

SYNGENTA AG
Form 6-K
March 03, 2005

FORM 6-K
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of March 2005

Commission File Number: 001-15152

SYNGENTA AG

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Schwarzwaldallee 215
4058 Basel
Switzerland

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

Form 20-F X Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Yes No X

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Yes No X

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the Registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

Yes No X

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): N/A

Re: SYNGENTA AG

Press Release: Syngenta receives intellectual property protection for corn herbicide in China

Filed herewith is a press release related to Syngenta AG. The full text of the press release follows:

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Item 1

Syngenta International AG

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Media Release

Syngenta receives intellectual property protection for corn herbicide in China

Basel, Switzerland, 3 March 2005

Syngenta announced today that it has received Administrative Protection for its chemical compound *mesotrione* from the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission. The protection gives Syngenta exclusive rights to manufacture and sell *mesotrione* in China. *Mesotrione* is the active ingredient in the fast growing CALLISTO® range, a market leader in corn herbicides, launched in 2001.

Administrative Protection is a transitional intellectual property right granted consistent with China's obligations under the World Trade Organization's agreement on intellectual property (TRIPS). It was introduced in China in 1992 and enables protection of agrochemical compounds which were previously unpatentable. Syngenta currently has nine compounds under Administrative Protection in China.

"The protection for *mesotrione* is a significant achievement and will enhance the development of CALLISTO® products particularly in important Asian markets," said John Atkin, Chief Operating Officer of Syngenta Crop Protection. "It underpins the support for patent and intellectual property protection of chemical compounds in China."

The CALLISTO® range of selective herbicides provides unprecedented broadleaf weed control, an outstanding environmental profile and excellent crop safety.

Syngenta is a world-leading agribusiness committed to sustainable agriculture through innovative research and technology. The company is a leader in crop protection, and ranks third in the

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high-value commercial seeds market. Sales in 2004 were approximately \$7.3 billion. Syngenta employs some 19,000 people in over 90 countries. Syngenta is listed on the Swiss stock exchange (SYNN) and in New York (SYT). Further information is available at www.syngenta.com.

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Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains forward-looking statements, which can be identified by terminology such as "expect", "would", "will", "potential", "plans", "prospects", "estimated", "aiming", "on track" and similar expressions. Such statements may be subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from these statements. We refer you to Syngenta's publicly available filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for information about these and other risks and uncertainties. Syngenta assumes no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changed assumptions or other factors. This document does not constitute, or form part of, any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer, to purchase or subscribe for any ordinary shares in Syngenta AG, or Syngenta ADSs, nor shall it form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract therefor.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 3, 2005

SYNGENTA AG

By: /s/ Christoph Mäder

Name: Christoph Mäder
Title: General Counsel

By: /s/ Daniel Michaelis

Name: Daniel Michaelis
Title: Senior Corporate Counsel