



## Welcome at the Potato Storage Symposium

14GROUP Dormfresh BASF

Lelystad, September 4, 2025 Potato Europe



### **Agenda**

- 12.30 Welcome & introduction
  - ▶ John Forsythe, Director 14GROUP
  - ► Bert Westhoff, Crop Advisor BASF Netherlands
  - Panel discussion with experts
- 14.00 Closing



**Meerten Smit** Chair



## Potato Europe

John Forsythe

4 September 2025





1965 Darol Forsythe founded the potato storage ventilation company, IVI

The search for alternate chemicals leads to a new product: 1,4SIGHT®. It received the first U.S. EPA registration as a biochemical.

2008

Darol Forsythe (R) and son (L) John with first applicator model

**2000** DormFresh was established by John Forsythe and Dr. Harry Duncan.

After many years of R&D, the first electric applications machine was sold commercially as **E-Fresh**<sup>®</sup>.

2015 1,4SIGHT® received EU approval after a 17-year review process.

2022 1,4SIGHT® is registered in Brazil.

DormFresh UK registration obtained.

2024 1,4SIGHT® receives established CODEX value.

Darol was granted a distributorship for **Sprout Nip** (CIPC or chlorpropham) and began selling and applying it. CIPC inhibits potatoes from sprouting in storage.

1996 Our first packaging facility, **Dataplex**, is established in El Salvador.

2005 The company name PIN/NIP was changed to 1,4GROUP.

2011 1,4SIGHT® is registered in Canada and Mexico.

2018 1,4SIGHT® is registered in Kenya.

**2023** Skyfall Biologicals, a subsidiary of 1,4GROUP, began building a production facility in Geismar, Louisiana, U.S.







## **Global Storage Solutions**

#### In Field Use

- Maleic Hydrazide (usage increased dramatically after the ban of CIPC in Europe)
- Renewed interest globally

#### Current Storage Treatments

- 1,4SIGHT®/DORMIR®
- BIOX M mint oil
- Argos orange oil
- Restrain ethylene
- Talent caraway oil
- Low temperature storage (refrigeration)
- CIPC
- 1,4Zap® (1-octanol)
- Clove Oil
- SmartBlock 3decan-2-one

## Treatments Not in Practice

- Irradiation
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Ozone

## Treatments Being Researched

- Gene editing
- Genetic Modification
- Essential oils
- Gibberellic acid
- UV/LED/Diffused light
- Methyl Jasmonate
- Chlorine dioxide
- Higher alcohols
- Aloe vera gel
- Imazethapyr
- Mustard seed extract
- Tree bark extracts
- Ozone





## Global Developments & Trends

#### **Alternatives to CIPC**

- Researched for decades
- Renewed focus since EU ban

### **Regulatory Hurdles**

- Constantly changing requirements
- Stricter safety & residue data is needed by regulatory authorities
- These requirements apply to both new and existing active substances
- Natural ≠ automatically mean a product will be approved

### **Research Gaps**

- Academic trials often are not representative of commercial needs
- Many studies are too abbreviated for use in registration
- Often, they can misrepresent the effectiveness of active substances



## **Global Developments & Trends**

#### Life After CIPC

- Last used in Europe in 2020
- 5 storage seasons have been managed with alternatives
- Better storage & crop management
- Millions of tonnes stored >6-8 months

#### **GMO**

- Tried since the 1990's
- Not commercially viable

### **Gene Editing**

- 15+ years of research, still in development
- Key questions:
  - Impact on seed dormancy?
  - Effect on sugar metabolism?
  - Next generation of plants?
  - Long-term human safety?
- Caution: changing nature has risks



## Path of Success for 1,4SIGHT®

- High quality product
  - Works with nature
  - Works consistently
  - Works on all types of potatoes
  - Excellent results in storage
- Support focused on needs of storage industry
- Value for the grower
- Storage managers now pay more attention to their crops in storage
- Minimum application rates for 1,4SIGHT® were quickly discovered



## **Skyfall Biologicals**

**Innovative Solutions** 

**Environmental Stewardship** 

**Community Impact** 



Specialty Chemical Manufacturer Geismar, Louisiana, USA



## **Skyfall Current Products**

#### Manufacturer of:

1,4SIGHT® (1,4-DMN)

Hydrogenated Catmint Oil (HCO)









## **EU Registration Update**

- The status of re-registration is the active substance approval has been extended to the end of November 2027
- PHI reduction from 30 days to 3 days is now in place in France,
   Germany, Austria and just last week in the Netherlands.
- 1,4SIGHT® for use on seed potatoes is now approved in one Member State and we are anticipating more approvals soon



## **Key Message for Potato Industry**



#### Value added to potatoes

Less shrink coming out of storage than any other product



### **Quality of stored potatoes**

Firm coming out of storage
Sprout free is possible
Better than CIPC treatments



## Conclusions

- 1,4SIGHT® resulted in the most effective sprout control
- **Shelf-Life** with 1,4SIGHT® was the best of the EU registered products tested
- Weight loss was significantly reduced when 1,4SIGHT® is used
- Best results if used within the first month of storage
- Tubers firmer after 1,4SIGHT® use
- Significant energy savings can be achieved using 1,4SIGHT® in EU





#### CONTACT

If further information is required to resolve any uncertainties, please contact us directly.

