$24 million due to the reversal of inventory step-up recorded as part of the acquisition accounting on the purchase of the Golden Harvest and Garst businesses. The inventory acquired with these businesses was valued at its fair value less cost to sell, which was higher than its production cost, hence the reversal of this adjustment on the sale of the inventory increased cost of goods sold.

In addition to the restructuring costs described above, an impairment charge of US\$19 million was recorded in respect of investments whose book value had fallen below cost for a prolonged period. The majority of the impairment related to Syngenta's interest in Diversa Corporation.

## Results of Operations

### 2005 Compared to 2004

#### Sales commentary

Total Syngenta consolidated sales for 2005 were US\$8,104 million, compared to US\$7,269 million in 2004, with growth of 11% in US dollars and 9% at constant exchange rates. Growth of 6% in total sales came from the 2004 Seeds acquisitions which contributed to sales for the first time in 2005 and 3% from other sales volumes increases. The analysis by segment is as follows:

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Full Year		Growth Actual	
	2005	2004	%	CER %
Crop Protection	6,330	6,042	5	3
Seeds	1,797	1,239	45	42
Plant Science	-	-	-	-
Inter-segment elimination	(23)	(12)	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,104</b>	<b>7,269</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>

Sales by region were as follows:

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Full Year		Growth Actual	
	2005	2004	%	CER %
Europe, Africa and Middle East	2,973	2,892	3	(1)
NAFTA	2,972	2,306	29	28
Latin America	1,133	1,103	3	3
Asia Pacific	1,026	968	6	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,104</b>	<b>7,269</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>

#### Crop Protection

Sales in 2005 were 5% higher than in 2004. The weakness of the US dollar contributed to reported sales growth despite the US dollar appreciation from June 2005 and, at constant exchange rates, sales were 3% higher in 2005 than 2004. Sales volumes were 3% higher in 2005, with local currency prices flat overall. Initial indications are that crop protection markets slowed through the course of 2005, particularly in Latin America where grower earnings from export crops were impacted by the stronger Brazilian real. Demand was also reduced in Europe by a cold early season followed by drought in southern Europe. In this context, Syngenta's sales performances in Latin America and Europe, Africa and Middle East were positive. Total sales of products launched in the last five years grew by 25%, 23% at constant exchange rates, to reach US\$861 million with continuing growth in the CALLISTO® range (US\$388 million) and in ACTARA®/CRUISER® (US\$359 million).

Sales by product line are set out below.

Product line	Full Year		Growth(1)	
	2005 US\$ million	2004 US\$ million	Actual %	CER %
Selective herbicides	1,889	1,867	1	(1)
Non-selective herbicides	688	645	7	6
Fungicides	1,779	1,702	4	2
Insecticides	1,100	1,049	6	5
Professional products	807	720	10	9
Others	67	59	13	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,330</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

(1) Product line variances take into account minor reclassifications made in 2005.

Herbicides are products that prevent or reduce weeds that compete with the crop for nutrients and water. Selective herbicides are crop-specific and capable of controlling weeds without harming the crop. Non-selective herbicides reduce or halt the growth of all vegetation with which they come into contact.

Fungicides are products that prevent and cure fungal plant diseases that can drastically affect crop yield and quality.

Insecticides are products that control chewing pests such as caterpillars and sucking pests such as aphids, which reduce crop yields and quality.

Professional products are herbicides, insecticides and fungicides used in markets beyond commercial agriculture such as seed treatment, public health, and turf and ornamentals.

**Selective Herbicides:** major brands CALLISTO® family, DUAL®/BICEP® MAGNUM, ENVOKE® FUSILADE® MAX, TOPIK®

Sales of selective herbicides increased by 1%, but were 1% lower at constant exchange rates due to lower volumes. The CALLISTO® range, with further successful launches in Europe, grew over 30% in the USA, despite an increase in the acres where genetically modified herbicide tolerant seed was planted, which reduced the selective herbicide market. CALLISTO® growth was offset by a decline in sales of older products such as DUAL®/BICEP® MAGNUM and atrazine. Sales of the cereal herbicide TOPIK® were lower due to weakness in western Europe, but continued to grow in eastern Europe.

**Non-selective Herbicides:** major brands GRAMOXONE®, TOUCHDOWN®

Sales grew by 7%, 6% at constant exchange rates, largely due to higher volumes. TOUCHDOWN® sales volumes grew strongly in the USA, Argentina and eastern Europe, driven by the launch of new brands and marketing programs. GRAMOXONE® sales were lower in southern Europe and in Brazil owing to drought conditions in the first half.

**Fungicides:** major brands ACANTO®, AMISTAR®, BRAVO®, RIDOMIL GOLD®, SCORE®, TILT®, UNIX®

Fungicide sales grew strongly in North America, eastern Europe and Asia and were 4% higher, 2% at constant exchange rates, driven by higher volumes. In the USA, the spread of the soybean rust fungal disease was less than earlier expectations and the market proved to be small in 2005, but AMISTAR®, Syngenta's largest fungicide product by sales, showed higher sales from stronger demand on nuts, vines, wheat and potatoes. Sales of the cereal fungicide ACANTO® grew strongly in France and SCORE® sales continued to expand in the emerging markets in Asia, notably China and Vietnam.

**Insecticides:** major brands ACTARA®, FORCE®, KARATE®, PROCLAIM®, VERTIMEC®

Insecticide sales were 6% higher in 2005, 5% at constant exchange rates, with 4% due to volume growth and 1% higher local currency prices. Sales growth was driven by strong performances in the USA and Brazil. In the USA sales of KARATE® grew significantly due to an exceptional outbreak of soybean aphids. Sales of FORCE® were higher from increased acres treated for corn rootworm. ACTARA® sales continued to grow strongly in Brazil and Japan.

**Professional Products:** major brands CRUISER®, DIVIDEND®, HERITAGE®, ICON®, MAXIM®

Professional Product sales were 10% higher in 2005, 9% at constant exchange rates, largely due to volume growth. Sales growth was driven by Seed Care, with CRUISER® growth continuing above 10%, with particular success on soybeans in the USA. Sales growth was also significant in Lawn & Garden markets, particularly on turf, where HERITAGE® sales were higher in the USA and Japan and growth rates were also strong in the developing Home Care sector. Seed Care sales are expected to further expand in 2006 with the launch of AVICTA®.



**Commentary on regional performance**

Regional	Full Year		Growth	
	2005 US\$ million	2004 US\$ million	Actual %	CER %
Europe, Africa and Middle East	2,283	2,256	1	(2)
NAFTA	2,081	1,873	11	10
Latin America	1,027	1,020	1	1
Asia Pacific	939	893	5	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,330</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

Sales in **Europe, Africa and the Middle East** increased by 1% due to the weakness of the US dollar and, at constant exchange rates, were 2% lower due to reduced volumes, though with improvement in the fourth quarter. Sales in Europe were higher, with continuing growth above 10% in eastern Europe offsetting weakness in western Europe which was partly due to drought in the early part of the year. The decline in constant currency sales for the region overall reflected reduced tender sales in Africa and the Middle East due to increased generic competition.

In **NAFTA**, sales grew 11%, 10% at constant exchange rates, with 8% volume growth and 2% higher local currency prices. Sales of the CALLISTO® range again registered strong growth, with notable impact from the combination product LEXAR®. Insecticide sales also grew strongly, driven by KARATE® as noted above. Initial indications are that Syngenta gained market share in the USA, the world's largest agricultural market.

In **Latin America**, sales grew 1% in 2005 after very strong growth in 2004. Volumes were 2% higher but this was offset by a 1% US dollar price decline. The market in Brazil was impacted by the strength of the real, which reduced commodity crop competitiveness in the key export sector, and Syngenta's sales for the year were marginally lower despite a strong second half performance in insecticides and fungicides. ACTARA® market penetration continued, with sales growth over 30%. Sales in Argentina grew strongly, driven by TOUCHDOWN®.

Sales in **Asia Pacific** grew by 5%, partly due to the weakness of the US dollar against the South Korean Won. At constant exchange rates sales were 4% higher with 6% volume growth offset by a 2% decline in local currency prices. Growth across a number of markets, notably Japan, India, South Korea, Vietnam and China, more than offset weakness in Australia, where both volumes and prices were depressed.

**Seeds**

Sales were 45% higher, due in part to the weakness of the US dollar, and at constant exchange rates sales were up 42%, with volume growth of 33% from the 2004 acquisitions of Golden Harvest and Garst, 7% from other volume growth and 2% from local currency prices.

Regional	Full Year		Growth	
	2005 US\$ million	2004 US\$ million	Actual %	CER %
Corn & Soybean	880	401	120	117
Diverse Field Crops	301	247	22	16
Vegetables	384	356	8	6

Flowers	232	235	(2)	(4)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>

**Field Crops (Corn & Soybean and Diverse Field Crops):** major brands NK<sup>®</sup>, GARST<sup>®</sup> and GOLDEN HARVEST<sup>®</sup> corn, and oilseeds, HILLESHÖG<sup>®</sup> sugar beet

Corn & Soybean sales more than doubled from the successful integration of the 2004 acquisitions. Sales overall were 120% higher, 117% at constant exchange rates, with volume growth from the acquisitions approximately 97%, other volumes 18% higher and local currency prices 2% higher. GOLDEN HARVEST<sup>®</sup> and GARST<sup>®</sup> were successfully integrated and initial indications are that market share was maintained in the critical US market. Reported sales were further helped by the holding back of fourth quarter 2004 deliveries in the USA to align sales closer to grower consumption for the 2005 season.

In Diverse Field Crops, sales were 22% higher, 16% at constant exchange rates, with 5% volume growth from acquisitions, other volumes up 7% and local currency prices 4% higher. NK® sunflower sales were up strongly due to volume gains in eastern Europe benefiting from increased demand for biodiesel. Sugarbeet sales also increased in Europe.

**Vegetables and Flowers:** major brands S&G® vegetables, ROGERS® vegetables, S&G® flowers

Vegetable sales for the year were 8% higher, 6% at constant exchange rates, with volumes 5% higher and average local currency prices 1% higher. After a slow start to the year due to poor weather in Europe, vegetables sales recovered strongly in the second half. Sales in the emerging markets of Latin America and Asia Pacific continued to expand rapidly. In fresh produce, sales of watermelon and cantaloupe again showed strong growth in the USA and initial launches took place in Europe.

Sales of S&G® flowers were 2% lower, 4% down at constant exchange rates, with local currency prices up 1% but volumes 5% lower in a weak market, though with some recovery in the second half of the year.

### Commentary on regional performance

Regional	Full Year		Growth	
	2005 US\$ million	2004 US\$ million	Actual %	CER %
Europe, Africa and Middle East	699	641	9	4
NAFTA	903	437	107	106
Latin America	107	86	24	24
Asia Pacific	88	75	17	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>42</b>

Sales in **Europe, Africa and the Middle East** increased by 9%, helped by the weakness of the US dollar against the euro in the first half, and at constant exchange rates were 4% higher, with both volumes and local currency prices up 2%. Sales growth was driven by Diverse Field Crops in eastern Europe, which more than offset drought related weakness in Spain.

**NAFTA** sales growth of 107%, 106% at constant exchange rates, includes 89% volume growth from the 2004 acquisitions and 17% other volume growth. Local currency prices overall were flat. The other volume growth included strong sales performances in Corn & Soybean and in watermelon and cantaloupe sales within Vegetables.

**Latin America** sales were 24% higher than in 2004, with volumes 15% higher and 9% higher US dollar sales prices. Growth was driven by strong performances in corn and vegetables.

In **Asia Pacific**, sales increased by 17%, 15% at constant exchange rates, with 13% from volume and 2% from local currency prices. Sales were strong in corn and vegetables, particularly in the emerging markets of India and Thailand.

### Operating Income

Variances in the tables below reflect the profit impact of changes year on year. For example, an increase in sales or a decrease in costs is a positive variance and a fall in sales or increase in costs is a negative variance.

	Full Year	Growth Actual%
<b>Operating Income</b>		



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	<b>2005</b> <b>US\$ million</b>	<b>2004</b> <b>US\$ million</b>	
Crop Protection	996	713	40
Seeds	17	(20)	-
Plant Science	(153)	(152)	(1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>59</b>

Operating income increased by 59% to US\$860 million. Sales increased by 11%, including 2% from movements in exchange rates and 6% from the 2004 acquisitions. Gross profit margin reduced by 0.1% with higher margins in the Crop Protection business offset by lower margins in Seeds, largely due to the purchase accounting inventory step-up relating to the 2004 acquisitions and the higher weighting of lower margin Corn & Soybean following the 2004 acquisitions. Marketing and distribution costs increased by 10%, 9% when expressed at constant exchange rates, and included the full year impact of the acquisitions, which were completed in the second half of 2004. Research and development costs increased by 2%, but were only 1% higher at constant exchange rates. Increased research and development costs in Seeds due to the acquisitions and increased resource in trait development were offset by reduced research spend in Plant Science benefiting from the

restructuring announced in 2004. General and administrative costs were 14% higher, with 6% from exchange rate movements largely due to US\$36 million lower hedging gains under the EBITDA hedging program which are reported within this cost category. At constant exchange rates, general and administrative costs were 8% higher. Ceasing amortization of goodwill after adoption of IFRS 3 reduced these costs by 9%, but this was offset by some increase in patent and other litigation expenses and also the costs of pro-actively managing the effects of the unintended release of Bt10 corn into commercial sale, including testing of corn export shipments from the USA. Restructuring and impairment costs excluding US\$24 million charged within Seeds cost of goods sold, reduced by US\$142 million to US\$212 million in 2005. These costs are described in more detail below.

Of the US\$319 million (59%) increase in operating income, lower restructuring and impairment costs accounted for US\$118 million including the Seeds inventory purchase accounting adjustment. Excluding these costs, operating income increased by 23%. Ceasing goodwill amortization, noted above, increased reported operating income by approximately US\$56 million. The weaker US dollar in the first half main selling season, combined with US dollar recovery in the second half reducing Swiss franc and British pound sterling based costs, increased operating income by approximately US\$48 million despite including lower hedging income from the EBITDA hedging program at US\$5 million, compared to US\$41 million in 2004. The EBITDA hedging program is designed to protect anticipated transactions from adverse movements in exchange rates, using options and forward contracts to reduce volatility in EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization). Operating income in 2005 included US\$15 million gains on disposal of non-current assets (2004: nil, 2003: US\$62 million) and a non-recurring escrow refund of US\$11 million relating to a 1998 acquisition. These were offset by increased patent and other litigation expenses and, in addition, the costs relating to Bt10 corn noted above. The amounts of such individually non-recurring items will vary from year to year. Further analysis of operating income is provided below in the review of segmental performance.

### Crop Protection Operating Income

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Total		Restructuring and impairment		Before Restructuring and impairment		% Growth Actual	% Growth CER
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004		
Sales	6,330	6,042	-	-	6,330	6,042	5	3
Cost of goods sold	(3,033)	(2,934)	-	-	(3,033)	(2,934)	(3)	(2)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>3,297</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,297</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>
as a percentage of sales	52%	51%			52%	51%		
Marketing and distribution	(1,106)	(1,040)	-	-	(1,106)	(1,040)	(6)	(5)
Research and development	(509)	(499)	-	-	(509)	(499)	(2)	(1)
General and administrative	(557)	(539)	-	-	(557)	(539)	(3)	3
Restructuring and impairment	(129)	(317)	(129)	(317)	-	-		
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>(129)</b>	<b>(317)</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
as a percentage of sales	16%	12%			18%	17%		

Average local currency sales prices were flat in 2005, but volumes increased by 3%. Cost of goods sold were 3% higher, but only 2% higher at constant exchange rates despite being adversely impacted by an estimated US\$96 million due to the impact of higher oil and gas prices. Site and plant closures in the Operational Efficiency program, and non-oil savings in raw material and intermediate purchase costs offset the impact of the higher oil prices. With

higher volumes and improved capacity utilization, gross profit margins improved by around 0.6%, 0.3% at constant exchange rates.

Marketing and distribution costs were reported 6% higher, 5% at constant exchange rates. Higher volumes increased distribution costs and the stronger Brazilian real increased costs in Latin America and, by making export crops less competitive, also triggered some increased provision for doubtful receivables. Research and development costs increased by 2% but at constant exchange rates were 1% higher, with research costs marginally lower following the site rationalization announced in 2004 and some increase in development spend on growth opportunities in Professional Products and to accelerate new active ingredients to market. General and administrative costs were 3% higher, but 3% down at constant exchange rates when the lower EBITDA hedging income is excluded. Ceasing goodwill amortization reduced these costs by around 9%, but this was partly offset by the impact of the stronger real on costs in Latin America and some increase in litigation costs.

Restructuring and impairment is defined in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements. In 2005 and 2004 these costs largely relate to the Operational Efficiency Program initiated in February 2004. These costs are described in more detail below.

Operating income was 40% higher at US\$996 million, with US\$188 million from lower restructuring and impairment charges. Excluding the lower restructuring and impairment, operating income was 9% higher.

The US dollar was weak in the important first half sales season, increasing reported sales and was stronger in the second half, reducing reported costs from the Swiss franc and British pound sterling cost base, so despite lower hedging income, the net effect of exchange rate movements increased operating income by an estimated US\$32 million.

### Seeds Operating Income

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Total		Restructuring and impairment		Before Restructuring and impairment		% Growth Actual	% Growth CER
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004		
Sales	1,797	1,239	-	-	1,797	1,239	45	42
Cost of goods sold	(940)	(610)	(24)	-	(916)	(610)	(50)	(48)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>(24)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>37</b>
as a percentage of sales	48%	51%			49%	51%		
Marketing and distribution	(408)	(339)	-	-	(408)	(339)	(20)	(19)
Research and development	(213)	(186)	-	-	(213)	(186)	(15)	(14)
General and administrative	(169)	(99)	-	-	(169)	(99)	(71)	(67)
Restructuring and impairment	(50)	(25)	(50)	(25)	-	-		
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>(74)</b>	<b>(25)</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
as a percentage of sales	1%	- 2%			5%	-		

Sales were significantly increased by the acquisitions of Golden Harvest and Garst completed in 2004, which had their first significant impact on sales in 2005. Local currency prices were overall 2% higher but margins declined by approximately 3% due to the US\$24 million reversal of the purchase accounting inventory step-up and higher weighting of lower margin Corn & Soybean following the 2004 acquisitions and some price pressure in fresh produce in the USA. Marketing and distribution costs were reported 20% higher, 19% higher at constant exchange rates, largely due to the acquisitions which were completed in the second half of 2004. Research and development costs increased by 15%, 14% at constant exchange rates, again largely due to the acquisitions but also with some increased spend on new trait development. General and administrative costs were 71% higher, 67% when expressed at constant exchange rates, with approximately 16% due to the costs in the acquired companies but including, in addition, increased litigation costs, largely related to patents, and also the costs arising from the unintended release of Bt10 corn into commercial sale, which Syngenta has been managing pro-actively. Syngenta has introduced testing of export corn shipments from the US for the period when Bt10 contaminated corn may be in the corn supply channels. Restructuring and impairment in addition to the purchase accounting adjustment noted above, includes US\$38 million costs of integrating the 2004 acquisitions and eliminating duplicated administration and facilities. Restructuring and impairment also included costs from the Operational Efficiency program from the outsourcing of certain back-office activities and the write-off of inventories related to exiting unprofitable crops and markets.

Weakness in the US dollar in the first half contributed an additional US\$15 million to Seeds operating income in 2005 relative to 2004.

### Plant Science Operating Income

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(US\$ million, except growth %)	Total		Restructuring and impairment		Before Restructuring and impairment		% Growth Actual	% Growth CER
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004		
Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Cost of goods sold	-	-	-	-	-	-		
<b>Gross profit</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-		
as a percentage of sales	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Marketing and distribution	(4)	(3)	-	-	(4)	(3)	(33)	(33)
Research and development	(100)	(124)	-	-	(100)	(124)	19	20
General and administrative	(16)	(13)	-	-	(16)	(13)	(23)	(34)
Restructuring and impairment	(33)	(12)	(33)	(12)	-	-		
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>(153)</b>	<b>(152)</b>	<b>(33)</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>(120)</b>	<b>(140)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
as a percentage of sales	-	-			-	-		

Small sales of the QUANTUM® enzyme were made in Mexico, with registration pending in the USA. Research and technology spending was 19% lower, 20% at constant exchange rates, following the restructuring of the research sites initiated in 2004, which included focusing biotechnology activities at the Research Triangle Park facility in North Carolina. Higher general and administrative costs largely relate to the costs of increased scouting for new external business development opportunities.

Work on plant-produced pharmaceutical compounds progressed in 2005 to the stage of clinical trials. However, in view of the extended time lines and associated costs of full commercialization, Syngenta decided at the end of 2005 to seek third parties to take these projects through development to commercial launch. Research and development resources released by this decision will be redirected to other businesses. Restructuring and impairment costs include charges for this exit. In addition, the market value of shares held in Diversa Corporation has fallen significantly below cost and an impairment of approximately US\$17 million has been recognized. In 2004 the restructuring charge of US\$12 million related to the rationalization of the research sites under which biotechnology research is to be concentrated in the USA, as noted above.

### Defined Benefit Pensions

Defined benefit pension costs decreased from US\$221 million in 2004 (including US\$95 million of restructuring costs) to US\$125 million in 2005 (including US\$20 million of restructuring costs). The restructuring costs in 2004 included the one-off transition costs of moving to a new scheme in Switzerland that, whilst continuing to be accounted for as a defined benefit scheme, has several of the characteristics of a defined contribution scheme, which in particular will reduce the costs associated with early retirement. Excluding the costs associated with restructuring, defined benefit costs reduced by US\$21 million in 2005 compared to 2004. This was mainly due to a favorable currency translation effect of US\$10 million on costs of plans outside the USA due to the stronger US dollar, and to a non-recurring gain of US\$10 million caused by the change in the rules of Syngenta's Dutch pension plan. The underlying level of defined benefit cost remained similar to that in 2004.

During 2005, as in 2004, actual investment returns exceeded the long term assumed rate of return. Employer contributions to defined benefit schemes, excluding contributions related to restructuring, increased from US\$144 million in 2004 to US\$487 million in 2005. This includes US\$350 million of special lump sum contributions in respect of Syngenta's UK and US pension funds, which were in addition to the recurring contributions (US\$85 million for these two funds) also made in 2005. These special contributions were voluntary and Syngenta does not currently expect to make any further special contributions into either fund in 2006. Syngenta decided to make the special contributions in 2005 in order to improve the funded status of these two funds. The additional funds are expected to be invested in order to manage plan assets in a manner more closely related to changes in plan liabilities (asset liability management). This involves the use of interest rate derivatives to manage the exposure to changes in interest rates to which pension liabilities are subject.

Excluding restructuring costs, defined benefit pension expense in 2006 is expected to be similar to that in 2005, because the effect of the additional expected investment returns on the 2005 special contributions will be offset by the effect of using lower discount rates for 2006 compared to 2005, due to falls in corporate bond yields during 2005, and by the non-recurring 2005 gain for the Dutch pension plan.

