

# Ghent: The Cradle of Plant Biotechnology

- From '70s-now:

UGent: one of the leading research centers in plant science

- Early '80s:

Marc Van Montagu and Jeff Schell develop Agrobacterium-mediated transformation

- 1982-1983:

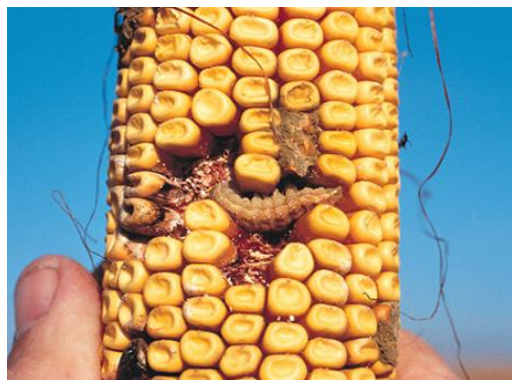
Marc Van Montagu founded Plant Genetic Systems (“PGS”), one of the agbiotech pioneers





# PGS: A Strong Track Record of Innovations

- 1985: PGS develops the first insect-resistant plant
- 1987: PGS develops herbicide-tolerance (“glufosinate-tolerance”) in plants
- 1990: PGS develops molecular crop hybridization in canola



# PGS and VIB: Instrumental for Future Growth of Plant Biotech



- 1996: Acquisition of PGS by AgrEvo Hoechst (now Bayer CropScience)
- 1997: VIB founds DevGen - IPO in 2005
- 1998: VIB (Dirk Inzé) together with ex-PGS employee found CropDesign – Acquired by BASF in 2006