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## **Agenda**

- Why research with 1,4SIGHT?
- **■** Farmer experiences
- **■** Trial results
- Conclusions
- Q&A



### Research with 1,4SIGHT

- BASF & Dormfresh initiated research in NL from 2009
  - ▶ PPO/WUR Westmaas
  - ▶ PPO/WUR Lelystad
  - ► HLB Wijster

- Checked parameters
  - Sprouting
  - Frying quality
  - > Firmness
  - Skin finish
  - > Shelf life
  - Storage loss





### Farmers experiences

- Many farmers experimented with early 1,4SIGHT use and have perfect results
- Significant group of farmers is satisfied with storage results, but apply 1,4SIGHT late

Jaap Haanstra, Luttelgeest



William de Jonge, Swifterbant



Nico Rodenburg, Zwartewaal





## Optimizing storage efficiency to benefit growers

Goal

Reducing storage loss

**Problem** 

Bulk of storage loss is in the first month

Solution

- 1,4SIGHT is a dormancy enhancer
- Early treatment is key!



## Two year study to the benefits of early 1,4SIGHT treatment











## Storage strategies tested

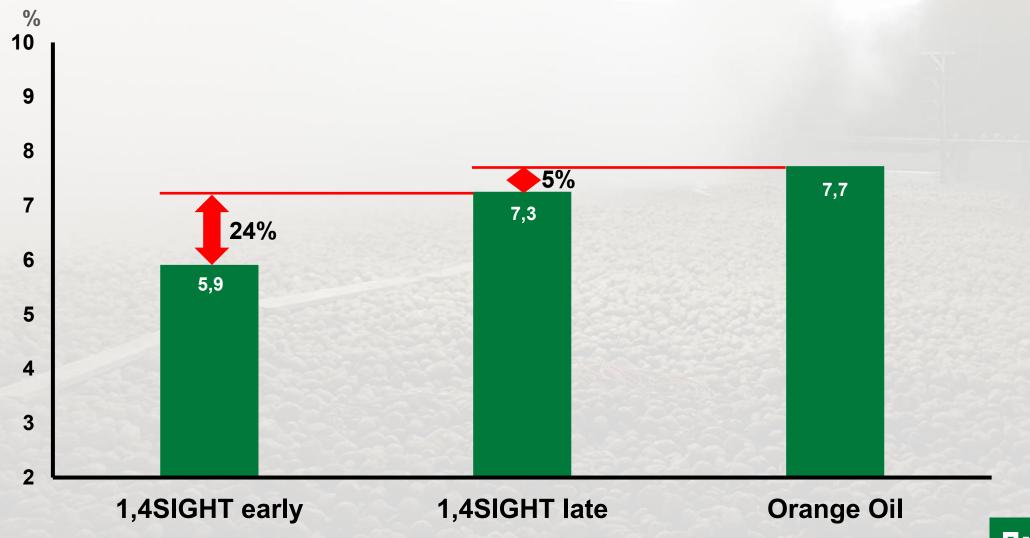
2023/2024 & 2024/2025 season

	All strategies MH	All strategies MH treated and unloaded mid of june			
	1. Early start 1,4SIGHT	2. Late start 1,4SIGHT	3. Market reference Orange oil		
T1					
T2					
Т3					
T4			The Town I was		
Т5					
T6					
Totaal volume					

Varities: Agria, Innovator, Melody, Milva, Fontane & Lady Claire 7.5°C Temperature



## Storage loss findings on all 6 varieties





### Return on investment (all varieties WUR)

Storage loss (ton)						
Store size (ton)	1,4SIGHT early	1,4SIGHT late	Orange Oil			
1.000	59 ± 14	ton 73	77			