### Restructuring and Impairment

The following table analyzes restructuring and impairment charges for each of the periods indicated:

For the year to 31 December	2005		2004		
	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million
Reversal of inventory step-up (in cost of goods sold)			(24)		
Restructuring costs:					
Write-off or impairment					
□ property, plant and equipment	(22)			(132)	

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□ intangible assets	-		(1)
□ inventories	(8)		(1)
Non-cash pension restructuring charges	-		(50)
<b>Total non-cash restructuring charges</b>		(30)	<b>(184)</b>
<b>Cash costs</b>			
□ operational efficiency	(125)		(136)
□ Seeds acquisition integration	(38)		(16)
□ merger synergy program and other cash costs	-		(19)
		(163)	(171)
Impairment of financial assets		(19)	-
Gains from product disposals		-	1
		(212)	
<b>Total restructuring and impairment charge</b>		<b>(236)</b>	<b>(354)</b>

Restructuring represents the effect on reported performance of initiating business changes which are considered major and which, in the opinion of management, will have a material effect on the nature and focus of Syngenta's operations, and therefore requires separate disclosure to provide a more thorough understanding of business performance. Restructuring includes the effects of completing and integrating significant business combinations and divestments.

Restructuring and impairment includes the impairment costs associated with major restructuring and also impairment losses and reversals of impairment losses resulting from major changes in the markets in which a reported segment operates.

In 2005, as part of the operational efficiency program, the closure of two Crop Protection production sites and partial closure of another were announced. In total, cash costs of US\$125 million, inventory write-offs of US\$3 million and impairments of property, plant and equipment of US\$22 million have been triggered by operational efficiency initiatives in 2005. The Seeds NAFTA corn and soybean business continued its restructuring program to integrate the Golden Harvest and Garst acquisitions, recording cash costs of US\$38 million in 2005.

Purchase accounting rules require the book value of acquired finished goods inventories to be stepped up to fair value less costs to sell, with a corresponding reduction in goodwill. The stepped-up amount is expensed as the acquired inventories are sold. This adjustment does not affect cash flows, and inventories produced after the acquisition date are valued at their production cost. US\$24 million of the US\$31 million inventory step-up arising from the Golden Harvest and Garst acquisition accounting was charged to cost of goods sold in 2005. A further US\$7 million will be charged in 2006.

The US\$19 million financial asset impairment largely reflects the significant fall in the share price of Diversa Corporation, which is now below the original cost of the shareholding.

In 2004, restructuring and impairment related mainly to the Operational Efficiency program announced in that year. The closure of three Crop Protection production sites was announced together with the rationalization of two further sites. A further focusing of research activities, including the closure of one site, was also announced.

The Seeds NAFTA Corn & Soybean business, within Field Crops, initiated a restructuring program to integrate the Garst and Golden Harvest acquisitions. In addition, the final costs of the merger and integration program announced at the formation of Syngenta in November 2000, largely associated with the closure of two Crop Protection production sites, were also charged in 2004.

Cash costs of US\$171 million and asset impairments of US\$134 million were recorded in 2004 for these restructuring initiatives. In addition, as part of the Operational Efficiency program, the rules of Syngenta's Swiss pension fund were amended in April 2004, so that whilst it continues to be accounted for as a defined benefit plan, there is increased sharing of risks with the employee members against a one-time non-cash transition charge of US\$60 million. This change will reduce the expense related to early retirement in future years and reduces Syngenta's exposure to pension fund investment returns. This charge was partially offset by a US\$10 million favorable non-cash impact of pension fund curtailments associated with restructuring.

### **Financial Expense, net**

Interest expense net of interest income increased from US\$42 million in 2004 to US\$66 million in 2005 largely due to premium costs incurred in the partial tender to repurchase Syngenta's €800 million 2006 Eurobond in April 2005. The additional premium paid, offset by gains on the termination of associated hedges, was US\$16 million. Average working capital levels were higher in 2005 than 2004 due to selective increases in trade credit and this, combined with rising short term interest rates, also increased net interest expense. Net currency hedging costs were US\$4 million higher than 2004 due in part to the timing of amortization of option premia for the EBITDA hedging program. The net result of currency gains and losses from balance sheet exposures and related hedging program was a small gain at a similar level to 2004.

### **Taxes**



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The overall tax rate in 2005 was 18% compared to negative 15% in 2004, with profits after tax higher than profit before tax. The tax rate on net restructuring and impairment costs of 33% was lower than the 38% of 2004, and future rates will be very dependent on the nature of restructuring charges and may vary significantly. The tax charge in 2004 included a tax credit of US\$139 million from the recognition of relief on tax losses following corporate restructuring. Whilst Syngenta continues efforts to utilize tax losses carried forward to reduce the tax charge, including US\$12 million in 2005 as shown in Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements, the recognition in 2004 was unusually large. Whilst rates in individual years may vary, Syngenta estimates that the tax rate on profits excluding restructuring and impairment costs will be in the low twenties in 2006.

**Net Income and Other Supplementary Income Data**

Net income in 2005 was US\$626 million, with US\$622 million attributable to shareholders of Syngenta AG, compared to US\$428 million in 2004, with US\$460 million attributable to shareholders of Syngenta AG. Syngenta adopted IFRS 3 in 2005 and ceased the amortization of goodwill. Goodwill amortization charged in 2004 was US\$56 million. In addition, 2004 net income attributable to Syngenta AG includes a loss on discontinued activities of US\$83 million related to the disposal of Syngenta's 75% interest in SF Chem AG. Restructuring and impairment costs were higher in 2004 at US\$354 million compared to US\$212 million in 2005 as described above. After related taxation, restructuring and impairment costs were US\$157 million in 2005 compared to US\$219 million in 2004. As noted above, tax costs in 2004 were net of approximately US\$139 million recognition of relief on tax losses after corporate restructuring.

**Results of Operations 2004 Compared to 2003 Sales commentary**

Total Syngenta consolidated sales for 2004 were US\$7,269 million, compared to US\$6,525 million in 2003, with growth of 11% in US dollars and 7% at constant exchange rates due to higher sales volumes. The analysis by segment is as follows:

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Full Year		Growth Actual %	CER %
	2004	2003		
Crop Protection	6,042	5,429	+11	+7
Seeds	1,239	1,104	+12	+6
Inter-segment elimination	(12)	(8)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,269</b>	<b>6,525</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+7</b>

Sales by region were as follows:

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Full Year		Growth Actual %	CER %
	2004	2003		
Europe, Africa and Middle East	2,892	2,543	+14	+4
NAFTA	2,306	2,248	+3	+2
Latin America	1,103	827	+33	+33
Asia Pacific	968	907	+7	+2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,269</b>	<b>6,525</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+7</b>

**Crop Protection**

Sales in 2004 were 11% higher than in 2003, following 4% growth in 2003 compared to 2002. The weakness of the US dollar contributed to growth in both years and at constant exchange rates sales were 7% higher in 2004 than 2003 and 2% lower in 2003 compared to 2002. Sales volumes were 8% higher in 2004 than 2003, offset by a 1% decline in local currency prices. Agricultural markets recovered in Europe after the drought of 2003 and remained strong in Latin America. Increased crop disease, notably from soybean rust and septoria resistance, contributed to a strong increase in fungicide sales. Insecticides benefited from the roll-out of new combination products and high insect pest pressure. Total sales of new products grew by 37%, 32% at constant exchange rates, to reach US\$688

million with continuing growth in the CALLISTO® range (US\$289 million) and in ACTARA®/CRUISER® (US\$298 million) as well as the successful launch of ENVOKE® for use on cotton in the USA.

Sales by Product line are set out below.

Product line	Full Year	Growth (1)		CER %
	2004 US\$ million	2003 US\$ million	Actual %	
Selective herbicides	1,867	1,717	+9	+4
Non-selective herbicides	645	616	+5	+2
Fungicides	1,702	1,438	+18	+12
Insecticides	1,049	960	+10	+7
Professional products	720	650	+9	+6
Others	59	48	+21	+16
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>5,429</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+7</b>

**Selective Herbicides:** major brands BICEP MAGNUM®, CALLISTO®/LUMAX®, DUAL MAGNUM®, FUSILADE® MAX, TOPIK®

Selective herbicides sales increased by 9%, 4% at constant exchange rates, with volumes 5% higher but local currency prices averaging 1% lower. Sales growth was driven by the CALLISTO® range, which grew further in the US corn-belt with the launch of LEXAR® in central and southern states. CALLISTO® sales also expanded rapidly in Europe. A decline in US sales of DUAL® /BICEP® MAGNUM was partially offset by growth in other regions. ENVOKE® made a significant contribution following its launch on cotton in the USA and there was further growth in Brazil. TOPIK® benefited from favorable conditions in France and southern Europe and from strong demand on wheat in India; in the expanding markets of Eastern Europe sales were up more than 50%.

**Non-selective Herbicides:** major brands GRAMOXONE®, TOUCHDOWN®

Sales were 5% higher, 2% at constant exchange rates, with volumes 5% higher but local currency prices 3% lower. GRAMOXONE® sales increased strongly in China where sales had been held back in 2003 to reduce inventories in the distribution channels but were lower in Australia due to drought. A strong recovery in TOUCHDOWN® sales, in the second half, as volumes increased in NAFTA and Latin America, was partially offset by ongoing price pressure in the USA.

**Fungicides:** major brands ACANTO®, ALTO®, AMISTAR®, BRAVO®, RIDOMIL GOLD®, SCORE®, TILT®, UNIX®

Fungicide sales registered strong growth across all regions, 18% higher than 2003 overall, 12% when expressed at constant exchange rates with volumes up 13% but local currency prices down 1%. AMISTAR® sales exceeded US\$500 million driven by the penetration of soybean rust in Brazil and increased demand on various crops in the USA. Growth in Europe reflected the market recovery following the drought in 2003 and the launch of product combination programs to combat cereal septoria resistance, notably with BRAVO®.

**Insecticides:** major brands ACTARA®, FORCE®, KARATE®, PROCLAIM®, VERTIMEC®

Insecticide sales were 10% higher in 2004, 7% at constant exchange rates, with 9% volume growth partly offset by 2% lower local currency prices. ACTARA® sales continued their broad-based increase in penetration in many markets. KARATE® sales benefited from the strength of the Latin American markets and from high pest pressure in Europe. US sales of FORCE® declined due to a reduction in demand for soil-based corn rootworm insecticides in favor of seed treatment; this was partially offset by increased sales in Eastern Europe.

**Professional Products:** major brands CRUISER®, DIVIDEND®, HERITAGE®, ICON®, MAXIM®

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Professional Product sales were 9% higher in 2004, 6% at constant exchange rates with volumes overall growing 7% but local currency prices 1% lower. Volume growth was reduced by 2% due to reduction in the number of products on the sales range. Seed treatments continue to gain in popularity among growers in all regions. The main driver was the further success of CRUISER® in the USA, and on soybeans in Brazil. Fungicide seed treatments also grew strongly, notably MAXIM® in Brazil and France. Turf product sales improved with better weather conditions in the USA and an expansion in direct sales to golf courses in Japan.

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(1) Product line variances take into account minor reclassifications made in 2004.

**Commentary on regional performance**

<b>Regional</b>	<b>Full Year</b>		<b>Growth</b>	<b>CER</b>
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
	<b>US\$ million</b>	<b>US\$ million</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Europe, Africa and Middle East	2,256	1,982	+14	+5
NAFTA	1,873	1,851	+1	-
Latin America	1,020	749	+36	+36
Asia Pacific	893	847	+6	+1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,042</b>	<b>5,429</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+7</b>

Sales in **Europe, Africa** and the **Middle East** increased by 14%, due in part to the weakness of the US dollar and at constant exchange rates were 5% higher due to volume growth. Sales grew across all product lines with notable contributions from the entire fungicide range and selective herbicides, particularly CALLISTO®. Double-digit increases were achieved in France and Eastern Europe, the latter benefiting from increased investment in agriculture and economic growth.

In **NAFTA**, sales grew 1%, flat at constant exchange rates with 1% volume growth offset by a similar decline in local currency prices. Selective herbicides sales were stable in a difficult market whilst non-selective herbicide sales continued to be affected by price pressure in glyphosate in the USA, which offset volume growth in Canada. Fungicide sales growth was driven primarily by the success of AMISTAR®. Insecticide sales were lower, due to a reduction in sales of FORCE® and, to a lesser extent, KARATE®. Professional Products □ notably seed treatment and sales of turf products □ performed well. Strong growth continued in Canada, where an increase in canola acres drove up sales of CRUISER®.

In **Latin America**, sales grew 36%, with 34% from increased volumes and 2% from higher US dollar prices. Sales expanded across the portfolio in Brazil and Argentina as the global competitiveness of growers in the region and strong export demand encouraged an increase in the acreage under cultivation. The strongest growth was in insecticide sales, notably ACTARA® and fungicides, with the spread of soybean rust resulting in a significant increase in AMISTAR® sales. The launch of the combination product PRIORI XTRA□, which has both preventative and curative action, further strengthened Syngenta's position in this important new market.

In **Asia Pacific**, sales grew by 6%, partly due to the weakness of the US dollar against the Japanese yen and Australian dollar and at constant exchange rates sales were 1% higher with 3% volume growth offset by a 2% decline in local currency prices. A strong underlying performance in Japan was masked by delaying fourth-quarter shipments to reduce inventories in the distribution channels and align sales more closely with consumption by the grower. Sales grew strongly in China where distribution channel inventories had been reduced in 2003 and which were at more normal levels in 2004. India showed good growth and sales in Australia improved in the second half following an earlier drought.

**Seeds**

Sales increased in all the major crops and regions and were 12% higher than 2003, due in part to the weakness of the US dollar and at constant exchange rates sales were up 6%, with a 3% volume increase and similar increase in local currency prices. Due to the acquisitions of Golden Harvest® and Garst® being completed after the end of the sales season, the impact of these acquisitions on Field Crop sales was not material.

<b>Product line</b>	<b>Full</b>		<b>Growth</b>	<b>CER</b>
	<b>Year</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>US\$</b>	<b>million</b>	<b>million</b>	<b>%</b>

Corn & Soybean	401	382	+5	+1
Diverse Field Crops	247	216	+14	+5
Vegetables	356	295	+21	+14
Flowers	235	211	+11	+5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>+12</b>	<b>+ 6</b>

**Field Crops (Corn & Soybean and Diverse Field Crops):** major brands NK® corn, NK® oilseeds, HILLESÖG® sugar beet

Corn & Soybean sales were 5% higher, helped by US dollar weakness and at constant exchange rates were up 1%, with 2% higher local currency prices offset by a 1% volume decline. Sales of NK® corn grew in all regions. Underlying demand for soybean was strong throughout the year, although reported sales were lower due to the holding back of fourth quarter deliveries in the USA to align sales closer to grower consumption for the 2005 season. Diverse Field Crops sales were 14% higher helped

by the stronger euro and at constant exchange rates were up 5% due to increased volumes. Oilseed sales were strong driven by growth in NK® sunflower and sugar beet sales increased in strong Eastern European markets.

**Vegetables and Flowers:** major brands S&G® vegetables, ROGERS® vegetables, S&G® flowers

Vegetables sales increased by 21%, 14% at constant exchange rates, with volumes 11% higher and local currency prices up 3%.

Sales of vegetables grew in all regions. In the USA, sales of DULCINEA® products exceeded US\$30 million with continued growth of PUREHEART® seedless watermelons, and the successful launch of the BELLAHEART® cantaloupe melon. In Europe, a strong performance in fresh S&G® tomatoes, melons and squash more than offset market pressure in the processed vegetable segment.

Sales of S&G® flowers were 11% higher, 5% at constant exchange rates with 3% volume growth and a further 2% from higher local currency prices. Sales increased across all regions reflecting strong genetics, effective supply chain management of young plants and the expansion of direct sales.

### Commentary on regional performance

Regional	Full Year	Growth		CER
	2004	2003	Actual	
	US\$ million	US\$ million	%	%
Europe, Africa and Middle East	641	565	+13	+3
NAFTA	437	400	+9	+8
Latin America	86	79	+8	+8
Asia Pacific	75	60	+26	+19
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>+12</b>	<b>+ 6</b>

Sales in **Europe, Africa and the Middle East** increased by 13%, helped by the weakness of the US dollar against the euro and at constant exchange rates were 3% higher due to higher local currency prices. Sales were driven by field crops in Eastern Europe, notably corn, sunflower and sugar beet. Vegetable sales benefited from favorable pricing in the fresh segment.

Whilst demand in **NAFTA** field crops was strong throughout the year, the postponement of fourth quarter soybean shipments to align sales more closely with grower consumption, led to lower sales growth. Vegetables sales benefited from the ongoing expansion of DULCINEA®, now fully consolidated. Overall, sales in the region were 9% higher, 8% at constant exchange rates, with 6% from volume growth and 2% higher local currency prices.

A strong performance in **Latin America** benefited from corn market share gains in Argentina and from the development of the vegetables business in Brazil. Sales were 8% higher in 2004, with volumes 4% higher and a similar increase in US dollar prices.

In **Asia Pacific**, sales increased by 26%, 19% at constant exchange rates, with 21% from volume growth partly offset by a 2% decline in local currency prices. Sales of oilseeds and corn performed well in India. In Japan flower sales benefited from the acquisition of Dia Engei in early 2004.

### Operating Income

Variances in the tables below reflect the profit impact of changes year on year. For example, an increase of sales or a decrease in costs is a positive variance and a fall in sales or increase in costs is a negative variance.



<b>Operating Income</b>	<b>Full Year 2004 US\$ million</b>	<b>Growth 2003 US\$ million (adjusted)</b>	<b>Actual %</b>
Crop Protection	713	566	+26
Seeds	(20)	59	- 134
Plant Science	(152)	(107)	- 42
<b>Total</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>+ 4</b>

Operating income increased by 4% to US\$541 million. Sales increased by 11%, including 4% from movements in exchange rates. Gross profit margin increased by 1.2%, with higher margins in the Crop Protection business due to cost savings and higher capacity utilization from the volume growth. Marketing and distribution costs increased by 16%, 11% when expressed at constant exchange rates, and included the impact of the acquisitions in Seeds which, due to completion after the end of the selling season, increased costs without significantly contributing to sales. Research and development costs increased by 11%, with 6% due to exchange rates. At constant exchange rates, cost savings in research and technology from the restructuring announced in 2004 were more than offset by increased development expenditure in Plant Science and in Seeds, partly due to the acquisitions. General and administrative costs were 3% lower, 8% at constant exchange rates, largely due to lower costs in Crop Protection. Restructuring and impairment costs increased from US\$166 million in 2003 to US\$354 million in 2004, largely due to the costs associated with the first year of the Operational Efficiency program initiated in February 2004. These costs are described in more detail below.

Excluding the US\$354 million charges for restructuring and impairment, operating income increased by 31%. Despite a favorable impact of exchange rate movements on sales, growth in operating income was reduced by approximately US\$23 million due to movement in exchange rates. The adverse impact on the cost base, where the weighting of euro, Swiss franc and British pounds sterling is higher than is the case with sales, more than fully offset the favorable impact on sales. Hedging income under the EBITDA hedging program, which is reported within general and administrative costs, was US\$41 million in 2004 compared to US\$39 million in 2003, and so it had a minor impact on the year on year comparison. The EBITDA hedging program is designed to protect anticipated transactions from adverse movements in exchange rates, using options and forward contracts to reduce volatility in EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization).

### Crop Protection Operating Income

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Total		Restructuring and impairment		Before Restructuring and impairment		% Growth Actual	% Growth CER
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003		
Sales	6,042	5,429	-	-	6,042	5,429	+ 11	+ 7
Cost of goods sold	(2,934)	(2,720)	-	-	(2,934)	(2,720)	- 8	- 2
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,108</b>	<b>2,709</b>	<b>+ 15</b>	<b>+ 12</b>
<i>as a percentage of sales</i>	51%	50%			51%	50%		
Marketing and distribution	(1,040)	(916)	-	-	(1,040)	(916)	- 14	- 9
Research and development	(499)	(453)	-	-	(499)	(453)	- 10	- 2
General and administrative	(539)	(582)	-	-	(539)	(582)	+ 7	+ 12
Restructuring and impairment	(317)	(192)	(317)	(192)	-	-		
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>(317)</b>	<b>(192)</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>+ 36</b>	<b>+ 39</b>
<i>as a percentage of sales</i>	12%	10%			17%	14%		

Average sales prices were 1% lower, but supply chain cost savings and higher capacity utilization from the increased sales volumes drove a 1.5% improvement in gross margins despite an adverse impact of almost 1% from exchange rate movements. The weakness of the US dollar increased reported costs at actual exchange rates.

Marketing and distribution costs were reported 14% higher, but at constant exchange rates, were 9% higher than 2003. The increase is partly to support business growth and partly due to increased receivable provisions due to the higher sales weighting in higher risk countries. Research and development reported costs increased by 10% but at constant exchange rates were 2% higher. General and administrative costs were 7% lower, 12% down at constant exchange rates, with reduced amortization and the reduced incidence of events that caused the recognition of new liability provisions.

Restructuring and impairment is defined in Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements. In 2004, these costs largely relate to the Operational Efficiency Program initiated in February 2004. In 2003 these costs were largely associated with the continued implementation of the programs to integrate and achieve cost synergies from the integration of the former Novartis and Zeneca businesses. Restructuring and impairment is discussed in more detail later in this section.

Operating income was 26% higher at US\$713 million, despite the increase in restructuring and impairment charges, driven by the higher sales volumes and improved gross profit margin.

With the higher weighting of costs in Swiss francs and British pounds sterling than in sales, and despite hedging income of US\$41 million (2003: US\$39 million), the net effect of the weakening US dollar was to reduce the growth in operating income by approximately US\$25 million.

**Seeds Operating Income**

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Total		Restructuring and impairment		Before Restructuring and impairment		% Growth Actual	% Growth CER
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003		
Sales	1,239	1,104	-	-	1,239	1,104	+12	+6
Cost of goods sold	(610)	(536)	-	-	(610)	(536)	- 14	- 9
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>+4</b>
<i>as a percentage of sales</i>	51%	51%			51%	51%		
Marketing and distribution	(339)	(275)	-	-	(339)	(275)	- 23	- 17
Research and development	(186)	(164)	-	-	(186)	(164)	- 13	- 10
General and administrative	(99)	(70)	-	-	(99)	(70)	- 41	- 34
Restructuring and impairment	(25)	-	(25)	-	-	-		
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>(25)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>- 92</b>	<b>- 109</b>
<i>as a percentage of sales</i>	- 2%	5%			-	5%		

Sales prices were 3% higher in local currencies, but margins were flat largely due to adverse weather impact on yields of vegetable fresh produce and the establishing of common inventory provisioning policies with the acquired Field Crop companies. Due to their completion after the end of the main selling season, these acquisitions did not significantly contribute to sales in 2004, but did increase marketing and distribution, research and development and general and administrative costs in the second half of 2004 by a total of approximately US\$47 million. Marketing and distribution costs were reported 23% higher, 17% higher at constant exchange rates, due to the acquisitions and growth in vegetable fresh produce. Research and development costs increased by 13%, 10% at constant exchange rates, largely due to the acquisitions. General and administrative costs were 41% higher, 34% when expressed at constant exchange rates, due to the costs in the acquired companies and the additional amortization from these acquisitions and other acquired intangibles in 2004. Restructuring and impairment includes US\$7 million post-acquisition impairments of property, plant and equipment in the acquired Field Crop companies and other cash costs associated with integrating Golden Harvest and Garst and rationalizing duplicated sites and activities.

