# Healthier plants with the help of Biologicals?

Host: Associate Professor Erik Alexandersson, Department of Plant Protection Biology, SLU Alnarp





### Where are we?



#### SLU Alnarp, Faculty of Landscape Architecture, Horticulture and Crop Production Science (LTV), Department of Plant Protection



#### Today's presenters!



Jean Yong, Professor of Horticulture, interests in biochemistry and plant eco-physiology; Volunteer scientist in mangrove conservation and poverty alleviationlinked projects



Lerato Matsaunyane Molecular potato breeder with extension in smallholder farmer support Laura Grenville-Briggs Plant Pathologist and professor of integrated plant protection biological control in potato and cocoa



Ivan Rwomushana Senior Scientist developing integrated pest management for invasive insect pests to reduce over reliance on synthetic pesticides

### Plant Biologicals Network

Member organisation founded in 2018.

Purpose: to create a **knowledge and innovation network** in Southern Scandinavia which will establish the region as a significant global plant biologicals hub

The network aims to:

- promote awareness and knowledge exchange on research, innovation and regulations of plant biologicals
- improve agricultural production practice
- stimulate new business opportunities
- increase education on plant biologicals
- contribute to solve societal challenges in relation to agricultural production and the environment

#### Members:





#### **Plant Biologicals**

Biostimulants

**Biocontral agents** 

Inducers of resistance

Biofertilizers



About 20 participants representing SLU, Swedish Board of Agriculture, Swedish Chemicals Agency, Swedish Forest Agency, SLU Holding, SLU CBC, The Forestry Research Institute of Sweden, RICE, LRF, Rural Economy and Agricultural Societies, LMI, Gullviks

# **Ideas** for the future

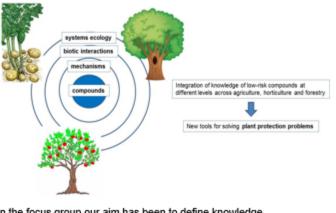
#### Focus group on low risk compounds in plant protection

#### Limitations for use and implementation of low risk compounds

- EU legislation complex and high costs for approval of products, leading to insufficient access to low risk products
- High prices due to unfavorable tax rules
- Lack of knowledge how effective products are, how to best apply them and how to integrate in existing plant protection strategies
- Attitudes and values of users

#### Possible solutions for the future

Resources for approval of products and a change of tax rules.



In the focus group our aim has been to define knowledge

## Workshop on BIOLOGICALS FOR AFRICAN AGRICULTURE, Pretoria 10-11 October 2019





#PHAB2020

Plant Health, Agriculture & Bioscience Conference 9-11 September 2020 The Hague, Netherlands

Scientific Session: **A biologicals network for African Agriculture** Friday 11 September 10:30-12:00

Tewodros Mulugeta, Ethiopia Lerato Matsaunyane, South Africa Ivan Rwomushana, Kenya Roma Gwynn, UK

### Webinar questions, homepage and evaluation

Questions after the presentations – but use the comment field already now

Many useful links @ <u>https://www.plantlink.se/healthier-plants-</u> with-the-help-of-biologicals/

**Course evaluation** 





Tina D'Hertefeldt, Lund University



### Program

- 14:30 Welcome, Erik Alexandersson
- 14:35 Jean Yong (SLU) "The Fascinating World of Biostimulants"
- 14:50 Laura Grenville-Briggs (SLU) "The disease fighting power of biologicals"
- 15:05 Ivan Rwomushana (CABI) "How enabling policy can facilitate uptake of biologicals: The EAC harmonization process"
- 15:20 Lerato Matsaunyane (ARC South Africa) "The use of biologicals: The window to sustainable production for smallholder farmers"
- 15:35 Open discussion online comments welcome!
- 15:55 End