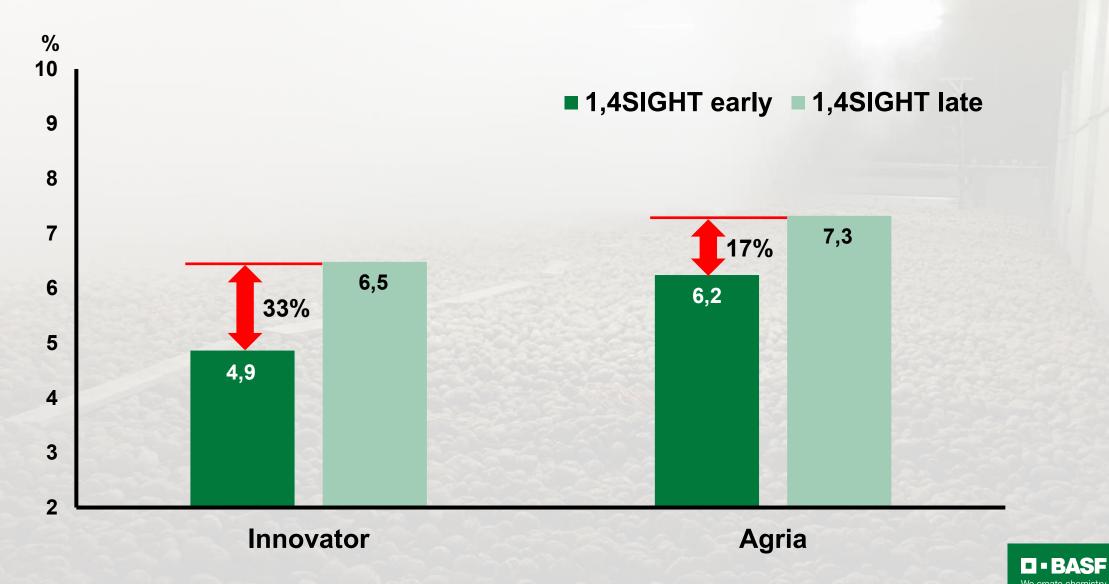
Financial Storage loss (at a price of 250 €/ton)

± € 3.500

Using 1,4SIGHT early results in lowest (financial) storage loss



## Storage loss Innovator & Agria



## Return on investment for Innovator & Agria

Storage loss (ton)						
	Innovator		Agria			
Store size (ton)	1,4SIGHT early	1,4SIGHT late	1,4SIGHT early	1,4SIGHT late		
1.000	49 ± 16	ton 65	62 ± 11	ton 73		

Financial storage loss (at a price of 250 €/ton)

± € 2.600

Using 1,4SIGHT early results in lowest (financial) storage loss



### Lessons from 2 years storage research

- Always treat 1,4SIGHT as early as possible
- Early 1,4SIGHT treatment benefits all varities
  - Even on MH treated!
  - ► You can start earlier as you think.....





## Sustainability and energy use

- Early 1,4SIGHT applications ensures low respiration rates of tubers
  - Less ventilation hours and smart use of mechanical cooling
  - Lower carbon-footprint

Complies with societal demand for less spilling/use of energy

- Clear evidence:
  - Westmaas WUR 2010-2013
  - Rusthoeve Delphy 2020
  - Wijster HLB 2009 & 2024
  - Lelystad WUR 2010-2013 & 2015 & 2024-2025



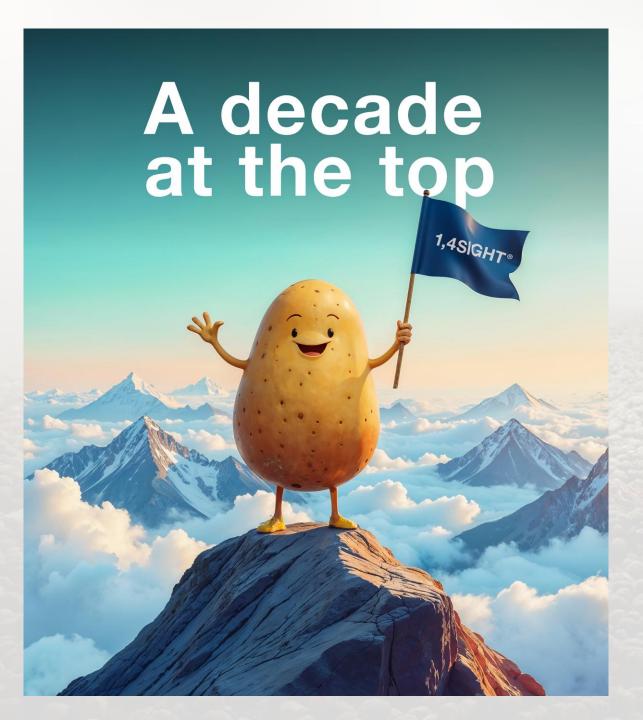
### Conclusions and take home message

- 1,4SIGHT is a Dormancy Enhancer; start "preventative"
  - Less respiration > less ventilation & cooling > less energy use!

■ MH in the field + 1,4SIGHT early applications are complementary

■ Early treatment 1,4SIGHT most efficient for <u>all varieties</u>





# Thank you!

Questions?





## Panel discussion with experts

Lelystad, September 4 2025 Potato Europe



### **Panel**



**Hilchard Waalkens**Potato grower



**Leon Wisse**Contract applicator



Jozef Backx
Crop advisor & storage specialist



## Thank you for attending our potato storage symposium