Weakness in the US dollar contributed an additional US\$10 million to Seeds operating income in 2004 relative to 2003.

**Plant Science Operating Income**

(US\$ million, except growth %)	Total		Restructuring and impairment		Before Restructuring and impairment		% Growth Actual	% Growth CER
	2004	2003	2004	2003 (adjusted)	2004	2003		
Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of goods sold	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<b>Gross profit</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>as a percentage of sales</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marketing and distribution	(3)	(2)	-	-	(3)	(2)	- 50	-
Research and development	(124)	(109)	-	-	(124)	(109)	- 14	- 8
General and administrative	(13)	(22)	-	-	(13)	(22)	+41	+49
Restructuring and impairment	(12)	26	(12)	26	-	-		
<b>Operating income/(loss)</b>	<b>(152)</b>	<b>(107)</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>(140)</b>	<b>(133)</b>	<b>- 5</b>	<b>-</b>
<i>as a percentage of sales</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Research and technology spending was reduced following the restructuring of the research sites initiated in 2004 but this was offset by higher spending on development as projects came closer to commercialization and combined research and development spending was 14% higher, 8% at constant exchange rates.

The restructuring and impairment net gain in 2003 represented the gain of US\$39 million on the sale of technology and intellectual property to Diversa Corporation (Diversa), net of a charge of US\$10 million for closure of the Torrey Mesa Research Institute and US\$3 million for the impairment of an equity investment where market price had fallen below cost. In 2004 the restructuring charge of US\$12 million related to the rationalization of the research sites under which biotechnology research is to be concentrated in the USA.

## Defined Benefit Pensions

Defined benefit pension costs increased from US\$175 million in 2003 (including US\$46 million of restructuring costs) to US\$221 million in 2004 (including US\$95 million of restructuring costs). The restructuring costs in 2004 included the one-off transition costs of moving to a new scheme in Switzerland that, whilst continuing to be accounted for as a defined benefit scheme, has several of the characteristics of a defined contribution scheme, which in particular will reduce the costs associated with early retirement. Excluding the costs associated with restructuring, defined benefit costs have remained broadly flat in 2004.

During 2004, as in 2003, actual investment returns exceeded the long term assumed rate of return. Employer contributions to defined benefit schemes, excluding contributions related to restructuring, increased from US\$110 million in 2003 to US\$144 million in 2004. However, the effect of higher investment returns and contributions was offset by increased pension liability valuations caused by significant reductions in real discount rates in 2003 and further significant reductions in 2004. Overall, the funding ratio (the market value of pension plan assets as a percentage of the projected benefit obligation) improved by approximately 4% in 2003. The funding ratio reduced by approximately 2% in 2004. Defined benefit pensions are described in more detail in Note 26 of the consolidated financial statements.

## Restructuring and Impairment

The following table analyzes restructuring and impairment charges for each of the periods indicated:

For the year to 31 December	2004		2003	
	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million	US\$ million
Restructuring costs				
Write-off or impairment				
- property, plant and equipment	(132)		(44)	
- intangible assets	(1)		-	
- other assets	(1)		-	
Non-cash pension restructuring charges	(50)		9	
		(184)		(35)
Cash costs				
- operational efficiency	(136)		-	
- seeds integration	(16)		-	
- merger synergy program and other cash costs	(19)		(184)	
		(171)		(184)
Gains from product disposals		1		17
Gain on sale of technology and intellectual property license		-		39
Impairment of financial assets		-		(3)
<b>Total restructuring and impairment charge</b>		<b>(354)</b>		<b>(166)</b>

Restructuring represents the effect on reported performance of initiating business changes which are considered major and which, in the opinion of management, will have a material effect on the nature and focus of Syngenta's operations, and therefore requires separate disclosure to provide a more thorough understanding of business performance. Restructuring includes the effects of completing and integrating significant business combinations and divestments.

Restructuring and impairment includes the impairment costs associated with major restructuring and also impairment losses and reversals of impairment losses resulting from major changes in the markets in which a reported segment operates.

Gains on minor product divestments associated with range rationalization have been reported within this category.

In 2004, restructuring and impairment relates mainly to the Operational Efficiency program announced in 2004. The closure of three production sites was announced together with the rationalization of two further sites. A further focusing of research activities, including the closure of one site, was also announced.

The Seeds NAFTA Corn & Soybean business, within Field Crops, has initiated a restructuring program to integrate the Garst and Golden Harvest acquisitions. In addition, the final costs of the merger and integration program, which was announced at the formation of Syngenta in November 2000 and described below, largely associated with the closure of two production sites, were also charged in 2004.

Cash costs of US\$171 million and asset impairments of US\$134 million have been recorded in 2004 for these restructuring initiatives. In addition, as part of the Operational Efficiency program, the rules of Syngenta's Swiss pension fund were amended in April 2004, so that whilst it continues to be accounted for as a defined benefit plan, there is increased sharing of risks with the employee members against a one-time non-cash transition charge of US\$60 million. This change will reduce the expense related to early retirement in future years and reduces Syngenta's exposure to pension fund investment returns. This charge has been partially offset by a US\$10 million favorable non-cash impact of pension fund curtailments associated with restructuring.

In 2003 Syngenta signed a research agreement with Diversa, under which Diversa acquired an exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual license for technology and intellectual property in the pharmaceutical field in exchange for stock and warrants in Diversa. Following completion of this transaction Syngenta closed the Torrey Mesa Research Institute, Syngenta's facility in La Jolla, California. The gain on sale and costs relating to the closure are included in restructuring and impairment charges.

Restructuring costs in 2003 related primarily to merger and integration activities following the formation of Syngenta in November 2000. These costs are part of the program announced at the time of the merger to deliver significant synergy cost savings through the elimination of duplicated activities between the former Novartis agribusiness and Zeneca agrochemicals business, at a cash cost of around a net US\$1 billion. For further information on this program, see "Merger Synergy Program" in the Operating and Financial Review within Syngenta's annual report filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 16, 2005.

The non-cash pension restructuring charges in 2003 represent those direct effects of restructuring initiatives on defined benefit pension plans, for which there is no corresponding identifiable cash payment. Where identifiable cash payments to pension funds are required to provide incremental pension benefits for employees leaving service as a result of restructuring, the amounts involved have been included within cash costs.

The 2003 US\$3 million financial asset impairment related to the market value of biotechnology equity investments reducing below cost.

### **Financial Expense, net**

Interest expense net of interest income decreased from US\$53 million in 2003 to US\$42 million in 2004 due to lower average net debt in the year. Net currency hedging costs were significantly lower in 2004 due in part to the timing of amortization of option premia for the EBITDA hedging program, where a significant proportion of the costs of the 2004 program were recognized in late 2003 due to the US dollar weakening and volatility at that time. The net result of the balance sheet exposures and related hedging program was also marginally favorable in 2004 and an expense in 2003.

### **Taxes**

The overall tax rate in 2004 was negative 15%, with profits after tax higher than profit before tax, compared to a rate of 35% in 2003. The tax rate on net restructuring and impairment costs of 38% was close to the 42% level of 2003, though rates applying to restructure and impairment may vary significantly depending on the nature of the charge. The utilization of tax loss carry forwards lowered the tax charge by US\$147 million in 2004, of which US\$139 million related to an unusually large recognition of relief on tax losses following corporate restructuring. In 2003, utilization of tax losses lowered the tax charge by US\$68 million.

### **Net Income and Other Supplementary Income Data**

Net income in 2004 was US\$428 million, with US\$460 million attributable to shareholders of Syngenta AG, compared to US\$252 million in 2003, with US\$248 million attributable to shareholders of Syngenta AG. Net income attributable to Syngenta AG in 2004 includes a loss on discontinued activities of US\$83 million related to the disposal of Syngenta's 75% interest in SF Chem AG. In addition, restructuring and impairment costs, net of related taxation, were higher in 2004 at US\$219 million compared to US\$97 million in 2003 due to the initial costs of the Operational Efficiency program initiated in 2004. Net income in 2004 benefited from the unusually large utilization of tax losses carried forward noted above.



**Foreign Operations and Foreign Currency Transactions**

Syngenta's subsidiaries use their local currency as their functional currency for accounting purposes except where the use of a different currency more fairly reflects their actual circumstances.

The Argentine peso is the functional currency of Syngenta's subsidiaries in Argentina. In February 2002, the government in Argentina announced several reforms intended to stabilize the economic environment. These included redenominating all outstanding receivables denominated in US dollars into Argentine pesos. This affected Syngenta's currency exposure profile. In response, Syngenta applied additional credit restrictions and altered local financing arrangements to reduce further its

exposure to peso currency risk. Future exchange rates for the peso and future government actions remain uncertain and Syngenta is not able to estimate their effects.

The Brazilian real is the functional currency of Syngenta's subsidiaries in Brazil. During 2002 and 2001, the Brazilian real devalued significantly against the US dollar whereas during 2003, 2004 and 2005 it significantly appreciated in value. To reduce its exposure to risks associated with the real, Syngenta has altered local financing arrangements, applied credit restrictions to customers, implemented programs to protect the US dollar value of trade receivables from customers and has fully hedged its balance sheet exposure using currency derivatives. Sales to customers in Brazil must be invoiced in Brazilian real to meet local legal requirements. The extent to which sales prices in Brazilian real can be increased to offset the effect of any future devaluation remains uncertain. Appreciation of the Brazilian real results in customers who sell their produce in US dollars receiving lower amounts of Brazilian reals, which may adversely impact Syngenta's discounts and allowances or its ability to collect receivables in full. Syngenta is not able to estimate the effect of any future depreciation or appreciation of the Brazilian real on operating income in future periods.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Syngenta's principal source of liquidity consists of cash generated from operations. In the period 2003 to 2005, this has been more than sufficient to cover cash used for investment activities and, except for any significant business acquisitions, this is also expected to be the case in 2006. Working capital fluctuations are supported by short term funding available through Commercial Paper and credit facilities. Longer term capital resources include unsecured non-current bonds issued under the Euro Medium Term Note (EMTN) program and unsecured non-current Notes issued under a Note Purchase Agreement in the US Private Placement market. Syngenta reported cash and cash equivalents on December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003 of US\$458 million, US\$227 million and US\$206 million respectively. At December 31, 2005, 2004 and 2003, Syngenta had current financial debts of US\$514 million, US\$423 million and US\$749 million respectively, and non-current financial debts of US\$847 million, US\$1,117 million and US\$1,017 million, respectively.

### **Capital markets and credit facilities**

Funds for Syngenta's working capital needs were available during the year from its US\$2,500 million Global Commercial Paper program supported by a US\$1,500 million committed, revolving, multi-currency, syndicated credit facility. Syngenta entered into its Global Commercial Paper program on December 15, 2000 and as at December 31, 2005, Syngenta had no Commercial Paper in issue. The US\$1,500 million syndicated credit facility (the "Credit Facility") which was signed in August 2004 with an original maturity of August 8, 2009 was extended for one year in July 2005. A further one year extension option is available under the facility for execution in 2006. During 2005, no amounts were drawn and as of December 31, 2005 Syngenta had no borrowings under the Credit Facility. There are no material restrictions on dividends from subsidiaries under this facility.

During 2005 Syngenta entered into three capital market transactions to lengthen the overall maturity profile of its long term debt. Market conditions enabled Syngenta to significantly extend its maturity profile, reducing refinancing risk whilst taking advantage of favorable long term pricing opportunities. At December 31, 2005 Syngenta's non-current debt maturity profile is 13 years on average.

On April 22, 2005 Syngenta executed a public tender offer for its outstanding €800 million 5 year Eurobonds maturing in 2006. €581 million of the outstanding bonds were repurchased. The remaining nominal value outstanding of €219 million will be repaid on July 10, 2006. This liability is supported by a hedging portfolio which fixes the liability at US\$185 million and converts the fixed euro interest payments to US dollar floating.

On the same date Syngenta issued €500 million 10 year Eurobonds under the EMTN program with a coupon rate of 4.125%. This liability is also supported by a hedging portfolio which fixes the liability at US\$641 million and converts 67% of the bond's fixed euro interest payments to US dollar fixed at 5.36%, with the balance of the bond's interest payments converted to US dollar floating.

On December 8, 2005 Syngenta issued US\$250 million unsecured non-current Notes under a Note Purchase Agreement in the US private placement market. The Notes were issued in three series of different maturities.



The table below summarizes Syngenta's unsecured notes in issuance at December 31, 2005.

	<b>Fair Value US\$ million</b>	<b>Carrying amount US\$ million</b>	<b>Value at issue US\$ million</b>
5.5% Eurobond 2006	263	263	185
4.125% Eurobond 2015	607	585	641
5.110% US private placement 2020	73	75	75
5.350% US private placement 2025	73	75	75
5.590% US private placement 2035	97	100	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>1,076</b>

All of the above notes have been issued from Syngenta Luxembourg Finance (#2) S.c.A, Luxembourg and are subject to similar general and financial covenants (i.e. ratios such as EBITDA to net interest charges) with which Syngenta is in compliance.

The balance of the 5.5% €800 million Eurobond 2006 which is due for repayment in 2006 is expected to be financed from cash generated from operations.

The first issuance under the US\$2 billion EMTN program, first signed in June 2003 was the €500 million Eurobonds issuance on April 22, 2005. The program has not yet been updated and relisted but will be if required.

The company's policy is to maintain flexibility in its funding by accessing the capital markets and by maintaining a committed bank facility, local bank facilities and Commercial Paper program. The cost of borrowing from these facilities is related to the cost of borrowing on the London and European inter-bank markets, and Syngenta's credit rating.

Management is of the opinion that the funding available to it from these sources will be sufficient to satisfy its working capital, capital expenditure and debt service requirements for the foreseeable future, including cash expenditure relating to restructuring programs. Current and non-current financial debts contain only general and financial default covenants, with which Syngenta is in compliance.

Commitments for capital expenditure at December 31, 2005 were US\$22 million.

## Financial Results

The following table sets out certain information about cash flow for each of the periods indicated:

	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2005 US\$ million</b>	<b>2004 US\$ million</b>	<b>2003 (adjusted) US\$ million</b>
Cash flow from operating activities	497	1,309	791
Cash flow from/(used for) investing activities	(144)	(686)	(232)
Cash flow from/(used for) financing activities	(74)	(679)	(630)

## Cash Flow from Operating Activities

**2005 compared to 2004**

Cash flow from operating activities in 2005 was US\$812 million lower than in 2004. Operating income was US\$319 million higher in 2005, but this includes lower non-cash items than 2004, particularly charges in respect of restructuring provisions and restructuring related impairments of property, plant and equipment. In December 2005 Syngenta paid additional pension contributions of US\$350 million, bringing total contributions excluding restructuring in 2005 to US\$487 million compared to US\$144 million in 2004. It is not currently expected that a similar additional contribution will be paid in 2006. In 2005, change in net current assets was an outflow of US\$210 million, compared to an inflow in 2004 of US\$255 million. In 2004, significant customer advance payments were received for the first time in part of the Seeds business, reducing net current assets. The repeat of this advance payment program in 2005 only maintains current assets. In addition, Crop Protection inventory levels were increased in 2005 to meet possible demand relating to soybean rust in the USA and to minimize supply disruption from the re-siting of manufacture of certain products related to site closures. Net financial expense outflows were higher in 2005 than in 2004, due to the higher income statement charge noted above and also the realization in 2004 of hedging gains on the balance sheet hedging program offsetting unrealized losses on internal funding, which were not as significant in 2005.

### **2004 compared to 2003**

Cash flow from operating activities in 2004 significantly exceeded the 2003 level due to a greater reduction in working capital. Operating income was US\$23 million higher in 2004 than 2003, but this was after increased non-cash impairments of property, plant and equipment from the implementation of the Operational Efficiency program. Charges in respect of provisions were higher due to the recognition of restructure charges on the Operational Efficiency plan, though cash spend on restructuring charges was at a similar level to 2003, which included higher spend on the restructuring program announced in November 2000 related to merger and integration following the formation of Syngenta. Net financial expense cash flows were significantly lower than 2003 due to lower average net debt and to realized hedging gains in 2004, which offset unrealized losses on internal funding. The significant reduction in working capital was largely due to higher customer advance payments in the Seeds business after the alignment of policies with the acquired companies.

### **Cash Flow from/(used for) Investing Activities**

#### **2005 compared to 2004**

The cash used for investing activities in 2005 was US\$542 million lower than in 2004. Business acquisitions in 2004, largely comprising the acquisitions of the Golden Harvest and Garst Seeds businesses, totalled US\$479 million. Additions to property, plant and equipment were at a similar level in 2005 to 2004 and remained significantly below the level of depreciation. Purchase of intangibles, investments in associates and financial fixed assets in 2005 included US\$16 million for the purchase of software, whilst 2004 included the acquisition of germplasm and glyphosate tolerance technology for the corn seed business totaling US\$60 million.

#### **2004 compared to 2003**

In 2004 cash flow used for investing activities increased from US\$232 million to US\$686 million mainly because of the acquisitions of the Golden Harvest and Garst seeds businesses, which net of asset disposals and cash in the acquired companies, cost US\$479 million (see Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements).

Depreciation continued to exceed capital expenditure on property, plant and equipment in 2004 as Syngenta continued to rationalize production assets. Capital expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2004, net of US\$49 million proceeds from disposals, were US\$117 million. In 2003, capital expenditures, net of proceeds from disposals of US\$31 million, were US\$180 million.

2004 purchases of intangibles included the germplasm and glyphosate tolerance technology noted above.

### **Cash Flow from/(used for) Financing Activities**

#### **2005 compared to 2004**

In April 2005, €581 million of the €800 million 5.5% 2006 Eurobond were repurchased via a tender offer and cancelled. In April, Syngenta also issued a €500 million 4.125% 10 year bond and in December 2005 raised US\$250 million through a US private placement with maturities of 15, 20 and 30 years. Dividends per share, paid by way of a par value reduction, were increased by nearly 60% in Swiss francs compared to 2004 and dividends paid increased by US\$65 million to US\$207 million. The share repurchase program started in 2004 was continued and 2.3 million shares were repurchased at a cost of approximately US\$251 million, which was then partly offset by the sale of treasury shares to meet exercises of share options granted in employee share schemes.

#### **2004 compared to 2003**

Cash flow used for financing activities increased from US\$630 million in 2003 to US\$679 million in 2004. Dividends per share were significantly increased and dividends paid in 2004 exceeded dividends paid in 2003 by US\$77 million. A share repurchase program was initiated in 2004 and US\$143 million of share repurchases were made, offset by proceeds from the exercise of employees' share options. Net financial debt of US\$438 million was repaid in 2004, a decrease from US\$569 million of repayments in 2003.

**Research and Development (R&D)**

Syngenta has major research centers in Basel and Stein, Switzerland; Jealott's Hill, England; and Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA.

There are two principal elements to Syngenta research and development. The first is to develop new products and technologies. The second is to support existing products: extending their uses, improving their performance and monitoring their long-term environmental profile and safety.

To enable the development of safe and effective solutions which enhance sustainable farming systems, Syngenta organizes its R&D activities around five core technology programs: Crop Protection Research; Crop Protection Development; Crop Genetics Research; Plant Science Development; and Health Assessment and Environmental Safety. These are closely integrated to increase the overall capacity, to discover new active ingredients and provide practical routes to novel crop varieties.

Syngenta development scientists work to establish the biological potential of lead research compounds, obtain product registrations and bring plant varieties to the market that meet the needs of farmers, as well as their customers in the food supply chain.

Development involves extensive field tests as part of the health and environmental safety evaluation to ensure that products meet rigorous standards around the world. Development activities also include the improvement of production processes for new active ingredients and formulations.

In Seeds, new varieties and hybrids are developed using a number of advanced breeding methods, including marker-assisted breeding, together with conventional skills that improve the success rate of breeding programs.

This year has seen a continuation of the program of streamlining and restructuring across the various R&D sites. In June 2004, it was announced that biotechnology research work is to be focused at Research Triangle Park and activities in this area cease at Jealott's Hill. The Stein site will expand to include chemistry as well as biology, and will focus on insecticides, fungicides and professional products, whilst Jealott's Hill will focus on herbicides and environmental science chemistry, as well as providing core technologies including bioscience and analytical chemistry. It is planned to establish a new facility in India for cost efficient synthesis at laboratory and field scale. As part of this program, which will run through 2007, the Basel chemistry facility will close.

The total spent on research and development was US\$822 million in 2005, US\$809 million in 2004 and US\$726 million in 2003. At constant exchange rates expenditure on research and development was US\$9 million, or 1% higher in 2005 than 2004, partly due to the acquisitions and higher trait spend in the Seeds business and increased development spend on Professional Products within Crop Protection more than offsetting the benefits of the concentration of biotechnology effort at Research Triangle Park in Plant Science. Attribution of research and development costs for 2005 was US\$509 million for Crop Protection, US\$213 million for Seeds and US\$100 million in Plant Science. In 2004 the attribution was US\$499 million for Crop Protection, US\$186 million for Seeds and US\$124 million for Plant Science.

In addition to Syngenta's own research and development efforts, Syngenta has also entered into a number of alliances and research and development agreements.

There are no off-balance sheet financing transactions associated with research and development activity.

### **Contractual Obligations, Commitments and Contingent Liabilities**

At December 31, 2005 Syngenta had the following contractual obligations to make future payments in the following periods:

US\$ million	Notes to the financial statements reference	Total	Payments due by period					
			Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-10 years	10-20 years	20-30 years
Financial debt	18/20	1,361	514	2	-	595	150	100
Interest on financial debt		567	55	76	76	189	115	56
Payments under onerous contracts included within restructuring								



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provisions	22	45	12	21	12	-	-	-
Operating lease payments	29	90	20	27	16	27	-	-
Unconditional purchase obligations	29	728	251	298	134	45	-	-
Long-term research agreements	29	77	37	34	6	-	-	-
Other long-term commitments	29	27	23	4	-	-	-	-
		<b>2,895</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>156</b>

Of the total financial debt, variable rate financial debt is US\$250 million, all of which is due within one year. This variable rate short term debt is of a maturity of between one and six months, and the contractual interest obligation of US\$3 million in respect of this debt is included in the table above. There is no contractual obligation to renew this debt. The debt amount, and the interest payments associated with it, will vary over time according to Syngenta's funding requirements and future interest rates.

Fixed rate debt of US\$1,111 million is comprised primarily of the outstanding Eurobonds and US Private Placement Notes. Fixed rate interest payments of US\$564 million on these are included above. At December 31, 2005, US\$459 million of this long-term debt is converted to floating rate debt through hedging portfolios. The impact of these hedges on the interest cash flows has not been included in the above table as they can result in cash payments or receipts depending on the market position at any given time.