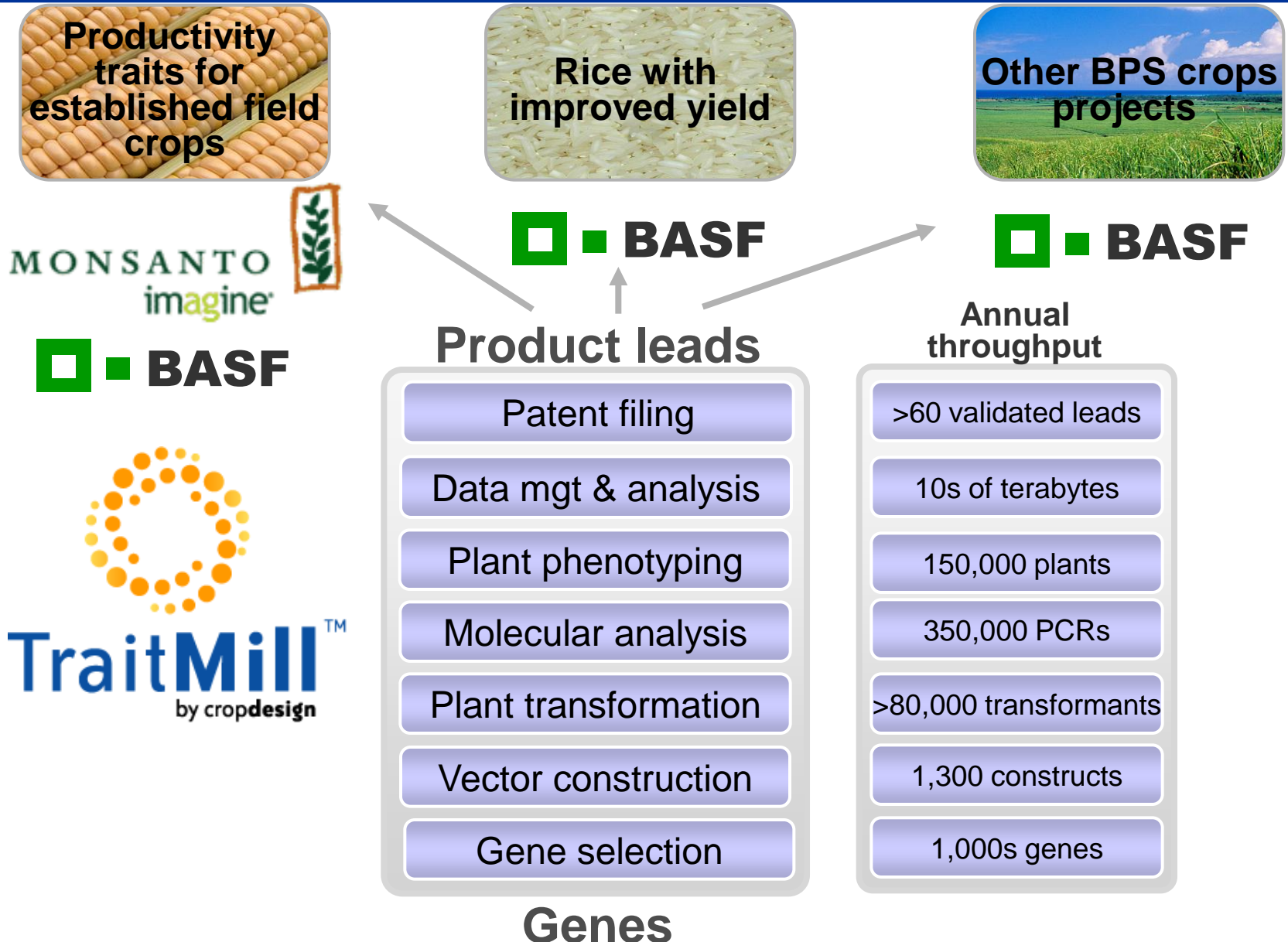
# CropDesign: A Snapshot



- Located in Ghent, Belgium; 110 employees
- Founded in 1998 as a spin-off from VIB
- A BASF Plant Science group company since June 2006
- Specialized in development of crop productivity traits by operating a unique rice-based high throughput trait discovery platform (“TraitMill”)
- Focus is on rice as a model plant for corn and other cereals as well as a commercial crop



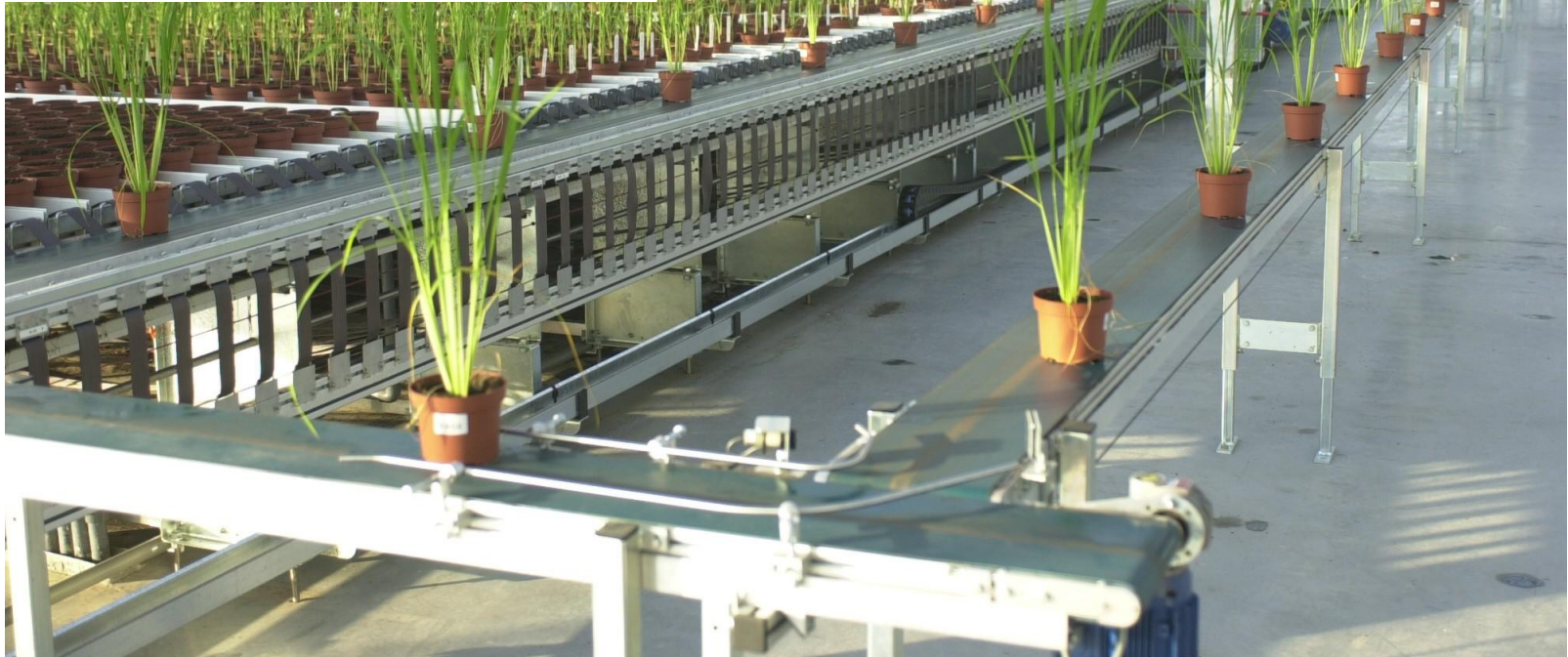
# TraitMill™ : Trait Development for Different High-Value Opportunities



