

## Frequently-Asked Questions

**Q: What is *Pasteuria*?**

A: *Pasteuria* is a group of naturally-occurring soil bacteria that specifically attack plant-parasitic nematodes.

**Q: How was *Pasteuria* discovered?**

A: Scientists first realized that *Pasteuria* spp. could provide effective nematode control over 50 years ago, and academic and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) researchers have long considered *Pasteuria* to be among the most promising biological agents for control of plant-parasitic nematodes. But until recently, no one was able to grow *Pasteuria* outside of the body of a nematode.

Pasteuria Bioscience has developed a revolutionary new technology that allows the rapid and cost-effective growth of multiple strains of *Pasteuria* in traditional commercial fermentation tanks, using easily available growth media.

**Q: How can *Pasteuria* be utilized for nematode control?**

A: *Pasteuria* are specific, naturally-occurring pathogens of nematodes. They have been recognized for many years by the scientific community as potential nematode control agents. They have been shown to control nematodes in a large variety of crops in many locations worldwide. Since they have no other hosts, they are safe to use. *Pasteuria* forms endospores, the most robust life-form currently known. They can therefore be applied, packaged and stored in almost any formulation.

**Q: Is *Pasteuria* commercially viable?**

A: Yes. Pasteuria Bioscience has made a technological breakthrough that allows growth of *Pasteuria* in liquid culture, suitable for scale-up to commercial production levels. Until recently, production of *Pasteuria* was prohibitively expensive for most applications. It had never been grown in laboratory culture and was believed to be incapable of growth outside its nematode host. *Pasteuria* grown in nematode hosts is currently being used at Disney World Epcot Center, and has been sold in Japan, but the cost is far too high for most agricultural applications.

**Q: Are products based on *Pasteuria* available for sale now?**

A: Not yet. *Pasteuria* Bioscience has filed registration applications with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its first products, for control of sting nematodes on turf grass and on strawberries. These products will be launched in 2010 and 2011, with others to follow.

**Q: What are the advantages of *Pasteuria* technology?**

A: Products based on *Pasteuria* technology will be effective, safe, environmentally friendly and convenient to use. *Pasteuria* spp. is infectious and lethal to nematodes and can be used to target and eliminate specific nematode types without harming other organisms. *Pasteuria* is safe for humans, plants and animals. There will be no special handling or storage requirements and it can be applied by conventional application equipment.

**Q: What products will be made available featuring *Pasteuria* technology?**

A: *Pasteuria* Bioscience is developing products based on *Pasteuria* spp. to treat major nematode pests in most agricultural crops. The first product will treat sting nematodes in professional turf (golf courses and athletic fields) and in strawberry production. Subsequent products will treat nematodes in vegetable crops such as root-knot nematode, and in agronomic crops such as soybean (soybean cyst nematode) and cotton (Reniform nematode).