Except for the provision for payments under onerous contracts described above, US\$1,026 million of provisions for long-term liabilities shown in Syngenta's consolidated balance sheet have not been included in the above table because the timing of their payment is not contractually fixed, and cannot be estimated with sufficient certainty within the context of the time periods in the table. This applies particularly to those amounts which are not expected to be paid during 2006. Note 21 to the consolidated financial statements indicates Syngenta's estimate that US\$199 million of long term provisions are expected to be paid during 2006, including US\$12 million of onerous contract provisions which are included in the above table.

The supply agreements for materials which give rise to the unconditional purchase obligations are entered into by Syngenta to ensure availability of materials which meet the specifications required by Syngenta. Where suppliers have made significant capital investment, these agreements generally provide for Syngenta to pay penalties in the event that it were to terminate the agreements before their expiry dates.

The rules of Syngenta's main Swiss defined benefit pension fund commit Syngenta to contributing a fixed percentage of employees' pensionable pay to the fund. Under the regulations which apply to Syngenta's main UK defined benefit pension fund, Syngenta must commit to pay contributions according to a schedule which it agrees in advance with the Trustees. The existing schedule requires payment based on a percentage of pensionable pay, plus a fixed amount over a fixed number of years to eliminate the deficit in the fund. The expected contributions payable by Syngenta in 2006 to meet its commitments under the above arrangements are included in the amount of US\$190 million given in the additional US GAAP disclosures for employee benefit plans in Note 33 to the consolidated financial statements. Because both commitments are expressed partly or wholly as fixed percentages of pensionable pay, and not, or not completely, as fixed amounts, they have not been included in the above table.

#### **Off-balance Sheet Arrangements**

Syngenta had no off-balance sheet arrangements as at December 31, 2005, other than the above contractual obligations, commitments and contingent liabilities, and the off-balance sheet financing described in Note 31 to the financial statements. Syngenta has no unconsolidated special purpose entities that are likely to create material contingent obligations.

#### **Variable Interest Entities (VIEs)**

Syngenta had no significant variable interests in any VIEs as at December 31, 2005, other than as disclosed in Note 33 to the financial statements.

## US GAAP

Syngenta's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), which differ in certain significant respects from US GAAP. Note 33 of the consolidated financial statements describes in detail the amount and nature of these differences.

For the year ended December 31, 2005, net income attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders was US\$622 million in accordance with IFRS, and US\$556 million in accordance with US GAAP. The major reconciling items were:

- US GAAP net income was US\$7 million lower compared to IFRS in respect of Zeneca agrochemicals purchase accounting (2004: US\$62 million higher; 2003: US\$43 million higher). This adjustment is US\$38 million lower than in 2004 and 2003 because goodwill is no longer amortized for IFRS with effect from January 1, 2005. This aligns IFRS with US GAAP for 2005. In 2004 and 2003 goodwill was amortized for IFRS but not for US GAAP. The 2004 adjustment also included a US\$19 million adjustment to impairment losses because US GAAP property, plant and equipment book values for assets impaired by restructuring plans were lower than the corresponding IFRS amounts. The US GAAP impairment loss was therefore also lower by this amount. 2005 US GAAP net income is US\$12 million lower than IFRS net income because US\$12 million of the ISK escrow refund is considered part of Zeneca agrochemicals purchase accounting for US GAAP.
- US GAAP net income was US\$85 million lower compared to IFRS (2004: US\$88 million; 2003: US\$84 million) in respect of Ciba-Geigy purchase accounting, due to the amortization of Ciba-Geigy intangible assets, which were recorded at fair value for US GAAP under purchase accounting, but not recorded for IFRS under uniting of interests accounting.
- Despite recent changes to IFRS which have converged IFRS and US GAAP purchase accounting and subsequent goodwill accounting more closely for acquisitions agreed after March 31, 2004, the accounting for restructuring costs of an acquired business remains different. US GAAP net income was US\$5 million higher (2004: US\$9 million higher) compared to IFRS because cash restructuring costs related to the Golden Harvest and Garst acquisitions were added to goodwill for US GAAP but expensed for IFRS.
- US GAAP net income was US\$33 million lower compared to IFRS (2004: US\$61 million lower; 2003: US\$36 million higher) due to the use of different tax rates to measure the deferred tax effect of unrealized profit eliminated from inventories. The tax effect for IFRS is based on the tax rates of the countries where the inventories are currently held, whereas for US GAAP it is based on the tax rates of the countries where the unrealized profit was originally recorded. During 2005, the amount of unrealized profit in inventories increased significantly, leading to additional US GAAP adjustments to net income for the tax rate differential.
- US GAAP net income was US\$9 million lower compared to IFRS in respect of restructuring costs (2004: US\$47 million higher; 2003: US\$32 million higher). SFAS No. 146 requires that where redundant employees are retained for longer than a minimum period, termination costs and provisions are recognized rateably over the employees' remaining service, whereas for IFRS they are recognized as soon as the affected employees have a valid expectation of receiving termination payments. In 2003 and 2004, costs recognized for IFRS were greater than those recognized for US GAAP. In 2005, this situation reversed, as more of the costs met the US GAAP recognition criteria. Costs of US\$57 million as at December 31, 2005 have already been recognized for IFRS but will reduce US GAAP net income in future periods.
- US GAAP net income was US\$15 million lower (2004: US\$43 million higher; 2003: US\$2 million higher) in respect of pensions. The 2005 and 2004 differences are due principally to the amendments to Syngenta's Dutch and Swiss pension plans respectively, which are recognised over average remaining employee service for US GAAP, but were recognized, partly in the case of the Swiss plan immediately for IFRS.

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- In 2004 US GAAP net income was US\$34 million lower compared to IFRS due to not recording a deferred tax asset for US GAAP where a Syngenta entity has a recent history of tax losses due to restructuring, and the forecast future benefits of the restructuring are expected to enable the tax losses to be utilized. IFRS allows a deferred tax asset to be recorded in these circumstances, whereas US GAAP does not. In 2005, due to changes in the estimated amount and likelihood of recovery of these tax losses, US\$26 million of this adjustment was reversed, increasing US GAAP net income compared to IFRS.
- US GAAP net income was US\$1 million higher (2004: US\$27 million lower) compared to IFRS due to additional US GAAP provisions for withholding tax on future internal dividend payments within the Syngenta group. For IFRS, withholding tax is provided only if a dividend payment is expected, whereas US GAAP requires a provision for tax on all dividends which could, in practice, be paid.

- US GAAP net income was US\$27 million higher (2004: US\$55 million lower; 2003: US\$42 million lower) compared to IFRS in respect of other tax related items. In 2004, this figure included a US\$51 million reduction in estimated tax expense relating to the acquired Zeneca agrochemicals business for periods prior to acquisition (2003: US\$54 million). There was no similar item in 2005. These adjustments are included in net income for IFRS, which does not permit further purchase accounting adjustments for these items. For US GAAP, these amounts have been adjusted against purchase accounting and not included in net income.
- For the year ended December 31, 2005, Syngenta recorded a credit to shareholders' equity of US\$217 million (2004: debit of US\$54 million; 2003: debit of US\$75 million) in respect of the additional minimum pension liability required by SFAS No. 87. SFAS No. 87 requires that pension provisions be at least equal to any funded deficit of a pension plan calculated on an accumulated benefit (ABO) basis, which assumes that pensionable pay and pensions in payment remain at their levels at the reporting date. The reductions in discount rates used to measure the ABO, caused by falls in the yields of the corporate bonds used as benchmarks for the discount rate assumption in accordance with SFAS No. 87, had resulted in reported ABO basis deficits for Syngenta's main pension plans in the UK and the USA in 2003 and 2004. In 2005, Syngenta made special lump sum pension contributions totalling US\$350 million into these two funds, with the result that they are fully funded on an ABO basis at December 31, 2005. The additional minimum pension liability set up in 2003 and 2004 was therefore reversed.

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

Note 2 of the consolidated financial statements describes Syngenta's accounting policies in detail, including significant judgment made by management in applying Syngenta's accounting policies, and significant assumptions and estimation uncertainties. The application of many of these policies necessarily requires judgment to best reflect the commercial substance of underlying transactions. Syngenta has determined that five of its accounting policies can be considered "critical", in that significant management judgment is required to determine various assumptions underpinning their application in the consolidated financial statements, which, under different conditions, could lead to material difference in these statements. A description of each of these policies follows:

### **Adjustments for doubtful receivables**

Trade and other accounts receivable are reported net of adjustments for doubtful receivables, often referred to as "bad debts". Syngenta is a geographically diverse group, serving a customer base in all significant agricultural areas across the world, and with subsidiary companies in 50 countries. Credit terms offered to customers often reflect the crop cycle; particularly where local bank financing may be scarce, and full payment from customers can be dependent upon a good harvest yield. Collection can also be affected by the level of inventory in the distribution channel. Syngenta is therefore exposed to a broad range of political and economic risks which can affect prompt and full recoverability of trade receivables. Considerable management effort is consequently spent in actively managing and mitigating these risks.

Syngenta determines the level of doubtful receivables to be provided for by critically analyzing the receivables accounts on an individual basis, taking into account historical levels of recovery and any changes in the economic and political environment in relevant countries.

Syngenta has a large number of individual trade receivable balances, and management judgment is often required to determine the appropriate provision. It is therefore difficult to quantify the variability which results from applying the principle, and the sensitivity of Syngenta's results of operations and statement of financial position to specific changes in the estimate of doubtful debts, other than by hypothetically assuming arbitrary changes in the overall level of provision. As shown in Note 10 to the financial statements, the provision for doubtful receivables at December 31, 2005 amounted to US\$359 million, or 16% (2004: US\$297 million (14%)) of total trade accounts receivable of US\$2,224 million (2004: US\$2,184 million). In the same note, the table analyzing the movements on the provisions gives some indication of the degree of accuracy of the Syngenta's past estimates.

### **Environmental provisions**

Syngenta makes provisions for environmental liabilities by assessing the likely non-recurring remediation costs where there is an obligation to clean up contamination. For a provision to be recorded, it must be probable that an expense or remediation work will be required and the costs can be estimated within a reasonable range of possible outcomes. The costs are based on currently available facts, technology expected to be available at the time of the clean up, laws and regulations presently or virtually certain to be enacted and previous experience in remediation of contaminated sites.

When an obligation is first identified to clean-up one of Syngenta's manufacturing sites, the costs are typically spread over an extended period into the future. The assumptions that Syngenta uses in relation to the extent of the clean up required and the method used to clean up the identified contamination may change significantly during the clean-up period. The environmental provisions can therefore change significantly, particularly where there is a major change in environmental legislation in a country

where Syngenta has significant manufacturing assets. Currently Syngenta's most significant manufacturing assets are located in Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the USA. As a consequence of the inherent uncertainties in estimating future obligations, Syngenta will, as appropriate, supplement internal expertise with external expertise to help determine what provisions should be recorded in the consolidated financial statements.

Increases in or releases of environmental provisions may be necessary whenever new developments occur or additional information becomes available after the financial statements are published. The movements on environmental provisions during 2005 are set out in Note 21 to the consolidated financial statements. Because of the uncertainties inherent in estimating environmental provisions, Syngenta is not able to quantify the variability which results from applying the principle, and the sensitivity of Syngenta's results of operations and statement of financial position to specific changes in its estimates.

### **Impairment**

Syngenta carries out reviews of tangible and intangible assets on an annual basis to determine whether events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the assets may not be recoverable. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated as either the higher of net selling price or value in use; the resultant loss (the difference between the carrying value and recoverable amount) is recorded as a charge in the consolidated income statement. The value in use is calculated as the present value of estimated future cash flows expected to result from the use of assets and their eventual disposal proceeds. In order to calculate the present value of estimated future cash flows Syngenta uses a discount rate based on the group's estimated weighted average cost of capital, together with any risk premium determined appropriate. Estimated future cash flows used in the impairment calculations represent management's best view of likely future market conditions and current decisions on the use of each asset or asset group. Actual future cash flows may differ significantly from these estimates, due to the effect of changes in market conditions or to subsequent decisions on the use of assets. These differences may have a material impact on the asset values, impairment, depreciation and amortization expense reported in future periods.

#### **(i) Intangible assets: Product rights**

In determining the value in use of product rights it is necessary to make a series of assumptions to estimate future cash flows. The main assumptions include future sales prices and volumes, the future development expenditure required to maintain the product's marketability and registration in the relevant jurisdictions and the product's life. These assumptions are reviewed annually as part of management's budgeting and strategic planning cycles. The assumptions can be subject to significant adjustment from such factors as changes in crop growing patterns in major markets (perhaps as a result of movements in crop prices), changes in the product registration, or as a result of pressure from competitor products.

#### **(ii) Tangible assets: Property, plant and equipment**

The value in use of Syngenta's property, plant and equipment is determined by linking assets or a group of assets to identifiable cash flows, which are then reviewed in a manner similar to that described above for product rights. Major assumptions include sales prices and volumes of products manufactured by the identified property, plant and equipment, and its useful life. For impairments of property, plant and equipment which is to be abandoned, the calculation takes account of cash flows from the remaining period of operations and decommissioning costs.

Syngenta carries out detailed impairment tests on crop protection product related asset groups or crop related asset groups in its Seeds business if forecast sales within the 5 year forecast horizon for that product or crop are lower than the forecast sales in the previous year's 5 year forecast cycle. The discount rates used in the 2005 impairment tests were 8% to 10% (2004: 10%; 2003: 12.2%) . No impairment losses were recorded as a result of these tests for market related impairment in 2005. Syngenta also tests for impairment when there are asset specific indicators such as site closure announcements. Higher discount rates are used to test for asset specific impairment because of the higher risk associated with remaining future cash flows in these situations.

#### **Defined benefit pensions and other post-employment benefits**

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The assumptions used to measure the expense and liabilities related to Syngenta's defined benefit pension plans are reviewed annually by professionally qualified, independent actuaries and by Syngenta management. The measurement of the expense for a period requires judgement with respect to the following matters, among others:

the probable long-term rate of increase in pensionable pay;  
the probable average future service lives of employees;  
the probable life expectancy of employees;  
the mix of investments in funded pension plans in the period;  
the expected future rate of return on the investments in funded pension plans, and how that rate will compare with the market rates of return which were observed in past economic cycles.



The assumptions used by Syngenta may differ materially from actual results, and these differences may result in a significant impact on the amount of pension expense recorded in future periods. As allowed by IAS 19, Syngenta amortizes actuarial gains and losses which fall outside the 10% corridor over the average future service lives of employees. Under this method, major changes in assumptions, and variances between assumptions and actual results, may affect reported earnings over several future periods rather than one period, while more minor variances and assumption changes may be offset by other changes and have no direct effect on reported earnings. At December 31, 2005, unrecognized actuarial losses were US\$763 million for pensions and US\$54 million for other post-retirement benefits, and estimated amortization expense for 2006 is US\$40 million (2004: unrecognized actuarial losses of US\$610 million and US\$59 million, and actual 2005 amortization expense of US\$28 million; 2003: unrecognized actuarial losses of US\$517 million and US\$76 million, and actual 2004 amortization expense of US\$32 million). Amortization periods are calculated for each plan, and range from 12 to 15 years.

In the opinion of Syngenta, the use of the corridor method is appropriate in view of the long-term nature of defined benefit pension provisions and the significant degree of estimation required to measure pension expense. However, Syngenta is studying public debate about pension accounting. In December 2004, the IASB amended IAS 19 to allow actuarial gains and losses to be recognized immediately outside net income. The amendment prohibits the recycling of actuarial gains and losses into net income subsequently; Syngenta has not adopted the amendment. If it does so in the future, the change would be implemented by adjusting prior years' income statements retrospectively. Pre-tax income would increase, because amortization expense would be eliminated. In December 2005, the US Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) announced its intention to propose similar, but not identical, changes to US GAAP pension accounting rules. The FASB proposals would require, rather than allow, immediate recognition of actuarial gains and losses and past service costs outside net income. Recycling of gains and losses into net income would be required. If these proposals are implemented, unlike the IFRS changes, Syngenta's pre-tax income would be unaffected. Syngenta would recognize significantly higher pension and post-retirement benefit liabilities in its balance sheet under both the optional IFRS and the proposed new US GAAP rules.

The following information illustrates the sensitivity to a change in certain assumptions for the three major defined benefit pension plans shown in Note 26 to the financial statements, as of December 31, 2005:

Change in assumption (US\$ million)	Increase/(reduction) in 2006 Pre-Tax Pension Expense	Increase/(reduction) in December 31, 2006 Projected Benefit Obligation
25 basis point decrease in real discount rate	19	168
25 basis point increase in real discount rate	(16)	(165)
25 basis point decrease in expected return on assets	(8)	-
25 basis point increase in expected return on assets	8	-

The above sensitivities reflect the total impact of changing the stated assumption as shown for all of the three major plans, leaving all other assumptions constant. It should be noted that economic factors and conditions often affect multiple assumptions simultaneously and the effects of changes in key assumptions are not necessarily linear.

Syngenta's reported pension liabilities have increased in 2005, as they did in 2004 and 2003, as a result of falls in interest rates - specifically, the yields in AA rated corporate bonds used to select the discount rate. Syngenta decreased the nominal discount rate for its UK pension fund by 60 basis points to 4.8% (2004: 5.4%) . As limited price inflation indexation of pensions in payment and deferred pension rights is required by UK pension regulations, Syngenta's UK pension fund rules require these to be increased by the lower of 5% or the actual price inflation as measured by the UK Retail Price index (RPI). Therefore, the change in real discount rates - the nominal discount rate less the expected long-term rate of price inflation - is a more relevant indicator than the nominal discount rate. The real discount rate for the UK fund reduced in 2005 by 60 basis points to 2.2% (2004: 2.8%) . For Syngenta's Swiss and US pension funds, nominal discount rate is a more relevant indicator, because inflation linked increases to pensions are not legally required in either country, nor are they required by the rules of the funds. The discount rate for the Swiss pension liabilities reduced in 2005 by 75 basis points to 2.75% (2005: 3.5%) . The rate is based on 15 year AA Swiss corporate bond data. The discount rate for the US pension liabilities reduced in 2005

by 25 basis points to 5.5% (2004: 5.75%) . The rate is based on recognized US AA Corporate Bond indices.

Pension liabilities can also be significantly affected by the assumptions and actual experience related to mortality. In recent years, longevity has increased in all countries in which Syngenta operates defined benefit plans. Assumptions applied by Syngenta in respect of its UK pension liabilities in these financial statements are based on specific data for Syngenta fund members as at the most recent UK statutory valuation date, March 31, 2003. The next statutory valuation will be performed as at March 31, 2006. Younger members are assumed to live longer than older members, based on extrapolation of the recent trend of increasing longevity. The assumptions applied for the Swiss pension liabilities are based on published Swiss government tables, because insufficient historical data is available to calculate specific mortality rates for the Syngenta plan membership. The tables used were last updated in 2000. For its 2006 financial statements, Syngenta intends to apply more recent data which is expected to be available. Syngenta's US pension plan gives members lump sum or annuity benefit

payment options. When valuing the US pension liabilities in these financial statements, Syngenta has assumed that all current active members will take the lump sum option at retirement date as, in current conditions, this results in a higher liability than the annuity option. Mortality after retirement is not relevant to the lump sum option. The liability in respect of pensioners in payment of annuities has been valued as at December 31, 2005 based on tables updated in 2000. Younger members are assumed to live longer than older members, based on extrapolation of mortality trends. The US pension projected benefit obligation increased by approximately US\$10 million in 2005 as a result of applying these tables.

The expected return on assets assumed by Syngenta in measuring pension expense for funded pension plans takes account of the actual mix of assets held in the plans, and is developed with input from Syngenta's actuaries based on their review of expected returns for each class of assets. Comparisons to expected returns used by peer companies are also considered. In 2003 the proportion of equity securities in the mix of assets held by plans sponsored by Syngenta reduced significantly as a result of investment policy decisions. This led to lower rates of return being assumed for future years, because long-term rates of return on equities are generally higher than those on bonds and other investments held. In December 2005, Syngenta made special lump sum contributions to its UK and US pension plans totalling US\$350 million. The investment committees of the two plans are reviewing their asset allocation to take account of the additional funds. At December 31, 2005 in the asset category analysis in Notes 26 & 33, the US contribution was reported within bonds and the UK contributions within other, as it was held on cash deposit. This asset allocation may change on completion of the review. This may lead to changes in the expected long-term rate of return assumptions used to calculate pension expense.

In each of the years 2003, 2004 and 2005, the actual return on pension plan assets exceeded Syngenta's long-term expected rate of return assumptions for the UK and Swiss plans. This was also true of the US plan for 2003 and 2004, although in 2005 the actual return was lower than expected return. The expected return assumption for the US plan for 2006 will be reduced to 7.25% (2005: 7.5%) . The expected return for the UK plan for 2005 will be maintained on a basis consistent with 2005 pending completion of the asset allocation review. The expected return assumption for the Swiss plan for 2006 will be reduced to 4.75% (2005: 5.0%), reflecting the fall in bond yields.

As a result of the factors mentioned above, the funded ratio improved for UK plan from 86% to 92%, for the US plan from 68% to 93% and for the Swiss plan from 90% to 92%. The overall funded ratio for the three plans improved from 85% to 92%.

### **Uncertain tax positions**

Syngenta's Crop Protection supply chain, and to a lesser extent its Seeds supply chain are international, and intellectual property rights owned by Syngenta are used internationally within the group. Transfer prices and charges for products and services by one Syngenta subsidiary to another may be subject to challenge by the national tax authorities in any of the countries in which Syngenta operates. At any given year end, several prior years' tax computations are still open for review or audit for most Syngenta subsidiaries. Syngenta's estimates of income tax expense and liabilities at each year end include significant management judgments about the eventual outcome of the reviews and audits of all open years based on the latest information available about the positions taken by each tax authority. In Syngenta's view, differences between Syngenta's estimates and eventual outcomes may materially affect results of operations for discrete future periods, but are unlikely to affect Syngenta's financial position materially. It is not possible to quantify the uncertainties in this area, because the future actions of national tax authorities cannot be reliably predicted.

### **Effect of New Accounting Pronouncements**

IFRS are undergoing a process of revision with a view to increasing harmonization of accounting rules internationally. Proposals to issue new or revised standards, as yet unpublished, on financial instruments, provisions, business combinations, employee benefits, revenue recognition, and other topics may change existing standards, and may therefore affect the accounting policies applied by Syngenta in future periods. Transition rules for these potential future changes may require Syngenta to apply them retrospectively to periods before the date of adoption of the new standards. The effect of new accounting pronouncements which were adopted by Syngenta during 2005, or which have been issued but are not yet in force, is described in Notes 2 and 34 to the consolidated financial statements.

**Recent Developments**

Note 35 to the consolidated financial statements provides details of events which occurred between the balance sheet date and the date on which these consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors (February 8, 2006) that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements.