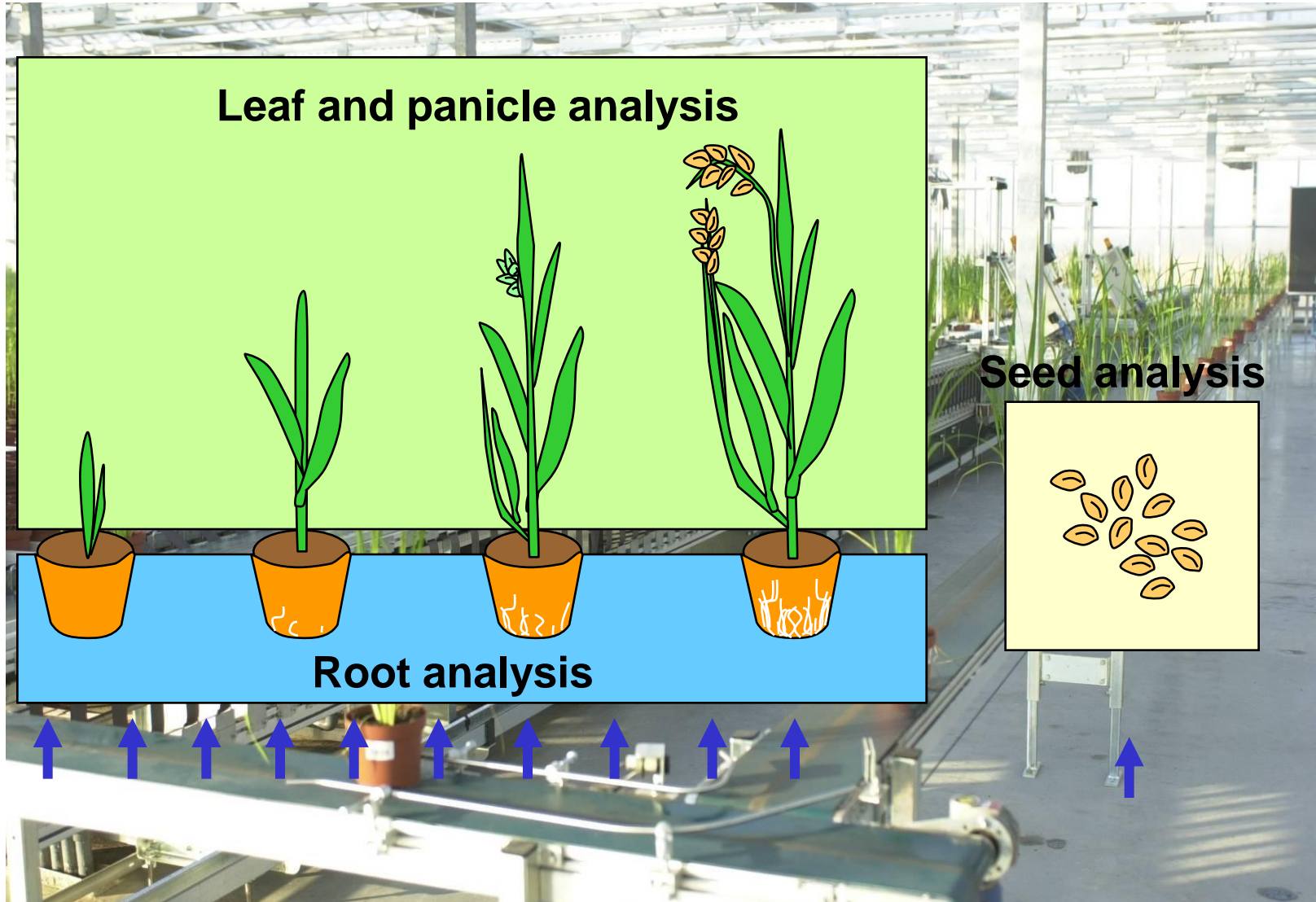
# Largest Crop-Based Discovery Platform for Yield Traits