**Future Prospects**

Seeds sales in 2005 benefited significantly from acquisitions completed in 2004 and 2005 includes full year sales from the acquired companies. These acquisitions therefore will not drive a similar step up in sales or costs in 2006. Crop Protection sales growth in 2005 was lower than in 2004 and initial estimates indicate that the Crop Protection market slowed through 2005.

Crop Protection sales in 2006 will benefit from the launches of the new cereal herbicide AXIAL® and seed treatment AVICTA®. In Seeds, underlying sales growth is likely to slow from the levels seen in 2005. Syngenta expects progressively to launch new genetically modified seeds with input traits in the period through 2008, but competitor genetically modified seeds may develop the market before Syngenta's full portfolio of in-house traits is available. Overall, whilst in the course of a season, weather may have unpredictable positive or negative impacts on sales, revenue growth before acquisitions is expected to moderate in 2006. Further production cost savings are expected to offset the continued impact of the higher oil and gas prices and expense growth in 2006 is forecast to slow significantly, with switching of resource from low growth areas in Crop Protection towards higher growth opportunities in Seeds and Professional Products. Ceasing independent development of biopharmaceuticals is expected to reduce losses in Plant Science.

Net income growth in 2006 is forecast to be driven by moderate sales volume growth, tightly constrained cost growth and savings from the Operational Efficiency Program offsetting further adverse impacts from the oil price. However, net income will also continue to be impacted by restructuring and impairment charges associated with the implementation of the Operational Efficiency program and the integration of the 2004 acquired seeds businesses. The level of such charges will be dependent on the timing of irrevocable restructuring commitments and is difficult to forecast in any one calendar year, but total cash and non-cash charges in 2006 are expected at a similar level to 2005. The total cost of the Operational Efficiency program is still expected to be approximately US\$850 million over five years, including 2004 and 2005, of which US\$350 million are non-cash charges. Charges of US\$320 million were recorded in 2004 under the program, of which US\$184 million were non-cash (including the Swiss pension fund transition charge), and US\$150 million in 2005, of which US\$25 million were non-cash. Cash expenditure on the Operational Efficiency program noted above will continue in 2006. However, cash flow from operating activities is expected to remain at similar levels to 2005 except for the December pension injection of US\$350 million, which is not currently planned to be repeated in 2006.

The Board is recommending a further significant increase in the dividend to CHF 3.30 per share, to be paid by way of a nominal par value reduction, subject to shareholder approval at the AGM on April 19, 2006. In addition on February 22, 2006, the Company granted to shareholders one free put option per share with an initial intrinsic value of CHF 1.50. With 30 put options each shareholder has the right to sell one Syngenta registered share to the Company on May 29, 2006. Each put option has a maturity of three months from grant and will be tradeable on the SWX Swiss exchange between February 23 and May 22, 2006. The exercise of all options will result in the Company being committed to repurchase approximately 3.3 million shares in 2006.

## Appendix A

**Reconciliation of Non-GAAP measures to equivalent GAAP measures**

Syngenta uses non-GAAP measures in this report where they are regarded by management as important for the investor to fully understand Syngenta's performance. The non-GAAP measures presented in this report are measures adjusted for exchange rate movements and to exclude restructuring gains and losses and impairment losses. The Company presents these measures because:

- movements in exchange rates had a significant impact on sales and operating income over the period covered by the review; and
- restructuring and impairment items (a) were very significant in the period, (b) had a volatile impact on results, particularly in the initial period after the formation of Syngenta, and (c) were an important factor highlighted for investors upon the formation of Syngenta.

Since Syngenta's formation in November 2000, the Company has implemented significant business changes primarily designed to integrate and extract synergies from the now combined operations of the Zeneca agrochemicals business and the Novartis agribusiness. The effect on reported performance of initiating and implementing changes of this magnitude is significant and has had a material effect on the nature and focus of Syngenta's operations through restructuring and impairment charges and therefore, in the opinion of management, requires separate disclosure to provide a more thorough understanding of business performance and to allow investors to assess performance both including and excluding charges, as well as gains, incurred in connection with these business changes. These business changes may also lead to the impairment of tangible (e.g. property, plant and equipment) or intangible assets. Impairment may also be triggered by a downturn in one of the businesses or markets in which Syngenta operates. The incidence of these charges may be periodic and the effect on reported performance will vary from period to period, with limited continuity in the specific composition or size of such charges.

For improved clarity, we are providing definitions of these non-GAAP measures and reconciliations of non-GAAP measures to the appropriate GAAP measure below.

**Reconciliation of Net income excluding Restructuring and Impairment (non-GAAP measure) to total net income (GAAP measure)**

(US\$ million)	Total	Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations	Before Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations
<b>2005</b>			
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>(236)</b>	<b>1,096</b>
Income/(loss) from associates and joint ventures	2	-	2
Financial expense, net	(96)	-	(96)
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>(236)</b>	<b>1,002</b>
Income tax expense	(140)	79	(219)
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations	-	-	-
<b>Net income</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>(157)</b>	<b>783</b>
Attributable to minority interests	4	-	4

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Net income attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders	622	(157)	779
Tax rate	18%	33%	22%
Number of shares □ basic (millions)	100		100
Number of shares-diluted (millions)	101		101

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<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>6.22</b>		<b>7.78</b>
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<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>6.13</b>		<b>7.67</b>
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64

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(US\$ million)	Total	Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations	Before Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations
<b>2004</b>			
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>(354)</b>	<b>895</b>
Income/(loss) from associates and joint ventures	(2)	-	(2)
Financial expense, net	(73)	-	(73)
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>(354)</b>	<b>820</b>
Income tax expense	70	135	(65)
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations	(108)	(108)	-
<b>Net income</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>(327)</b>	<b>755</b>
Attributable to minority interests	(32)	(25)	(7)
Net income attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders	460	(302)	762
Tax rates	(15)%	38%	8%
Number of shares - basic (millions)	105		105
Number of shares - diluted (millions)	106		106
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>4.37</b>		<b>7.24</b>
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>4.34</b>		<b>7.19</b>

(US\$ million)	Total (adjusted)	Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations	Before Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations
<b>2003</b>			
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>(166)</b>	
Income/(loss) from associates and joint ventures	(1)	-	
Financial expense, net	(138)	-	
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>(166)</b>	
Income tax expense	(133)	69	
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations	6	6	
<b>Net income</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>(91)</b>	
Attributable to minority interests	4	1	



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Net income attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders	248	(92)
Tax rate	35%	42%
Number of shares - basic (millions)	102	
Number of shares - diluted (millions)	102	

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<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>2.44</b>	
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<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>2.43</b>	
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(US\$ million)	Total (adjusted)	Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations	Before Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations
<b>2002</b>			
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>(449)</b>	
Income/(loss) from associates and joint ventures	(7)	-	
Financial expense, net	(218)	-	
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>(68)</b>	<b>(449)</b>	
Income tax expense	(44)	113	
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations	9	9	
<b>Net income</b>	<b>(103)</b>	<b>(327)</b>	
Attributable to minority interests	6	2	
Net income attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders	(109)	(329)	
Tax rate	65%	25%	
Number of shares - basic (millions)	102		
Number of shares - diluted (millions)	102		
<b>Basic and diluted earnings/(loss) per share</b>	<b>(1.07)</b>		

(US\$ million)	Total	Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations	Before Restructuring, Impairment and Discontinued Operations
<b>2001</b>			
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>(277)</b>	<b>630</b>
Income/(loss) from associates and joint ventures	(5)	-	(5)
Financial expense, net	(251)	-	(251)
<b>Income before taxes</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>(277)</b>	<b>374</b>
Income tax expense	(72)	88	(160)
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations	3	3	-
<b>Net income</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>(186)</b>	<b>214</b>
Attributable to minority interests	1	1	-
Net income attributable to Syngenta AG shareholders	27	(187)	214
Tax rate	68%	32%	42%

Number of shares □ basic and diluted (millions)	101	101
<b>Basic and diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>2.11</b>

### Constant Exchange Rates

We compare results from one period to another period in this report using variances calculated at constant exchange rates (CER). To present that information, current period results for entities reporting in currencies other than US dollars are converted into US dollars at the prior period's exchange rates, rather than the exchange rates for this year. See Note 30 to the consolidated financial statements for information on average exchange rates in 2005, 2004 and 2003. For example, if a British entity reporting in pounds sterling sold £1 million of products in 2004 and 2003, our financial statements would report US\$1,818 million of revenues in 2004 (using 0.55 as the rate, which was the average exchange rate in 2004) and US\$1,639 million in revenues in 2003 (using 0.61 as the rate, which was the average exchange rate in 2003). The CER presentation would translate the 2004 results using the 2003 exchange rates and indicate that underlying revenues were flat. We present this CER variance information in order to assess how our underlying business performed before taking into account currency exchange fluctuations. We also present our actual reported results in order to provide the most directly comparable data under GAAP.

**ITEM 6 □ DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES****Directors**

The members of the Board of Directors are as follows (as of February 28, 2006):

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Year First Elected</b>	<b>Current Term Expires</b>
Martin Taylor (1)	53	Chairman, Non-Executive Director	2000	2008
Michael Pragnell (2)	59	Chief Executive Officer, Executive Director	2000	2007
Rupert Gasser (3)	67	Vice Chairman	2002	2007
Peggy Bruzelius (4)	56	Non-Executive Director	2000	2006
Peter Doyle	67	Non-Executive Director	2000	2006
Pierre Landolt (5)	58	Non-Executive Director	2000	2006
Pedro Reiser	70	Non-Executive Director	2002	2006
Peter Thompson (6)	59	Non-Executive Director	2000	2008
Jacques Vincent (7)	59	Non-Executive Director	2005	2007
Rolf Watter (8)	47	Non-Executive Director	2000	2008
Felix Weber (9)	55	Non-Executive Director	2000	2008

- (1) Chairman of the Board and of the Chairman's Committee since September 2005; member of the Compensation Committee
- (2) Member of the Chairman's Committee
- (3) Vice Chairman and member of the Chairman's Committee since September 2005 and member of the Compensation Committee since October 2005
- (4) Chairman of the Audit Committee
- (5) Member of the Audit Committee
- (6) Member of the Audit Committee
- (7) Director since April 2005 and member of the Compensation Committee since January 2006
- (8) Member of the Audit Committee
- (9) Chairman of the Compensation Committee since January 2006 and member of the Chairman's Committee

**Martin Taylor**

Chairman of the Board of Directors and of the Chairman's Committee and member of the Compensation Committee. He is also Chairman of the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. Martin Taylor is currently Vice Chairman of RTL Group SA. Previously he was an Advisor to Goldman Sachs International (1999-2005), Chairman of WHSmith plc (1999-2003) and Chief Executive Officer of Barclays plc (1993-1998) and Courtaulds Textiles (1990-1993). Martin Taylor has a degree in oriental languages from Oxford University.

**Michael Pragnell**

Chief Executive Officer, Director and member of the Chairman's Committee. Michael Pragnell was a Director of AstraZeneca (1999-2000) and of Zeneca Group plc (1997-1999). He joined Zeneca Agrochemicals as Chief Executive Officer in 1995. Prior to 1995 he worked for Courtaulds plc in a number of senior positions (1975-1995), where he was appointed to the Board in 1990; he was Chief Financial Officer (1992-1994) and Chief Executive Officer of Courtaulds Coatings (1986-1992). Michael Pragnell has a degree in modern languages from Oxford University and an MBA from INSEAD.

**Rupert Gasser**

Vice Chairman and member of the Chairman's and the Compensation Committee. Rupert Gasser is currently President of Nestec SA and a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Alcon Laboratories Inc. Formerly he was a non-executive Director of Lonza Group AG (1999-2004), Executive Vice President of Nestlé SA (1997-2002), Head of Strategic Business Group I (Coffee and Beverages, Milk and Food Services) and Head of Corporate Technical/Manufacturing and R&D worldwide (1991-1996) and Senior Vice President at Nestec SA (1990-1991).

Rupert Gasser graduated from the Technical Academy for Chemical Industry in Vienna with a degree in chemistry. In addition he participated in the Program for Senior Executive Development at the IMD, Lausanne.

**Peggy Bruzelius**

Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee. Peggy Bruzelius is currently Chairman of Grand Hotel Holdings and Lancelot Asset Management AB. In addition she serves as Vice Chairman of Electrolux AB and as a Director of Scania AB, Ratos AB, Axfood AB and The Body Shop International plc and as a Senior Advisor to Lehman Brothers Ltd. Peggy Bruzelius is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, where she formerly served as Vice Chairman (2003-2005). In addition she is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Stockholm School of Economics. Previously she was a Director of AB Drott (1999-2004), Executive Vice President of SEB-bank (1997-1998), Chief Executive Officer of ABB Financial Services (1991-1997) and a member of the Swedish Board of Government Bank Support Authority (1991-1993). Peggy Bruzelius holds an MBA from the Stockholm School of Economics.

**Peter Doyle**

Director and Chairman of the Science and Technology Advisory Board. Peter Doyle is currently a non-executive Director of Avidex Ltd and serves as a Trustee of the Nuffield Foundation; he is a Past Master of the Salters' Livery Company. Previously he served as a member of the Advisory Board of Vida Capital Partners (2003-2005), non-executive Director of Oxagen (1999-2002), non-executive Director of Oxford Molecular plc (1997-2000), Director of Zeneca Group plc (1993-1999), Director of ICI (1989-1993) and as Chairman of the Biotechnology and Bioscience Research Council (1989-2003). Peter Doyle holds a BSc (Hons) degree in pure science and a PhD in chemistry from Glasgow University.

**Pierre Landolt**

Director and member of the Audit Committee. In addition, Pierre Landolt has been delegated by the Board to oversee policies and activities in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility. Pierre Landolt is currently a Director of Novartis AG and Chairman of the Sandoz Family Foundation. He serves as Chairman of AxialPar Ltda, Moco Agropecuaria Ltda, Ecocarbon LLC, Vaucher Manufacture Fleurier SA and as Vice Chairman of Parmigiani SA. Pierre Landolt is also a Partner with unlimited liabilities of the Private Bank Landolt & Cie. He serves as Vice Chairman of the Montreux Jazz Festival Foundation, President of the Instituto Jurema de Pesquisa in Brazil and member of the Foundation Board of the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. Formerly he served as Chairman of the CITCO Group (1995-2005). Pierre Landolt graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Paris Assas.

**Pedro Reiser**

Director. Pedro Reiser is currently a Director of the HCB Happy Child Birth AG. In addition he is a member of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Swiss Popular Party (SVP). Previously he served as Chairman of ESBATech AG (2002-2004), as Director and Advisor (1999-2001) and President and Chief Executive Officer of Novartis Pharma K.K. Japan (1995-1999) and as President and Chief Executive Officer of Holvis AG (1990-1995). Pedro Reiser studied law at the University of Zurich and graduated from the University of Geneva with a PhD in political science.

**Peter Thompson**

Director and member of the Audit Committee. Peter Thompson is currently a Director of Sodexo Alliance SA. He serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Stanwich School in Greenwich, Connecticut. Previously he was President and Chief Executive Officer of PepsiCo Beverages International (1996-2004), President of PepsiCo Foods International's Europe, Middle East and Africa Division (1995-1996) and of Walkers Snack Foods in the UK (1994-1995). Before joining PepsiCo he held various senior management roles with Grand Metropolitan plc, including President and Chief Executive Officer of GrandMet Foods Europe (1992-1994), Vice-Chairman of The Pillsbury Company (1990-1992) and President and Chief Executive Officer of The Paddington Corporation (1984-1990). Peter Thompson has a degree in modern languages from Oxford University and an MBA from Columbia University.

**Jacques Vincent**

Director and member of the Compensation Committee. Jacques Vincent is currently Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer of the Danone Group, Paris, since 1998. He began his career with Danone in 1970 and has since held various financial and overall management positions within this group. Jacques Vincent is a graduate engineer of the Ecole Centrale, Paris, holds a bachelor in Economics of Paris University and a Master of Science from Stanford University.

**Rolf Watter**

Director and member of the Audit Committee. Rolf Watter has been a partner in the law firm Bär & Karrer in Zurich since 1994 and is a member of its executive board since 2000. He is a non-executive Chairman of Cablecom AG (and its former parent entities Glacier Holdings GP SA and Glacier Holdings S.C.A.), a non-executive Director of Zurich Financial Services (and its

subsidiary Zurich Insurance Company), UBS Alternative Portfolio AG and A.W. Faber-Castell (Holding) AG. He is also non-executive Chairman of Almea Stiftung, the foundation presently holding a majority in Swiss International Airlines. In addition Rolf Watter is a part-time professor at the Law School of the University of Zurich, a Board member of the Swiss Lawyers' Association and a member of the Swiss Stock Exchange Admission Board and of its Disclosure Commission of Experts. Rolf Watter graduated from the University of Zurich with a doctorate in law and holds an LLM degree from Georgetown University; he is admitted to the Bar of Zurich.

### **Felix Weber**

Director, Chairman of the Compensation Committee and member of the Chairman's Committee. Felix Weber is currently Vice Chairman of Publigroupe AG and a Director of Glacier Holdings GP SA and Glacier Holdings S.C.A (which are the former parent entities of Cablecom GmbH). Previously he was a Director of Cablecom GmbH (2004-2005) and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Adecco SA (1998-2004), engagement manager and partner of McKinsey & Company in Zurich (1984-1997) and Chief Executive Officer of Alusuisse South Africa (1982-1984). Felix Weber graduated from the University of St. Gallen, with an MBA in operations research and finance and a PhD in marketing.

### **Executive Committee**

The members of the Executive Committee of Syngenta are as follows (as of February 28, 2006):

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position</b>
Michael Pragnell	59	Chief Executive Officer
John Atkin	52	Chief Operating Officer - Crop Protection
Bruce Bissell	59	Head of Global Operations and Human Resources
David Jones	56	Head of Business Development
David Lawrence	56	Head of Research & Technology
Michael Mack	45	Chief Operating Officer - Seeds
Christoph Mäder	46	Head of Legal & Taxes
Domenico Scala	40	Chief Financial Officer

### **Michael Pragnell**

Chief Executive Officer, Director and member of the Chairman's Committee. Michael Pragnell was a Director of AstraZeneca (1999-2000) and Zeneca Group plc (1997-1999). He joined Zeneca Agrochemicals as Chief Executive Officer in 1995. Prior to 1995 he worked for Courtaulds plc in a number of senior positions (1975-1995), where he was appointed to the Board in 1990; he was Chief Financial Officer (1992-1994) and Chief Executive Officer of Courtaulds Coatings (1986-1992). He has a degree in modern languages from Oxford University and an MBA from INSEAD.

### **John Atkin**

Chief Operating Officer of Syngenta Crop Protection. John Atkin was Chief Executive Officer (1999-2000), Chief Operating Officer (1999), Head of Product Portfolio Management (1998) and Head of Insecticides and Patron for Asia (1997-1998) of Novartis Crop Protection. Prior to 1998 he was General Manager of Sandoz Agro France (1995-1997) and Head of Sandoz Agro Northern Europe (1993-1995). He graduated from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne with a PhD and a BSc degree in agricultural zoology.

### **Bruce Bissell**

Head of Global Operations and Human Resources. Bruce Bissell was Director of Supply Chain for Zeneca Agrochemicals (1997-2000) and Head of International Manufacturing for the pharmaceutical business of Zeneca Group plc (1992-1997). He graduated from Strathclyde University with a degree in applied chemistry.

### **David Jones**

Head of Business Development, also responsible for Plant Science. David Jones was Business Director for Zeneca Agrochemicals (1997-2000), having been Regional Executive for Asia, Africa and Australia, based in Hong Kong,



since 1992. He has a BSc and PhD in science and economics from Stirling University in Scotland.

### **David Lawrence**

Head of Research & Technology. David Lawrence was Head of R&T Projects for Syngenta (2000-2002). Prior to this he had been Head of International R&D Projects in Zeneca Agrochemicals, having previously held several senior scientific roles. He graduated in chemistry from Oxford University with an MA and DPhil in chemical pharmacology.

### **Michael Mack**

Chief Operating Officer of Syngenta Seeds. Michael Mack was Head of Crop Protection, NAFTA Region (2002-2004). Prior to this, he was President of the Global Paper Division of Imerys SA, a Paris-based mining and pigments concern, from the time of its merger in 1999 with English China Clays Ltd. He had previously served there as Executive Vice President, Americas and Pacific Region, in addition to being an Executive Director of the Board. From 1987 to 1996 he held various roles with Mead Corporation. He has a degree in economics from Kalamazoo College in Michigan, studied at the University of Strasbourg, and has an MBA from Harvard University.

### **Christoph Mäder**

Head of Legal & Taxes. Christoph Mäder was Head of Legal & Public Affairs of Novartis Crop Protection (1999-2000) and Senior Corporate Counsel of Novartis International AG (1992-1998). Christoph Mäder is a member of the Supervisory Committees of the Federation of Swiss Industrial Holding Companies and of the Swiss Employer Association. He graduated from Basel University Law School, and is admitted to the Bar in Switzerland.

### **Domenico Scala**

Chief Financial Officer. Domenico Scala held various leading positions in Finance with Roche AG (1995-2003), most recently as Group Treasurer (2001-2003) and Head of Company Controlling (1999-2001). Prior to 1995, he was Finance Director of Panalpina Italy SpA (1993-1995) and Senior International Auditor with Nestlé SA (1990-1993). He graduated from the University of Basel with a degree in economics.

## **Compensation**

### **Executive Compensation Policy and Programs**

Syngenta's executive compensation programs are designed to attract, retain and motivate internationally oriented, successful executives. The policies are guided by the principle of rewarding and encouraging performance.

The compensation of Executive Directors, members of the Executive Committee and the Senior Managing Group consists of a base salary and performance related awards. These awards are based on financial measures and on individual performance. Performance related awards include short and long-term incentives and consist of cash, deferred shares, restricted stock units (RSU) and stock options (deferred American Depositary Shares "ADS", RSU for ADS and options on ADS for United States participants). The short-term incentive awards are divided into a cash portion and a portion of deferred shares (deferred ADS for United States participants) under the terms of the Deferred Share Plan (DSP) and encourage the plan participants to achieve performance objectives. The long-term incentive programs are equity-based; stock options and restricted stock units (RSU) (or options on ADS and RSU for ADS for United States participants) and encourage the plan participants to focus on the performance and the growth of the Company and to align with the interests of shareholders.

The compensation of non-executive Directors consists of an annual fee paid in cash. The choice to receive part of the fee in the form of stock options has been replaced by the choice to receive shares from 2006 onwards under the terms of the Syngenta Share Plan for Non-Executive Directors. The non-executive Chairman receives a part of his compensation in the form of blocked shares.

### **Executive Compensation**

The aggregate amount of cash compensation (salaries and short-term incentive awards) in 2005 paid to acting and former executive Directors and acting and former members of the Executive Committee (a total of ten executives) was CHF **15.85** million. Portions of the short-term incentive awards contained in this figure have been used to defer **39,039** shares and **10,189** ADS into the Deferred Share Plan on a mandatory and voluntary basis. In addition, **105,200** options on shares at an exercise price of CHF 127.38 and **47,319** options on ADS at an exercise

price of USD 21.30, and **24,556** RSU for shares at a grant value of CHF 127.38 and **14,085** RSU for ADS at a grant value of USD 21.30 were allocated to these ten executives under the Syngenta Long-Term Incentive Plan. Short-term and long-term incentives were granted on the basis of performance in 2004. In 2005, within the scope of the Swiss Employee Share Purchase Plan, some of these executives purchased shares, which amount to a total of **280** shares.

In 2005 CHF **5.36** million was set-aside to meet pension provisions for these ten executives, including merger-related pension promises.

The highest total compensation in 2005 was paid to the Chief Executive Officer, an executive member of the Board of Directors. The compensation consisted of CHF **3.39** million of cash (salary and short-term incentive award). This executive Director used a portion of the short-term incentive award to defer **10,458** shares into the Syngenta Deferred Share Plan. In addition **30,273** options on shares at an exercise price of CHF 127.38 and **7,066** RSU for shares at a grant value of CHF 127.38 were granted to this executive Director. The

short-term and long-term incentive awards were granted on the basis of performance in 2004. Furthermore, this executive Director purchased **35** shares under the Swiss employee share purchase plan. CHF **3.35** million was set-aside to meet pension provisions, including merger-related pension promises to this executive Director.

Further information is provided in Note 28 to the consolidated financial statements.

### Compensation of Non-Executive Directors

Nine non-executive Directors received their compensation for 2005 in cash, and one non-executive Director, the Chairman, received a combination of cash and blocked shares. From 2006 all non-executive Directors will be able to opt for the payment of their annual compensation in cash or a combination of cash and shares under the terms of the Syngenta Share Plan for Non-Executive Directors. The aggregate amount of compensation paid in 2005 to the ten active non-executive Directors (cash compensation and shares) amounted to CHF **2.39** million. Of this amount CHF **2.29** million was paid in cash and CHF **0.1** million was paid in blocked shares (**680** blocked shares were allocated). In 2005, **14,350** stock options at an exercise price of CHF 127.38 were granted to some of the non-executive Directors to cover the portion of their compensation for 2004. In 2004 some of the non-executive Directors opted for a payment of their fee in the form of stock options granted in 2005.

### Syngenta Long-Term Incentive Plan (Stock Options and Restricted Stock Units [RSU])

In 2000, the Syngenta Long-Term Incentive Plan (LTI Plan) was implemented to provide selected executive Directors, members of the Executive Committee, members of the Senior Management Group and some key management employees of Syngenta with the opportunity to obtain the right to purchase shares of Syngenta (ADS for United States participants). In 2005 the rules of the LTI plan have been changed in order to grant 50% of each LTI award in stock options and 50% in RSU for shares (ADS options and RSU for ADS for United States participants). Currently there are approximately **550** active executives and key management employees who are participants in the LTI Plan. The Compensation Committee, whose members are non-executive Directors appointed by the Board of Directors of Syngenta, has the power to administer and amend the LTI Plan. In 2005 a total of **317,995** options on shares at an exercise price of CHF 127.38 and a total of **588,834** options on ADS at an exercise price of USD 21.30 were granted. In addition, a total of **68,731** RSU for shares at a grant value of CHF 127.38 and a total of **182,783** RSU for ADS at a grant value of USD 21.30 were allocated. After a three-year vesting period, options can be exercised to purchase shares (or ADS) within a period of 10 years from the date of grant (a period of 11 years for options granted in previous years to certain Swiss participants). The total number of options on shares and options on ADS outstanding at December 31, 2005 is as follows:

Grant Date	Exercise price	Blocked until	End of the exercise period	Total number of outstanding options 12/31/05
<u>Shares:</u>				
12/04/00	CHF 76.50	12/03/03	12/03/10	<b>54,000</b>
03/27/01	CHF 83.70	03/26/04	03/26/11	<b>44,075</b>
03/11/02	CHF 98.00	03/10/05	03/10/12	<b>115,514</b>
03/11/02	CHF 98.00	03/10/05	03/10/13	<b>114,212</b>
03/12/03	CHF 59.70	03/11/06	03/11/13	<b>182,042</b>
03/12/03	CHF 59.70	03/11/06	03/11/14	<b>549,561</b>
02/20/04	CHF 89.30	02/19/07	02/19/14	<b>205,874</b>
02/20/04	CHF 89.30	02/19/07	02/19/15	<b>492,528</b>
02/16/05	CHF 127.38	02/15/08	02/15/15	<b>313,101</b>
<u>ADS</u>				
12/04/00	USD 8.68	12/03/03	12/03/10	<b>15,500</b>
03/27/01	USD 9.85	03/26/04	03/26/11	<b>136,500</b>
03/11/02	USD 11.75	03/10/05	03/10/12	<b>731,663</b>
03/11/02	USD 11.75	03/10/05	03/10/13	<b>74,388</b>
03/12/03	USD 8.95	03/11/06	03/11/13	<b>1,682,246</b>
03/12/03	USD 8.95	03/11/06	03/11/14	<b>164,817</b>
02/20/04	USD 14.53	02/19/07	02/19/14	<b>1,399,669</b>

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02/20/04	USD 14.53	02/19/07	02/19/15	<b>88,882</b>
02/16/05	USD 21.30	02/15/08	02/15/16	<b>580,434</b>

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The exercise price of the grants in 2005 was equal to the weighted average share price of the Syngenta share at the Swiss Stock Exchange (SWX) on five business days prior to the date of grant, and the price of the ADS at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) at the date of grant, as decided by the Compensation Committee. All options on shares were granted at an exercise price higher than the market price of the Syngenta share at the grant date. All options on ADS were granted at an exercise price equal to the market price at the grant date.

The total number of RSU for shares and the number of RSU for ADS outstanding at December 31, 2005 are as follows:

<b>Grant Date</b>	<b>Grant Value</b>	<b>Blocked until</b>	<b>Total number of outstanding RSU 12/31/05</b>
02/16/05 (RSU for shares)	CHF 127.38	02/15/08	<b>67,249</b>
02/16/05 (RSU for ADS)	USD 21.30	02/15/08	<b>170,634</b>

After a three year vesting period each RSU converts into one tradable share (or ADS).

### **Syngenta Deferred Share Plan**

In 2002, the Syngenta Deferred Share Plan (DSP) was implemented to grant deferred shares (deferred ADS for United States participants) to executive Directors, members of the Executive Committee and members of the Senior Management Group as part of the short-term incentive awards. Pursuant to the rules of the DSP a fixed portion of each participant's short-term incentive award is invested in the DSP in the form of deferred shares (or deferred ADS) on a mandatory basis. An additional portion of the short-term incentive award can be invested by the participant on a voluntary basis within the limits set out in the plan rules. The value of a deferred share at the date of grant equals the weighted average share price of the Syngenta share on five business days prior to the date of grant (the value of a deferred ADS equals the weighted average price of an ADS on the five business days prior to the date of grant). Shares (or ADS) allocated under the terms of the DSP are blocked for a period of three years from the grant date. At the end of the blocking period the shares (or ADS) become freely tradable and Syngenta matches the number of deferred shares (or ADS) of each participant on a one-for-one basis. In 2005 a total of **73,187** deferred shares and a total of **81,847** deferred ADS were granted to approximately **131** senior executives on the basis of the invested portions of the STI that were awarded for the performance in the year 2004.

Further information on the Syngenta long-term incentive plan (LTI Plan) and the Deferred Share Plan (DSP) is provided in Note 27 to the consolidated financial statements.

### **Corporate Governance**

Syngenta's Corporate Governance is aligned with international standards and practice. The Company complies with the "Swiss Code of Best Practice for Corporate Governance" and meets the Corporate Governance rules of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), as applicable for foreign companies. Syngenta is in compliance with the applicable requirements of the US Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, including the certification of Syngenta's Annual Report on Form 20-F by the CEO and the CFO.

### **Service Contracts**

Neither the CEO nor any other member of the Executive Committee has a service contract which provides for benefits upon termination of employment due to change of control. The Chairman has a contract which provides for twelve months compensation due to change of control; no other member of the Board has a service contract with a change of control clause.

### **Board**

Syngenta is led by a strong and experienced Board. The Board includes representatives from five nationalities, drawn from broad international business and scientific backgrounds. Its members bring diversity in expertise and perspective to the leadership of a complex, highly regulated, global business. The Board exercises full and effective control of the Company as set out in the Swiss Code of Obligations (<<Obligationenrecht>>) and in the Articles of Incorporation(1) of Syngenta AG. It holds the ultimate responsibility for the strategy and for the supervision of executive management.

During the financial year 2005, the full Board held five formal one-day meetings. Furthermore, Board members conducted discussions with Officers of the Company to review relevant matters at hand, visited operating locations of the Company and provided information to management as needed. The Chairman of the Board, after consultation with the Chief Executive Officer, determines the agenda for the Board meetings. Any member of the Board of Directors may request the convocation of a meeting or the inclusion of items of business in the agenda.

**Chairman of the Board**

The Chairman is nominated by the Board members and shares responsibility for the strategic direction of Syngenta with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He ensures close liaison between the Board and its committees and the CEO. In consultation

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(1) The Articles of Incorporation of Syngenta AG can be accessed on the Internet ([www.syngenta.com/en/investor/art\\_inc\\_index.aspx](http://www.syngenta.com/en/investor/art_inc_index.aspx))

with the CEO, the Chairman supervises implementation of resolutions of the Board and of its committees. The Chairman represents, jointly with the CEO, the interests of the Company as a whole towards authorities and business associations, both in Switzerland and internationally.

### **Chairman's Committee**

The Chairman's Committee consists of four members nominated by the Board: the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer and one other Director. It prepares the meetings of the Board of Directors and comments on matters falling within the Board's authority before decisions are taken. It is also empowered to make decisions on behalf of the Board where the latter has delegated such authority. Furthermore the Chairman's Committee assumes the role of a Nomination Committee. It advises on the composition and succession planning of the Board and its committees. It ensures the development of guidelines for selecting candidates and assumes responsibility for reviewing and proposing to the full Board candidates for election to the Board. Final decisions are taken by the full Board, which then submits the election proposals to the Shareholders' Meeting. Members of the Chairman's Committee are Martin Taylor (Committee Chairman), Michael Pragnell, Rupert Gasser and Felix Weber.

### **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee consists of four members appointed by the Board: the Chairman and three other Directors. It regulates the compensation of the Directors and the remuneration and terms of employment of the members of the Executive Committee. Members of the Compensation Committee are Felix Weber (Committee Chairman), Martin Taylor, Rupert Gasser and Jacques Vincent. Michael Pragnell attends the meetings of the Compensation Committee as a permanent guest.

### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee consists of four members appointed by the Board. All members are independent, non-executive Directors. Its duties are to examine reports from external and internal auditors and to submit findings to the Board. The Audit Committee assesses the quality of the financial reporting and prepares Board decisions in this area. Furthermore, it reviews critical accounting policies, financial control mechanisms and compliance with corresponding laws and regulations. The Audit Committee also monitors and reports on the performance and independence of the auditors. Members of the Audit Committee are Peggy Bruzelius (Committee Chairman), Pierre Landolt, Peter Thompson and Rolf Watter.

### **Internal Audit**

Internal Audit, as an inspecting and monitoring body, carries out operational audits and system audits. All organizational units, associated companies and foundations are subject to audit. Duties are assigned by the Audit Committee and any suspected irregularities are reported without delay. Internal Audit maintains a regular dialogue with the external auditor to share reports and risk issues arising from their respective audits and to coordinate their activities. In connection with the financial consolidation at year end, a letter of assurance process is in place. The letters of assurance are cascaded down in the organization. The returned letters are analyzed, evaluated and any arising issues and deficiencies are reported to the Head of Internal Audit. Internal Audit thereafter makes a report of the combined issues arising from internal audits and the letter of assurance process to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reports to the full Board of Directors.

### **Executive Committee**

Under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer, the Executive Committee is responsible for the operational management of the Company. It consists of the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officers of the Crop Protection and Seeds businesses, together with the Heads of Syngenta's functional activities: Finance, Research & Technology, Global Operations and Human Resources, Business Development and Legal & Taxes.

### **Appointment of Directors and Members of the Executive Committee**



The members of the Board of Directors are elected individually by the shareholders at the Annual General Meeting. The Articles of Incorporation of Syngenta provide that the term for which Directors are appointed must not exceed three years. A year for the purpose of determining any term of office is the interval between two ordinary general shareholder meetings. Directors may be re-elected. The members of the Executive Committee are appointed and removed by the Board of Directors.

**Listing Standards of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE)**

Syngenta meets the vast majority of NYSE's Corporate Governance Standards. The few exceptions are mainly due to the different legal system in Switzerland. In accordance with NYSE's listing standards, such differences are explained in detail on Syngenta's website at [www.syngenta.com/en/investor/corpgov\\_nyse.aspx](http://www.syngenta.com/en/investor/corpgov_nyse.aspx).

## Changes in 2005

-January 1, 2005:

Michael Mack was appointed Chief Operating Officer of Syngenta Seeds and a member of the Syngenta Executive Committee.

-April 26, 2005:

At the Annual General Meeting in Basel the shareholders elected Jacques Vincent as a new member of the Board of Directors.

-May 20, 2005:

Syngenta announced that its Chairman, Heinz Imhof, was receiving medical treatment and had taken temporary leave of absence from the Company. The Board decided that during his absence, the Vice Chairman, Martin Taylor, should assume the role of acting Chairman. At the same time the Board appointed Rupert Gasser to lead the process for a possible succession to the Chairmanship.

-September 2, 2005:

Heinz Imhof resigned as Chairman and member of the Board.

The Board appointed Martin Taylor (formerly Vice Chairman) as Chairman and Rupert Gasser as Vice Chairman and member of the Chairman's Committee.

-October 19, 2005:

The Board appointed Rupert Gasser as member of the Compensation Committee. The Board also appointed Felix Weber as Chairman and Jacques Vincent as a member of the Compensation Committee, both with effect from January 1, 2006.

-December 31, 2005:

Pedro Reiser resigned as Chairman of the Compensation Committee.

The business address of all Directors is Syngenta AG, Schwarzwaldallee 215, 4058 Basel, Switzerland.

## Employees of Syngenta

### Year 2005

Syngenta had approximately 19,300 permanent employees as of December 31, 2005. Approximately 24% of these were in NAFTA, 9% in Latin America, 17% in Asia Pacific and the remaining 50% in Europe and AME.

The functional distribution of our employees for the year ending December 31, 2005 was approximately as follows:

Production	36%
Research and development	20%
Marketing and distribution	32%
Administration and general overhead	12%

In several countries, part of the workforce is unionized or represented by works councils. Our relationships with our unions and other employee organisations are generally good and there have been no significant industrial disputes over the past five years at any Syngenta business.

### Year 2004

Syngenta had approximately 19,500 permanent employees as of December 31, 2004. Approximately 25% of these were in NAFTA, 8% in Latin America, 16% in Asia Pacific and the remaining 51% in Europe and AME.

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The functional distribution of our employees for the year ending December 31, 2004 was approximately as follows:

Production	36%
Research and development	21%
Marketing and distribution	31%
Administration and general overhead	12%
	74

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**Year 2003**

Syngenta had approximately 19,000 permanent employees as of December 31, 2003. Approximately 20% of these were in NAFTA, 8% in Latin America, 16% in Asia Pacific and the remaining 56% in Europe and AME.

The functional distribution of our employees for the year ending December 31, 2003 was approximately as follows:

Production	39%
Research and development	19%
Marketing and distribution	29%
Administration and general overhead	13%

**Management Shareholders**

The aggregate amount of Syngenta shares held by current Directors and the members of the Executive Committee as of December 31, 2005, based on information available to the Company is 0.12% of all outstanding shares. None of Syngenta's Directors or the Executive Committee members individually owns more than 1% of the Company's outstanding shares.

**ITEM 7 □ MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

**Major Shareholders**

During the period January 1, 2005 until February 28, 2006 the following disclosure notifications were made by the Company in the Swiss Commercial Gazette in accordance with the Swiss Stock Exchange Act:

On February 15, 2005, the Company reported that Syngenta AG itself exceeded the 10 percent threshold with a holding of 10.82 per cent of the share capital. On August 10, 2005, the Company reported that this holding had fallen below the 10 percent threshold to 6.75 percent.

As of January 31, 2006 Syngenta AG held 7,036,184 shares in treasury corresponding to 6.61% of the share capital as at December 31, 2005. In accordance with Article 659a of the Swiss Code of Obligations, the Company, however, cannot exercise the voting rights relating to those shares.

On February 14, 2006, in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, FMR Corp. and certain of its affiliates reported a holding of 6,550,350 Syngenta common shares, including common shares represented by ADRs, which is equivalent to 6.158% of Syngenta's share capital as at December 31, 2005.

As of February 28, 2006, to our knowledge there is no other shareholder with a position of more than 5 per cent of the share capital.

To its knowledge, the Company as of February 28, 2006 is not owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by another corporation, by any government or by any other natural or legal person, severally or jointly. As of January 31, 2006 36,939,815 ADRs of Syngenta AG corresponding to 6.95% of the share capital and 7,072,779 Ordinary Shares of Syngenta AG corresponding to 6.65% of the share capital were held by 3,150 registered holders domiciled in the United States.

**Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party transactions other than those described in Note 28 to the consolidated financial statements.

## ITEM 8 □ FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Consolidated Financial Statements

See Item 18 □Financial Statements□ for our consolidated financial statements.

### Legal Proceedings

In addition to the legal proceedings described below, Syngenta is involved from time to time in a number of legal proceedings incidental to the normal conduct of its business, including proceedings involving product liability claims, commercial claims, employment and wrongful discharge claims, patent infringement claims, competition claims, tax assessment claims, waste disposal claims and tort claims relating to the release of chemicals into the environment. Syngenta maintains general liability insurance, including product liability insurance, covering claims on a worldwide basis with coverage limits and retention amounts which management believes to be adequate and appropriate in light of Syngenta's businesses and the risks to which it is subject.

**GMO Class Action** Class action complaints were filed in 1999 and 2000 against Monsanto in federal court in the District of Columbia (Higginbotham et al. v. Monsanto Co.) and in Illinois (Blades et al. v. Monsanto Co.) seeking damages and injunctive relief for alleged antitrust violations by Monsanto and others in the sale and distribution of genetically modified insect resistant corn seeds and glyphosate-tolerant soya seeds. The Higginbotham action was transferred in May 2000 to Illinois where the lawsuits were consolidated and in January 2001 both cases were transferred to federal court in Missouri. A number of Monsanto's major competitors including Syngenta Seeds Inc. and Syngenta Crop Protection Inc. were added as additional defendants in June 2001. On October 12, 2001 defendants filed separate motions to dismiss plaintiffs' amended complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief could be granted. Plaintiffs subsequently stipulated to the dismissal of Syngenta Crop Protection Inc. on the ground that the company's business does not include the sale of the products at issue in the case, and the court approved the dismissal. Defendants' motions to dismiss were denied in a court order issued on April 3, 2002. The case entered into the class certification discovery phase on January 15, 2002 and an evidentiary hearing was held by the court on April 28-29, 2003. On September 19, 2003, the court granted Monsanto's motion for summary judgement dismissing negligence and public nuisance claims asserted only against Monsanto and denied defendants' motion for summary judgement limiting the antitrust claims to direct purchasers only. As a result of the dismissal of the tort claims, the action is now being captioned McIntosh, et al. v. Monsanto Company, et al. On September 30, 2003 the court denied plaintiffs' motion for class certification by holding that plaintiffs failed to show that impact from the alleged antitrust violations could be proven with common evidence on a class-wide basis. On October 15, 2003 Plaintiffs petitioned the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals for permission to appeal the District Court's denial of class certification and on October 24, 2003, the District Court granted Plaintiff's request to stay discovery while the petition was pending in the 8th Circuit. On December 18, 2003, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals accepted plaintiffs' appeal and on September 13, 2004 the Court heard oral argument on the appeal. In an opinion filed on March 7, 2005, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the District Court's denial of class certification. Plaintiffs filed a Petition for Panel Rehearing on April 4, 2005 seeking a reversal of the denial of class certification. At a May 12, 2005 status conference, plaintiffs expressed their intent to proceed on behalf of the two named farmers, but then indicated they were planning to seek certification of a new class limited to Roundup Ready soybean farmers only. This matter was fully briefed and heard by the Court on November 2, 2005 at which time the Court denied Plaintiffs' motion to amend the complaint. Plaintiffs withdrew their proposed Third Amended Complaint, leaving the First Amended Complaint and an order that they file a new complaint pending.

**Glyphosate Class Action** On November 21, 2001, a class action complaint was filed by S&M Farm Supply, Inc. in federal court in California against Monsanto Company and its then parent Pharmacia Corporation, alleging that Monsanto and various alleged co-conspirators, including Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. and its predecessor corporations, conspired to allocate markets and to fix, raise, maintain or stabilize prices for glyphosate-based and paraquat-based herbicides in the United States. On March 6, 2002, the judge in those proceedings ordered that the proceedings be transferred to the Eastern District of Missouri. This case was consolidated with Orange Cove Ag-Chem v. Pharmacia. On October 16, 2003, the court denied plaintiffs' motion for class certification and denied the plaintiffs' motion for reconsideration on November 20, 2003. The court also denied the plaintiffs' motion to stay the case on November 25, 2003. Subsequently the case was dismissed with prejudice by the plaintiff. On December 19, 2001, a representative action and class action complaint was filed under the title Kevin Williamson and Bobby Valette vs. Pharmacia Corporation, Monsanto Company and Does 1-100 in the Superior Court of

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California for Sonoma. The action brought under the California Business and Professions Code raises similar allegations to those made in the federal lawsuit and claims violations by the defendants and their alleged co-conspirators, including Syngenta Seeds, Inc., Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc., and their predecessor corporations, of the Cartwright Act and the Unfair Competition Act. This case has also been dismissed with prejudice by plaintiffs. On May 21, 2002, a class action suit raising similar allegations was filed under the title of Gerald T. Raines v. Pharmacia Corporation, Monsanto Company and Does 1-100 in the Circuit Court for Cooke County, Tennessee. On May 3, 2003, a class action suit was filed in Superior Court in Passaic, New Jersey, against Monsanto claiming that similar factual allegations constitute violations of the New Jersey Consumer Fraud

Act. On July 16, 2003, this case was voluntarily dismissed with prejudice. At this point in time no Syngenta entity has been formally named as a defendant in any of these proceedings.

Syngenta and its predecessor companies have competed vigorously in the seed and crop protection marketplace and therefore will vigorously oppose the allegations in the related court cases described above.