**cropdesign**  
a BASF Plant Science Company



# Automated Plant Evaluation System



# Broad and Diversified Pipeline of Lead Genes



**cropdesign**  
a BASF Plant Science Company

### Higher seed count



Control

CD

### Larger seeds



Control

CD

### Larger panicles



Control

CD

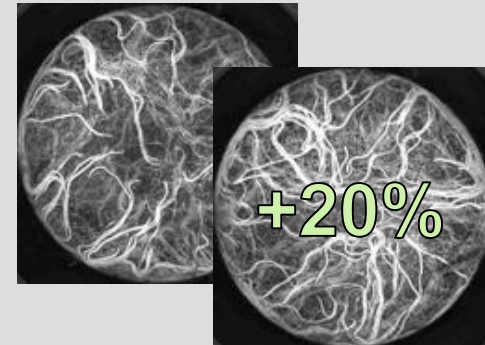
### Increased green biomass



Control

CD

### Increased root biomass



Control

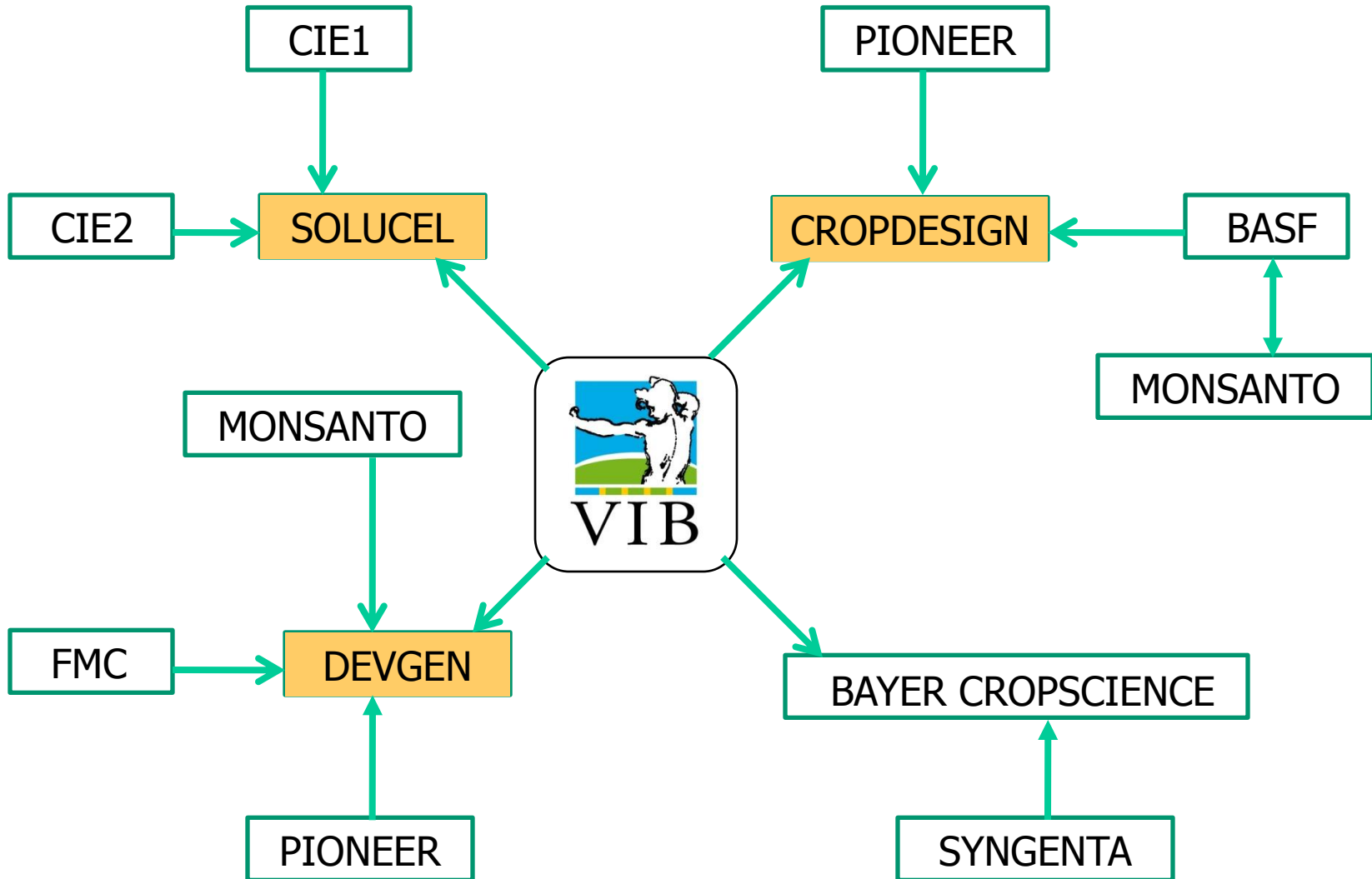
CD



# A Growing Cluster



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a BASF Plant Science Company



# 2010: Major Global Hub for Plant Biotechnology

- Together with Research Triangle Park (NC, US) THE major hub for agricultural biotechnology
- VIB-PSB: world leading research center in plant science
- Unique mix of academia, major players (Bayer, BASF) and start-ups
- “Recycling” entrepreneurs
- 800 researchers

# Gent Technology Park

## Largest European Cluster in Green Biotechnology