**Greens Bayou** In February 2001, the Port of Houston Authority (the "Port") filed suit against GB Biosciences Holdings, Inc., GB Biosciences Corporation, and certain other Syngenta entities (including Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.) in Texas State Court regarding contamination that has allegedly migrated off the GB Biosciences Greens Bayou site in Houston, Texas. The Greens Bayou site, which manufactures an agricultural fungicide, was acquired in February 1998 from Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. ("ISK"). The on site past use of certain chlorinated organic compounds employed in the manufacture of certain pesticides has contributed to soil and groundwater contamination, some of which has been detected on and under the adjacent property owned by the Port and in sediments of the adjoining Greens Bayou. The contamination at issue mainly involves certain chlorinated pesticides generated before 1970 by the prior owner of the plant, also named as a defendant. While this contamination is generally being addressed under the site's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") permit, the Port nonetheless filed suit. On December 19, 2003, the Syngenta entity defendants, along with co-defendants ISK and Occidental Chemical Company ("Occidental") and certain of their affiliates settled the Port's lawsuit by agreeing to conduct certain remediation activities expected to cost approximately US\$45 million, to pay the Port US\$35 million and to provide an indemnity having a maximum liability of US\$20 million. The Syngenta, ISK and Occidental defendants agreed to share the costs of the settlement on an interim basis subject to determination of their ultimate shares of liability in further proceedings. The defendants agreed to participate in a binding arbitration to determine the amount of Occidental's ultimate contribution to the overall settlement. Agreement to settle with Occidental was entered into on January 18, 2006. Discussions with ISK pursuant to the indemnities given by ISK in the 1998 acquisition agreement are continuing.

**Bt 11 Patent Case** In July 2002 Syngenta filed a lawsuit in federal court in Delaware in which Syngenta Seeds, Inc. charges that Monsanto, DeKalb Genetics, Pioneer Hi-Bred, Dow AgroSciences and Mycogen Seeds are infringing upon one or more of United States Patent No. 6,075,185, United States Patent No. 6,320,100, and United States Patent No. 6,403,865. The products accused of infringement include YieldGard® MON810 Bt corn and Herculex® Bt corn. These patents cover synthetic Bt genes with increased expression in corn and corn plants resistant to insects such as the European corn borer that result from expression of such Bt genes; the patent cover includes corn plants with such genes either alone or stacked with other traits. In an agreement reached on November 29, 2004, Syngenta Seeds, Inc. and Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. settled the claims Syngenta had brought against Pioneer. Trial against defendants Monsanto and Dow/Mycogen commenced November 29, 2004. Prior to closing arguments, the Court granted defendants' motion that the "100 and "185 were not infringed. A jury verdict was returned December 14, 2004 finding the asserted claims of the "865 patent were infringed by YieldGard®, Herculex I® and TC6275 but that those claims were invalid. Post trial issues relating to inequitable conduct, motions for judgement as a matter of law were tried in 2005. In December 2005, the court denied all "judgement as matter of law" motions and Monsanto's inequitable conduct defense. Syngenta's notice of appeal was filed on January 13, 2006 and defendant's cross notices of appeal were filed on January 20, 2006.

**Shah Patent Case** On May 12, 2004, Monsanto Company and Monsanto Technology, LLC commenced an action against Syngenta Seeds, Inc. and Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc. in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware (Wilmington, Delaware). In its complaint, Monsanto sued Syngenta for infringement of U.S. Patent 4,940,835 (the "Shah patent") directed to the making, use and sale of corn products exhibiting resistance to glyphosate herbicide (GA21). The lawsuit, which was filed on the same date that Syngenta publicly disclosed its acquisition of certain GA21 rights from Bayer Crop Science, seeks an injunction prohibiting further acts of infringement, contributory infringement and inducement of infringement, together with compensatory and exemplary damages but no less than a reasonable royalty for infringing activity. Syngenta filed its responsive pleadings on July 1, 2004. On February 11, 2005, Monsanto amended its complaint to add the Golden Harvest companies as defendants. Fact discovery closed in October 2005; expert discovery in December 2005. Mediation was held August 26, 2005 for the consolidated Shah, Lundquist, and antitrust cases and follow-up discussions are continuing. Motions for summary judgement on non-infringement and invalidity for non-enablement were filed January 11, 2006. A hearing on summary judgement and claim construction is scheduled for March 9, 2006 and consolidated trial with the Lundquist case below is scheduled to commence May 30, 2006.



**Lundquist Patent Case** On July 27, 2004, DeKalb Genetics Corp commenced an action against Syngenta Seeds, Inc. and Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc. in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois alleging infringement of US Patent No. 5,538,880 and US Patent No. 6,013,863 (the Lundquist patents) by making and using corn containing genes that confer glyphosate resistance (GA21). Syngenta filed a Motion to Dismiss on September 20, 2004, on the grounds that DeKalb's Complaint was legally deficient and failed to state a claim. On November 12, 2004, Syngenta filed its alternative Motion to Transfer this case to Delaware. On January 27, 2005, DeKalb amended its complaint to add the Golden Harvest companies as defendants.

The Golden Harvest Companies joined in the motion to transfer and on May 19, 2005 the court transferred the case to the District of Delaware and on August 18, 2005, the parties agreed to consolidate this case with the Shah case and to add Garst as a defendant. A motion for summary judgement on non-infringement of the Lundquist patents was filed January 11, 2006. A hearing on summary judgement and claim construction is scheduled for March 9, 2006 and consolidated trial with the Shah patent above is scheduled to commence May 30, 2006.

**Missouri Roundup Ready Soybean Branding Case** On May 10, 2004, Monsanto Company commenced an action against Syngenta Seeds, Inc. in Missouri State court (St. Louis County). In its Complaint, Monsanto seeks a declaration that, pursuant to the express terms of its license agreement, Syngenta only has the right to develop, produce and sell Roundup Ready® soybeans under the NK® Brand. Monsanto is seeking a declaratory judgement and permanent injunction prohibiting the use of "Independence" Brand (or any brand other than the NK® Brand) in the production, marketing, advertising or sale of Monsanto's Roundup Ready® soybean technology. In response to the actions by Monsanto, Syngenta filed a complaint in Minnesota seeking a declaratory judgement that Monsanto cannot revoke permissions granted under the License Agreement and a permanent injunction barring Monsanto from terminating the License Agreement for the breach alleged in its letter relating to the proposed introduction of the "Independence" Brand. Following a hearing, the Minnesota action was stayed pending resolution of the Missouri action. Syngenta subsequently moved the Missouri court for an order dismissing all counts of Monsanto's complaint, or in the alternative, for declaratory judgement in favor of Syngenta, arguing that the License Agreement is clear and unambiguous as a matter of law and that it does not limit Syngenta to selling seed under a single brand name. Additionally, Monsanto has filed a motion to amend its complaint to add a breach of contract claim; Monsanto contends that by selling identical soybean varieties in both the US and Canada, Syngenta has breached its Roundup Ready Soybean License Agreement in the US. Monsanto's motion to amend is pending. Syngenta's motion was heard December 1, 2004 in St. Louis, Missouri and, in a December 8, 2004 Order, the court set another hearing for March 14-15, 2005 so that a technical term of art and/or course of conduct in the industry that the court may not be aware of can be construed. Syngenta's motion for summary judgement was argued March 14-15. Matter was tried December 20-21, 2005 without closing arguments. Parties were asked to each submit by January 13, 2006, a memo with succinct closing arguments supported by case law and a proposed judgement. On February 8, 2006, the court found that the License Agreement limits Syngenta to a single brand, NK. Syngenta is considering filing an appeal.

In a second action filed August 25, 2005, Syngenta Seeds Inc., is seeking a judgement declaring that Monsanto breached the 1993 Roundup Ready Soybean License Agreement by failing to provide Syngenta with equal access to improved Roundup Ready soybean genes ("RR2Yield"). On October 14, 2005, Monsanto moved to dismiss based upon lack of "ripeness", but later withdrew its motion. Discovery is pending and trial is currently scheduled for August 2006, although because of the court's calendar, it is likely that trial will be rescheduled to begin in January 2007.

**Delaware Antitrust Case / Monsanto** On July 28, 2004, Syngenta Seeds, Inc. filed an antitrust lawsuit against Monsanto Company and Monsanto Technology LLC in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware. The complaint alleges that Monsanto has engaged in a pattern of illegal and improper activities to exclude Syngenta and to monopolize key corn trait markets and seed markets in violation of the antitrust laws, including: entering into exclusive dealing contracts, bundling incentive programs, filing baseless patent lawsuits, making misrepresentations, and coercing seed companies. Monsanto's conduct has and will harm competition in key corn trait and seed markets causing consumers to continue to pay higher prices than they would otherwise pay. Syngenta seeks injunctive relief and treble damages in an amount to be proven at trial. On September 28, 2004, Monsanto filed a motion to dismiss the antitrust case on the ground that the antitrust claims should have been raised as a compulsory counterclaim to Monsanto's patent infringement lawsuit concerning Monsanto's plant gene patent No. 4,940,835 also pending in the District of Delaware, or in the alternative, to consolidate the antitrust and patent cases. In an order dated March 24, 2005, the Court denied Monsanto's motion to dismiss the antitrust case but granted its motion to consolidate. A scheduling conference was held April 13, 2005 at which the Court denied a motion by Monsanto to stay the antitrust case pending resolution of the patent case and set a case schedule with a January 8, 2007 trial date. On July 14, 2005 Monsanto filed a motion to amend its answer and assert counterclaims against Syngenta AG, Syngenta Participations AG, Syngenta Corp., Syngenta Seeds, Inc., Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc., Advanta USA, Inc., Garst Seed Company and Golden Harvest Seeds, Inc., for tortious interference with contract, deceptive trade practices and Lanham Act violations based on the alleged improper passing off of GA21 as Syngenta's product. Syngenta has filed motions opposing the addition of the Swiss-based entities on jurisdictional grounds and to dismiss all but the tortious interference counter claim. On September 9, 2005, Syngenta filed a second amended complaint adding a claim for misrepresentations and false statements in

violation of the Lanham Act. Fact discovery started in May 2005, and is scheduled to be completed by June 2006. As fact discovery has been extended by three months, summary judgement motions will not be permitted without the Court's prior consent. Pre-trial conference is scheduled for December 14, 2006 and a three week trial to commence January 8, 2007.

**GALECRON** Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. is involved in one lawsuit stemming from the GALECRON class action. GALECRON (active ingredient chlordimeform) is an insecticide which was produced by Ciba-Geigy from 1968 to 1976 and 1978 to 1988. Scientific studies have indicated an increased incidence of bladder cancer among production workers exposed to 4-cot, a metabolite of chlordimeform. In 1994 workers exposed to GALECRON at manufacturing and formulation sites, as well as applicators of the product, filed a class action in the United States which was settled the same year. The settlement required Ciba-Geigy (predecessor in interest to Novartis and Syngenta) to expand its monitoring program to individuals occupationally

exposed to GALECRON and to compensate these individuals for certain covered conditions and procedures. Individuals were permitted to bring separate lawsuits for occupational exposure to GALECRON only if they opted out of the class action settlement. There is still 1 opt-out case pending against Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. alleging various injuries. While over 100 other individuals opted out of the class action, they have yet to file suit. As time passes, the applicable statutes of limitation will bar many of these potential lawsuits. A substantial portion of the costs of the class action settlement, as well as the opt-out litigation, are likely to be covered by the Syngenta's insurers, subject to applicable deductibles.

**Holiday Shores** The Holiday Shores Sanitary District in Madison County, Illinois filed a class action complaint against Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. in July 2004 purportedly on behalf of a class consisting of all Illinois Public Water Districts, Water Service Districts and Water Authorities who have, allegedly, suffered contamination of their water sources at any measurable level on account of the product Atrazine, a herbicide manufactured since the late 1950s by Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. and its predecessors in interest, Novartis Crop Protection, Inc., Ciba-Geigy and Geigy Chemical Corporation. The Holiday Shores Complaint alleges that the product Atrazine and/or its degradant chemicals are harmful to humans as consumed through dietary water, and that run-off from the soil where Atrazine has been applied has damaged the water district's property and contaminated its surface waters, used as a source of drinking water for the district. It alleges claims of trespass, nuisance, negligence, strict liability and violation of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and seeks monetary damages, including the cost of purchase, installation, maintenance and operation of charcoal filtration systems, alleged diminution in property value and remediation, punitive damages and attorneys' fees. Syngenta intends to defend the Holiday Shores action vigorously. Atrazine is a long-standing successful product of Syngenta and its predecessors, which has been repeatedly scrutinized for safety over the years by governmental agencies. Following lengthy consideration of challenges to Atrazine as a carcinogen, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has determined that Atrazine is not a likely human carcinogen. In fact, EPA reclassified Atrazine in 2000 from a "probably human carcinogen" to "not a likely human carcinogen." The latter classification remains the current EPA classification of Atrazine. Complaint was served on Syngenta August 27, 2004. Syngenta succeeded in having the lawsuit removed from State to federal court but, on Plaintiffs' Motion, federal court on March 28, 2005 remanded the lawsuit back to the State court. Syngenta has filed a Motion to Dismiss which was argued on October 25, 2005. The Court's decision is awaited. The case management hearing has been adjourned until after the Court's decision on the Motion to Dismiss. Should the case not be dismissed, a class certification hearing is anticipated later in 2006 and a trial in 2007.

**McIntosh** Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. has accepted tender from Novartis Corporation (and originally from Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation), under certain agreements associated with the formations of Syngenta and Novartis which allocate environmental liabilities in the US, of a series of lawsuits (in federal and State courts in Alabama and in State court in New Jersey) and pending claims which allege contamination by DDT and other chemicals associated with historic agrochemical manufacturing activities at the Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation site at McIntosh, Alabama. The plaintiffs or claimants variously seek damages for wrongful death, personal injury, decreased property value, and the establishment of medical monitoring programs. Liability under lawsuits and pending claims were tendered by Ciba to Novartis and by Novartis to Syngenta under 1996 and 2000 Environmental Matters Agreements associated with formation of Novartis and Syngenta. Current stage of proceedings in each case involves resolution of threshold issues including class certification; jurisdictional forum; and sufficiency of initial disclosure. Plaintiffs in Fisher have recently attempted to initiate settlement discussions. Ware has been dismissed by the Court in New Jersey but the plaintiffs have appealed and the decision of the Appellate Division is awaited with respect to that appeal. Tender of the defence of three new cases was accepted in the fourth quarter of 2005 and acceptance of tender in a fourth case (Witherspoon) is under review. Damages claimed in the lawsuits have not yet been quantified. Syngenta (together with Ciba and Novartis) responded to the breakdown of the mediation proceedings in relation to the Tensaw/Palamar claim on October 3, 2005 by filing an action for Declaratory Judgement in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama, in an attempt to preclude the claimant from suing in State Court in Alabama.

**Agroatar** Agroatar S.A. on May 24, 2000 sued Zeneca S.A.I.C. (now Syngenta Agro S.A.) in Buenos Aires, Argentina for alleged wrongful termination of an agrochemicals supply contract. The plaintiff seeks damages for goodwill and loss of profits of US\$43 million plus costs and interest. Agroatar has US\$18 million debt outstanding to Syngenta but claims to be owed US\$7 million by Syngenta under the terminated contract. On December 27, 1999, Agroatar S.A. filed a separate suit against Advanta Semillas S.A.I.C. which was amended on June 8, 2000 to include Zeneca S.A.I.C. (now Syngenta Agro S.A.) as a co-defendant. Agroatar alleges that Advanta Semillas S.A.I.C. breached its obligations under certain agreements which had originally been entered into with Zeneca S.A.I.C. (but

which were subsequently assigned to Advanta Semillas S.A.I.C.) pursuant to which Agroatar had the rights to produce and sell sunflower, corn, and sorghum seed. Based on that alleged breach, Agroatar terminated the agreements. Agroatar claims damages of US\$58 million plus costs and interest. The accumulated interest elements of these claims was estimated in mid 2005 as 45% of the principal amount if damages were awarded in US dollars or 150% if damages were awarded in Argentine pesos. In addition the court may award costs and expenses against the losing party of up to 25% of the damages including interest. The court may convert certain elements of the US dollar claim into Argentine pesos and, if so, would be likely to apply a conversion rate between 1:1 and the current market rate. Syngenta believes it had cause to terminate the agrochemicals supply agreement and was wrongly joined to the lawsuit against Advanta Semillas and intends to defend vigorously both lawsuits. The two lawsuits were consolidated in June 2001 and both are in the

□evidentiary stage□, which is expected to be completed by mid 2006 and will be followed by filing of closing arguments by the parties. Judgement of the court of first instance in both lawsuits is expected in late 2006 or early 2007. Any appeal by the losing party(ies) to the Commercial Court of Appeal would take a further 1 to 2 years.

### **Tax litigation**

Syngenta is also subject to certain tax claims pending before the judiciary. Significant cases are described below.

In 1996, the Brazilian Federal Tax Treasury drew Novartis□ Brazilian legal entity into administrative proceedings, regarding the import tax classification of the active ingredient Atrazine. The issue is whether, under applicable law, Atrazine will qualify as a raw material (Syngenta□s position) or as intermediate chemicals (the Federal Inspection□s position). So far there have been 17 administrative rulings against Syngenta. Currently, 16 cases are on appeal before the judiciary. In aggregate, the maximum contingency in the event of an unfavorable outcome for Syngenta could amount to approximately BRL 24.5 million, a sum corresponding to approximately US\$8.5 million currently. There are no decisions in the first level Court.

In the tax assessment of Ciba Geigy Australia Limited (a legal entity today owned by Syngenta) the Australian Tax Authorities (ATO) have made net margin adjustments and increased the legal entity□s tax base for the years 1991 - 1996. Syngenta Crop Protection Pty Ltd (formerly named Ciba Geigy Australia Limited) filed objections against this tax assessment on July 5, 2004 with the Federal Court of Australia. On November 9, 2005, following detailed submissions by counsel for the parties, oral judgement was delivered dismissing the Syngenta notice of motion for particulars and discovery of the exercise of the Commissioner□s discretions under section 136AD and Article 9 of the double tax agreements. Syngenta filed a leave to appeal against this decision and the Federal Court will deal with the appeal on May 9, 2006.

Litigation is subject to many uncertainties, and the outcome of individual matters cannot be predicted with certainty. It is reasonably possible that the final resolution of some of these matters could require Syngenta to make expenditures, in excess of established reserves, over an extended period of time and in a range of amounts that cannot be reasonably estimated. Although the final resolution of any such matters could have a material effect on Syngenta□s consolidated operating results and cash flows for a particular reporting period, Syngenta believes that it should not materially affect its consolidated financial position, although there can be no assurances in this regard.

### **Dividends and Dividend Policy**

The Board expects to recommend the distribution of future returns to shareholders, the actual level of which will depend on the financial performance of Syngenta and will also depend on the need to fund capital expenditure, working capital and other investments. The returns will be in the form of a dividend or par-value reduction. However, all distributions to shareholders proposed by the Board require the approval of the shareholders of the Company in a General Meeting of Shareholders. Holders of ADRs and CDIs receive their cash payments in relation to the number of Syngenta shares represented by the ADRs or CDIs. The payments to the holders of ADRs listed on the New York Stock Exchange are distributed through the Bank of New York, which converts the CHF amount into U.S. Dollars for distribution to such holders. The payments to holders of CDIs are distributed through CREST, which converts the CHF amount into GBP for distribution to such holders.

At last year□s Ordinary General Meeting of shareholders on April 26, 2005, it was decided to reduce the par value of the Company□s shares from CHF 8.30 by CHF 2.70 to CHF 5.60 and to repay to the shareholders CHF 2.70 per share. At this year□s Ordinary General Meeting of shareholders on April 19, 2006, the Board will propose a further par-value reduction from CHF 5.60 by CHF 3.30 to CHF 2.30 per share and to repay to the shareholder CHF 3.30 per share.

For information on Swiss law requirements regarding dividends, see Item 10 □Additional Information□Dividends□. For information about deduction of withholding taxes, see Item 10 □Additional Information□Taxation□Switzerland□. For information about taxation of repayments from par-value reduction, see Item 10 □Additional Information□Taxation□.



**ITEM 9 □ THE OFFER AND LISTING****Markets****Trading Markets and Price Ranges**

Our shares are primarily listed on the Swiss Exchange and principally traded on the London-based virt-x, a recognized investment exchange supervised by the Financial Services Authority (FSA) in the United Kingdom, where all the Swiss blue chips have been principally traded since June 25, 2001. Our shares are also listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange (in the form of ADRs).

Syngenta de-listed its shares from the London Stock Exchange and from the OM Stockholm Stock Exchange as of December 30, 2003. There has been no trading on these exchanges as of January 1, 2004.

The information presented in the tables below represent, for the periods indicated, the reported high and low closing sales prices quoted in their respective currency.

**Trading Prices on Swiss Exchange**

	Price per Share in CHF	
	High	Low
<b>Annual Highs and Lows</b>		
2000 (since November 13, 2000)	87.00	75.05
2001	102.75	66.95
2002	108.50	74.65
2003	86.60	57.10
2004	122.50	79.72
2005	163.50	115.48
<b>Quarterly Highs and Lows</b>		
<b>2004</b>		
First Quarter	91.13	79.72
Second Quarter	103.34	93.69
Third Quarter	119.00	102.84
Fourth Quarter	122.50	109.50
<b>2005</b>		
First Quarter	131.25	115.48
Second Quarter	134.00	119.50
Third Quarter	140.30	125.48
Fourth Quarter	163.50	131.90
<b>Monthly Highs and Lows for most recent six months</b>		
<b>2005</b>		
August	140.30	132.20
September	137.20	131.80
October	138.50	131.90



November	146.90	135.60
December	163.50	148.30
<b>2006</b>		
January	167.4	161.2

**Trading Prices on the New York Stock Exchange**

	Price per ADR <sup>(1)</sup> in US\$	
	High	Low
<b>Annual Highs and Lows</b>		
2000 (since November 13, 2000)	10.94	8.38
2001	12.67	8.60
2002	13.14	9.87
2003	13.51	8.60
2004	21.40	13.16
2005	24.91	19.28
<b>Quarterly Highs and Lows</b>		
<b>2004</b>		
First Quarter	14.75	13.16
Second Quarter	16.79	13.60
Third Quarter	19.09	16.41
Fourth Quarter	21.40	17.81
<b>2005</b>		
First Quarter	23.01	20.15
Second Quarter	21.66	20.39
Third Quarter	22.38	19.28
Fourth Quarter	24.91	20.32
<b>Monthly Highs and Lows for most recent six months</b>		
<b>2005</b>		
August	22.38	20.87
September	22.15	20.60
October	21.49	20.32
November	22.43	20.73
December	24.91	22.49
<b>2006</b>		
January	26.15	25.19

(1) One ADR represents one-fifth of one common share of the Company.

## ITEM 10 □ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Articles of Incorporation

Set out below is a brief summary of certain provisions of the articles of incorporation of Syngenta and of the Swiss Code of Obligations (Schweizerisches Obligationenrecht) as it relates to the Syngenta shares. This description does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Swiss Code of Obligations and the articles of incorporation of Syngenta. Copies of the Syngenta articles of incorporation are available at the offices of Syngenta AG, Schwarzwaldallee 215, 4058 Basel, Switzerland, and can be accessed on the Internet ([www.syngenta.com](http://www.syngenta.com)) in the section □Investor Relations□. An English translation is included as an exhibit to this annual report.

Syngenta AG is registered in the commercial register of the Canton of Basel-Stadt under number CH-170.3.023.349-3. The business purpose of Syngenta, according to section 2 of its articles of incorporation, is to hold interests in enterprises, particularly in the areas of agribusiness; under special circumstances, Syngenta may also directly operate such businesses. Syngenta may acquire, mortgage, liquidate or sell real estate and intellectual property rights in Switzerland or elsewhere.

### Capital Structure and Shares

The nominal share capital of Syngenta is CHF 595,662,183.20, divided into 106,368,247 registered shares with a nominal value of CHF 5.60 each. All of the Syngenta shares have been issued in registered form and are fully paid.

A shareholder may at any time request that Syngenta confirm the number of registered shares owned by the shareholder recorded in Syngenta's share register. Shareholders are not entitled, however, to demand the printing and delivery of certificates representing shares.

### Voting Rights

Each Syngenta share carries one vote at the shareholders' meetings of Syngenta. With respect to both domestic and foreign shareholders, voting rights may be exercised only after a shareholder has been registered in Syngenta's share register (Aktienbuch) as a shareholder with voting rights. Registration as a shareholder with voting rights is subject to certain declarations on the ownership of Syngenta shares.

### Shareholders' Meetings

Under Swiss law, an ordinary annual shareholders' meeting must be held within six months after the end of Syngenta's financial year. Shareholders' meetings may be convened by the board of directors or, in exceptional circumstances, by the statutory auditors. The board of directors is further required to convene an extraordinary shareholders' meeting if resolved by an ordinary shareholders' meeting or if requested by shareholders holding in the aggregate at least 10% of the share capital of Syngenta. Shareholders holding Syngenta shares with a nominal value of at least CHF 0.5 million (i.e., 89,286 shares) have the right to request that a specific proposal be put on the agenda and voted upon at the next shareholders' meeting. A shareholders' meeting is convened by way of notice appearing once in an official publication, as determined by Swiss law or otherwise designated by the Board at least 20 days prior to such meeting. Registered shareholders may also be informed by mail.

At the shareholders' meeting, shareholders pass resolutions and make elections, if not otherwise required by law, by a simple majority of the votes represented (i.e., abstentions from voting shares represented at the meeting having the effect of votes against the proposal). Under Swiss law and as per Syngenta's articles of incorporation a resolution passed at a shareholders' meeting with a supermajority of  $\frac{66}{3}$  % of the votes represented and the absolute majority of the nominal value of the Syngenta shares represented is required for:

- *changes in Syngenta's business purpose;*

- *the creation of shares with privileged voting rights;*
- *restrictions on the transferability of registered shares and the removal of such restrictions;*
- *an authorized or conditional increase in Syngenta's share capital;*

- *an increase in Syngenta's share capital by way of capitalization of reserves (Kapitalerhöhung aus Eigenkapital), against contributions in kind (Sacheinlage) or for the purpose of the acquisition of assets (Sachübernahme), or the granting of special privileges;*
- *the restriction or withdrawal of pre-emptive rights of shareholders;*
- *a relocation of the registered office; and*
- *the dissolution of Syngenta other than by liquidation (for example, by way of a merger).*

In addition, any provision in the articles of incorporation providing for a stricter voting requirement than the voting requirements prescribed by law or the existing articles of incorporation must be adopted in accordance with such stricter voting requirements. The articles of incorporation of Syngenta do not contain provisions setting forth stricter voting requirements for shareholders' meetings than the voting requirements prescribed by law and described above.

At the shareholders' meeting, shareholders also have the non-transferable power, by a simple majority of the votes represented at the shareholders' meeting, to ratify any amendments to the articles of incorporation (other than those referred to in the preceding two paragraphs), to elect the Directors and the external auditors, to approve the annual report and the financial statements, to set the annual dividend, to grant the Directors and management discharge from liability for matters disclosed at the shareholders' meeting, and to order an independent investigation into specific matters proposed at the shareholders' meeting (Sonderprüfung).

At Syngenta's shareholders' meetings, shareholders may only be represented by a legal representative, by another shareholder entitled to vote based on a written proxy, proxies designated in agreements with or regulations relating to nominees, by an appointed representative of the corporate body of Syngenta (Organvertreter), the independent proxy (unabhängiger Stimmrechtsvertreter) or an assignee of proxy votes for deposited shares (Depotvertreter). Votes are taken on a show of hands unless the shareholders' resolve to have a ballot or the chairman of the meeting orders such ballot.

### **Pre-Emptive Rights**

Under Swiss law, any share issue, whether for cash, non-cash consideration or no consideration, is subject to prior approval at the shareholders' meeting. As a rule, Syngenta shareholders have pre-emptive rights for all new issues of securities. However, these pre-emptive rights may be varied or excluded by a resolution of a shareholders' meeting on valid grounds. The resolution must be taken by a majority of two-thirds of the votes represented at the meeting and the absolute majority of the par value of the shares represented (unless provided otherwise in the articles of incorporation). Valid grounds include, for instance, the acquisition of all or part of the assets and liabilities or the acquisition of the shares of another company as well as the creation of employee participation plans. The shareholders may not be treated unequally in connection with any exclusion of pre-emptive rights. Moreover, it must be in the interest of the Company to exclude such pre-emptive rights in any given case. In the event of a conditional or authorized share capital increase, the shareholders' meeting may delegate the decision as to whether preemptive rights should be excluded to the Board of Directors provided the fundamental principles upon which the decision has to be made are determined pursuant the shareholders' meeting.

### **Borrowing Power**

Neither Swiss law nor the articles of incorporation of Syngenta restrict in any way Syngenta's power to borrow and to raise funds. The decision to borrow funds is passed by or under the direction of Syngenta's Board of Directors, with no shareholders' resolution required.

### **Duration and Liquidation**

The articles of incorporation do not limit Syngenta's duration. Syngenta may be dissolved at any time by a shareholders' resolution which must be passed by (1) an absolute majority of the Syngenta shares represented at the meeting in the event Syngenta is dissolved by way of liquidation, and (2) a super-majority of  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of the

votes represented and the absolute majority of the nominal value of the Syngenta shares represented at the meeting in other events (for example in a merger where Syngenta is not the surviving entity).

Under Swiss law, any surplus arising out of a liquidation (after the settlement of all claims of all creditors) is distributed to shareholders in proportion to the paid-up nominal value of Syngenta shares held by them.

### **Directors**

According to article 24 of the articles of incorporation, the Board of Directors can pass resolutions with respect to all matters which are not reserved to the authority of the shareholders' meeting by law or by the articles of incorporation. Exercise of this power does not require shareholder approval. Neither Swiss law nor the articles restrict in any way the Company's power to borrow or otherwise raise funds.

The terms of office for each member of the Board of Directors shall not exceed three years (a year within the meaning of this provision is the interval between two ordinary shareholders' meetings). The term of office shall be determined for each member at the occasion of its election. The several terms of office shall be coordinated so that in each year approximately one-third of all members of the Board of Directors shall be subject to re-election or election.

Article 21 of Syngenta's articles of incorporation confers general authority upon the Board of Directors to determine the remuneration of its members. However, pursuant to article 5 of the regulations governing the internal organization of Syngenta, Directors are obliged to leave the meeting room when business is dealt with that impinges on such Directors' own interests or those of a person or legal entity close to such Directors. In addition, Swiss law requires Directors and members of senior management to safeguard the interests of the Company and imposes a duty of care and a duty of loyalty on such persons. These duties are generally interpreted to mean that Directors and members of senior management may not participate in decisions that personally affect them. Directors and officers are personally liable to the Company for breach of these duties.

Syngenta's articles of incorporation contain no specific provisions permitting or prohibiting Directors from borrowing from the Company. However, Swiss law provides that a Director, or any other persons associated with a Director, must refund to the Company any payments made to such Director or persons by the Company, other than payments made at arm's length. The United States Sarbanes-Oxley Act, enacted in July 2002, makes it unlawful for the Company directly or indirectly to extend or maintain credit, to arrange for an extension of credit or to renew a credit, in the form of a personal loan, to or for its executive officers or Directors.

The Directors shall automatically retire after the lapse of the twelfth year of office or, if earlier, after the expiry of the seventieth year of age, provided that the retirement shall become effective on the date of the next ordinary shareholders' meeting following such event.

### **Notices**

Under Swiss law, notices to shareholders are validly made by publication in the Swiss Official Commercial Gazette. The Board may designate additional means of communication for publishing notices to shareholders.

### **Dividends**

Swiss law requires that at least 5% of the annual net profits of the Company be retained by the Company as general reserves for so long as these reserves amount to less than 20% of the Company's nominal share capital. Under Swiss law, dividends are paid out only if approved by the shareholders. In addition, the articles of incorporation provide that the allocation of profit shown on the Company's balance sheet is determined by shareholders at the shareholders' meeting. The Board may propose that a dividend be paid out, but cannot itself set the dividend. In practice, the dividend proposal of the Board is usually approved at the shareholders' meeting. Dividends are usually due and payable immediately after the shareholders' resolution relating to the allocation of profits has been passed. The Company only has one class of shares with a nominal value of CHF 5.60 each. Therefore, all shareholders are entitled to equal dividends. Holders of CDIs and ADRs will receive dividends in proportion to the number of Syngenta shares represented by the CDIs or ADRs. According to section 4 of the Articles of Incorporation, dividends which have not been claimed within five years after the due date revert to the Company and are allocated to the general reserves.





### **Liquidation**

According to Swiss Law, each shareholder is entitled to receive the part of the assets of a company remaining after its liquidation which is proportional to its paid-in shareholding.

### **Redemption Provision**

Swiss law limits the number of shares which the Company may hold or repurchase. The Company and its subsidiaries may repurchase shares only if (i) the Company has sufficient free reserves to pay the purchase price and (ii) the aggregate nominal value of such shares does not exceed 10% of the nominal share capital of the Company. Shares held by the Company and its subsidiaries do not have any voting rights. Furthermore, the Company must create a reserve on its balance sheet in the amount of the purchase price of the acquired shares. Long-term share buy-backs by the Company may be subject to certain adverse tax consequences in Switzerland.

### **Mandatory Bid Rule**

According to Swiss law, shareholders may pass a resolution to merge with another corporation at any time. In accordance with Swiss law, article 17 of Syngenta's articles of incorporation confers authority upon the shareholders to pass resolutions concerning all matters which by law or the articles of incorporation are reserved to the authority of the shareholders at the General Meeting. However, article 18 of the articles of incorporation requires the approval of at least two thirds of the votes represented at the General Meeting in order for the shareholders to effect the dissolution of the Company without liquidation.

Under the Swiss Stock Exchange Act, shareholders and groups of shareholders acting in concert who acquire more than  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  of the voting rights of a company incorporated in Switzerland of which at least one class of equity securities is listed on the Swiss Exchange must submit a takeover bid to all remaining shareholders. A mandatory takeover bid must be made under certain rules (including rules with respect to price and procedures) set forth in the Swiss Stock Exchange Act.

### **Significant Differences**

Please see the references to Swiss law throughout this Item 10 "Additional Information", which highlight certain significant differences between Swiss law and United States law.

### **Material Contracts**

The following is a summary of our material contracts. Because it is a summary, it may not contain all of the information about such contracts that is important to you. The summaries are qualified in their entirety by reference to the contracts, copies of which have been filed with the SEC.

### **Debt Instruments**

Please refer to Note 18 to the consolidated financial statements for a description of material contracts pertaining to Syngenta's current financial debt.

### **The Separation Agreements**

Novartis, AstraZeneca, Syngenta and various of their affiliates entered into a series of separation agreements, each of which became effective at the completion of the Transactions, the purpose and effect of which was:

- *to achieve the separation of the historic, current and possible future liabilities of Novartis agribusiness and Zeneca agrochemicals business from the historic, current and possible future liabilities of the remaining activities of Novartis and AstraZeneca;*

- *to properly allocate amongst the parties liabilities that may arise under relevant securities laws as a result of any misstatements or omissions contained in the various annual report documentation to be distributed to AstraZeneca and Novartis shareholders or as a result of the Transactions themselves;*

- *to provide for the provision of various services between Novartis, AstraZeneca and Syngenta on a transitional, and in certain instances a longer-term, basis; and*
- *to ensure all affected parties have access to necessary relevant information in the future and that, where relevant, such information is subject to appropriate confidentiality provisions.*

Below we outline the material separation agreements:

### **Indemnity Matters Agreements**

The Indemnity Matters Agreements between Novartis and Syngenta and AstraZeneca and Syngenta specify the losses that each party has reciprocally covenanted to pay arising from any damages that may arise relating to both existing and former operations and divested divisions of the respective businesses. The parties are not obligated to reimburse each other for amounts which are covered under an insurance policy or otherwise from a third party. Generally, under these agreements, AstraZeneca and Novartis respectively indemnify Syngenta for losses in connection with: (1) AstraZeneca's businesses, other than AstraZeneca's agrochemical business and in connection with AstraZeneca's reorganization; and (2) Novartis's businesses, other than Novartis's agribusiness, and in connection with Novartis's reorganization. Syngenta indemnifies AstraZeneca and Novartis, respectively, for losses in connection with Syngenta's agribusinesses.

### **Environmental Matters Agreements**

The Environmental Matters Agreements between Novartis and Syngenta and AstraZeneca and Syngenta specify the obligations of each party to indemnify each other in respect of liabilities relating to environmental and health and safety matters (other than product liability claims) against respective group companies and affiliates which arise through the historic, current and future operations of Syngenta. The purpose of the Environmental Matters Agreements is to address, in general terms, the rights and obligations of Novartis, AstraZeneca and Syngenta for environmental claims that have been or will be incurred and to identify special arrangements for environmental matters related to specific affiliates of each party. The parties are not obligated to reimburse each other for amounts which are covered under an insurance policy or otherwise from a third party.

Under the Environmental Matters Agreements, Syngenta and its subsidiaries indemnify AstraZeneca and Novartis for matters arising from Syngenta's sites and agribusinesses, with exceptions for certain sites and circumstances. AstraZeneca and Novartis are allocated liability and indemnify Syngenta for such matters arising from their respective sites and businesses, including AstraZeneca's businesses (not including AstraZeneca's agrochemical business) and sites and Novartis's businesses (not including the Novartis agribusiness) and sites, with exceptions for certain specific sites and circumstances.

### **Tax Deed**

The Tax Deed between Novartis and Syngenta allocates between Novartis and Syngenta their responsibilities for certain tax matters. Novartis retained all tax liabilities arising out of or connected to the remaining Novartis businesses (excluding Novartis agribusiness) and the reorganization of the Novartis group for the purpose of separating Novartis agribusiness, except for certain events as described in the Tax Deed. Syngenta has assumed and will be responsible for all tax liabilities arising out of or connected to the Novartis agribusiness or a Syngenta-related event as described in the Tax Deed. The Deed also provides for the management of tax affairs and dispute resolution.

The Tax Deed between AstraZeneca and Syngenta allocates AstraZeneca's and Syngenta's responsibilities for certain tax matters. AstraZeneca retained all tax liabilities arising out of or connected to the remaining AstraZeneca businesses (excluding Zeneca agrochemicals) and the reorganization of the AstraZeneca group for the purpose of separating Zeneca agrochemicals, except for certain events as described in the Tax Deed. Syngenta has assumed and will be responsible for all tax liabilities arising out of or connected to Zeneca agrochemicals business or a Syngenta-related event as described in the Tax Deed. The Deed also provides for the management of tax affairs and dispute resolution.

***Intellectual Property Agreements***

Under the Intellectual Property Agreements, Syngenta acquired title to all relevant intellectual property that is exclusive to or predominantly relates to its business. Syngenta will license or will be granted licenses for relevant intellectual property pertaining to the business of Syngenta that it shares with Novartis or AstraZeneca.

Licenses (other than the license of the Zeneca or Novartis house mark and domain names) are worldwide, exclusive in the field, royalty-free and perpetual. The licenses of the Novartis house mark and domain names are exclusive in the agribusiness field,

royalty-free and expired three years after the date of the completion of the Transactions. The licenses of the Zeneca house mark and domain names are exclusive in the agrochemicals field, royalty-free and expired on January 4, 2005.

### **Public Documentation and Securities Offering Contribution Agreement**

The Public Documentation and Securities Offering Contribution Agreement among Novartis, AstraZeneca and Syngenta allocates the responsibilities for losses arising out of untrue statements, omissions, actions or statements made in the listing and shareholders' documentation, regarding the offering of rights or dividends of shares in Syngenta or in relation to the registration, listing, transfer and issues of the Syngenta shares. Each of the parties generally indemnifies the others for liabilities caused by untrue statements or alleged untrue statements contained in or omissions from such party's listing and shareholders' documents relied on by the other parties or third parties.

### **Exchange Controls**

There are currently no Swiss laws, decrees or regulations restricting the import or export of capital or affecting the payment of dividends or other payments to holders of Syngenta shares or ADRs who are non-Swiss residents. There are no limitations relating only to non-Swiss persons under Swiss law or the Articles of Association of Syngenta on the right to be a holder of Syngenta shares or ADRs.

### **Taxation**

This taxation summary solely addresses the material Swiss and United States tax consequences to shareholders in connection with the acquisition and disposition of Syngenta shares or ADRs. This summary does not discuss every aspect of taxation that may be relevant to a particular taxpayer under special circumstances or who is subject to special treatment under applicable law and is not intended to be applicable in all respects to all categories of investors. This summary also assumes that our business will be conducted in the manner outlined in this annual report. Changes in our organizational structure or the manner in which we conduct our business may invalidate this summary. The laws upon which this paragraph is based are subject to change, perhaps with retroactive effect. A change to these laws may invalidate the contents of this summary, which will not be updated to reflect changes in laws. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding the particular personal tax consequences of their acquiring, owning and disposing of shares or ADRs.

#### **Switzerland**

The following is a summary of certain tax considerations relevant to the acquisition and disposition of the Syngenta shares under Swiss tax laws. The following summary does not purport to address all tax consequences of the ownership of Syngenta shares, and does not take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investor. This summary is based on the tax laws of Switzerland as in effect on the date hereof, which are subject to change (or changes in interpretation), possibly with retroactive effect.

#### **Withholding Tax on Dividends and Similar Distributions**

Dividends paid and other similar cash or in kind taxable distributions made by Syngenta to a holder of Syngenta shares (including dividends on liquidation proceeds and stock dividends) are subject to a Swiss withholding tax at a rate of 35%. The withholding tax will be withheld by Syngenta on the gross distributions and will be paid to the Swiss Federal Tax Administration. A reduction of the shares' nominal value by means of a capital reduction does not represent a dividend or similar distribution for purposes of Swiss withholding tax.

*Swiss resident recipients.* Swiss resident individuals or legal entities are generally entitled to a full refund or tax credit for the 35% withholding tax if they are the beneficial owners of such distributions at the time the distribution is due and duly report the receipt thereof in the relevant income tax return. The 35% withholding tax on intercompany dividends paid from Syngenta to a Swiss parent company may be only reported (instead of the withholding and refund procedure). This means that the dividend may be paid out gross. The reporting procedure, however only applies if the parent company holds minimum 20% in the capital of Syngenta and only in respect of cash dividends (not applicable for example to liquidation proceeds).

*Non-resident recipients.* The recipient of a taxable distribution from Syngenta who is an individual or a legal entity not resident in Switzerland for tax purposes may be entitled to a partial or even a full refund of the withholding tax if the country in which such recipient resides for tax purposes has entered into a bilateral treaty for the avoidance of double taxation with Switzerland and the further conditions of such treaty are met. Holders of Syngenta shares not resident in Switzerland should be aware that the procedures for claiming treaty benefits (and the time frame required for obtaining a refund) may differ from country to

country. Holders of Syngenta shares not resident in Switzerland should consult their own legal, financial or tax advisors regarding receipt, ownership, purchase, sale or other dispositions of Syngenta shares and the procedures for claiming a refund of the withholding tax. As of January 1, 2005 Swiss withholding tax on dividends may be reduced at source upon request for substantial shareholders (i.e., shareholdings of at least 20% or 25% of the capital of Syngenta, depending on the applicable double tax treaty) if certain conditions are met.

As of January 1, 2005, Switzerland had entered into bilateral treaties for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to income taxes with the following countries:

Argentina	Germany	Latvia	Russia
Albania	Greece	Lithuania	Singapore
Australia	Hungary	Luxembourg	Slovakia
Austria	Iceland	Macedonia	Slovenia
Belgium	India	Malaysia	South Africa
Belarus	Indonesia	Mexico	Spain
Bulgaria	Iran	Moldavia	Sri Lanka
Canada	Ireland	Mongolia	Sweden
China	Israel	Morocco	Thailand
Croatia	Italy	Netherlands	Trinidad and Tobago
Czech Republic	Ivory Coast	New Zealand	Tunisia
Denmark	Jamaica	Norway	Ukraine
Ecuador	Japan	Pakistan	United Kingdom
Egypt	Kazakhstan	Philippines	United States
Estonia	Kirgistan	Poland	Uzbekistan
Finland	Kuwait	Portugal	Vietnam
France	Republic of Korea	Romania	Venezuela

In addition, Switzerland concluded a double tax treaty with Serbia and Montenegro that enters into force as per January 1, 2006 and is currently negotiating a double tax treaty with Turkey.

*Residents of the United States.* A non-resident holder who is a resident of the United States for purposes of the United States-Switzerland tax treaty, the "Treaty", is eligible for a reduced rate of tax on dividends equal to 15% of the dividend, provided that such holder (i) qualifies for benefits under the Treaty, (ii) holds, directly and indirectly, less than 10% of Syngenta voting stock, and (iii) does not conduct business through a permanent establishment or fixed base in Switzerland to which the shares or ADRs are attributable. Such an eligible holder must apply for a refund of the amount of the withholding tax in excess of the 15% treaty rate. The claim for refund must be filed on Swiss Tax Form 82 (82C for corporations; 82I for individuals; 82E for other entities), which may be obtained from any Swiss consulate general in the United States or from the Federal Tax Administration of Switzerland at the address below, together with an instruction form. The original form and three copies of the form must be duly completed, signed before a notary public of the United States, and sent to the Federal Tax Administration of Switzerland, Eigerstrasse 65, CH-3003 Berne, Switzerland. The form must be accompanied by suitable evidence of deduction of Swiss tax withheld at source, such as certificates of deduction, signed bank vouchers or credit slips. The form may be filed on or after July 1 or January 1 following the date the dividend was payable, but no later than December 31 of the third year following the calendar in which the dividend became payable.

#### **Income and Profit Tax on Dividends and Similar Distributions**

*Individuals.* An individual who is a Swiss resident for tax purposes, or is a non-Swiss resident holding Syngenta shares as part of a Swiss business operation or Swiss permanent establishment, is required to report the receipt of taxable distributions received on the Syngenta shares in his relevant Swiss tax returns. A reduction of the shares' nominal value by means of a capital reduction does not represent a taxable distribution received