Taiwan Visit: BioTaiwan 2010

Graminex’s distributor Gemfont, invited representatives from Graminex to visit Taipei, Taiwan this July. Cynthia May and Colleen May attended the BioTaiwan 2010 show on July 22-25th in Taipei with Gemfont. Gemfont is Graminex’s distributor for Flower Pollen Extracts in Taiwan. Gemfont markets Graminex’s products as bulk powder ingredients to manufacturers and formulators.

BioTaiwan is an international tradeshow that focuses on the Taiwanese market for biotechnology for a number of different applications. Exhibitors include food, beverage, cosmetic and nutraceutical companies. There is also areas of the tradeshow dedicated to the packaging and manufacturing of these products. The tradeshow was very successful this year with high attendance numbers.

Graminex representatives Cynthia May, Nick Wagner and Colleen May attended the Vitafoods tradeshow in Geneva, Switzerland on May 18-20th. This year Graminex shared a booth with partner Principium S.A. with representatives Julien Janson and Cristiana Piangiolino in attendance. Graminex released its newest products G60™WS and the Pollenique® Skincare line for the first time in Europe at Vitafoods.

Vitafoods is one of the largest nutraceutical, cosmetic and food ingredient tradeshows in Europe. It brings ingredient suppliers and buyers from all over the world together. This year the quality of the attendees was extremely high with overwhelming foot traffic during the show hours.

Graminex would like to thank everyone at Principium for giving us tours of their offices and facilities in Italy. We are also very grateful for Principium’s organization, especially Cristiana Piangiolino’s arrangements for the exhibition booth for this year’s tradeshow. Graminex is looking forward to attending Vitafoods again in 2011.
Graminex has officially launched its new skincare line Pollenique® containing Flower Pollen Extracts. Pollenique® consists of two product lines; Pollenique Silk™ and Pollenique Juvenescent™ with 7 different skincare products. At Pollenique’s® core is an all natural approach to creating beautiful, healthy skin. Beautiful skin needs the right combination of nutrients and moisture to perform at its best. For skincare we understand that skin not only protects the body, but also absorbs external elements. We believe by using our Pollenique Silk™ and Pollenique Juvenescent™ skincare product lines you can achieve flawlessly radiant skin. With the correct combination of natural ingredients for both nutrient content and moisture, the skin’s performance for protection can be maximized. Our unique skincare formulations containing Graminex Flower Pollen Extract™ provide the synergistic effects of essential nutrients to both protect and heal the skin. All of our skincare products are paraben, fragrance and color free.

The Pollenique Silk™ Skincare products are designed to moisturize even the driest skin with all natural ingredients, which includes creams for hands, body and extra dry areas. Pollenique Silk™ Hand Lotion is formulated to be absorbed quickly and leave non-greasy, luxuriously soft hands. Flower Pollen Extract™ and vitamin E penetrate deep into the skin layers to restore moisture. Pollenique Silk™ Body Lotion is formulated to be fast absorbing and offers the right amount of moisture to give all of your skin a more youthful appearance. This formulation includes Flower Pollen Extract™, vitamin E and natural shea butter to moisturize the whole body. Pollenique Silk™ Extra Dry Skin Crème is a thicker formula designed to intensely moisturize even the most rough and dry skin. This formulation with Flower Pollen Extract™, vitamin E and natural shea butter works especially well for dry and cracked skin on the feet and elbows.

The Pollenique Juvenescent™ Skincare products are all natural formulas designed to offer your skin more than just basic moisturization. Pollenique Juvenescent™ Anti-Aging Crème is an all natural formulation containing Flower Pollen Extract™ with oak and millet seed extracts. The combination of these extracts, act as super antioxidants along with the natural tannins to help improve the microstructure of the skin, reducing wrinkle depths and helping to rejuvenate the skin’s networking structure.

Pollenique Juvenescent™ Whitening Crème is a special formula containing Flower Pollen Extract™, watercress extract and zinc extract. The natural watercress and zinc extracts are designed to gently lighten the skin by helping to inhibit a key enzyme of melanin production, while vitamin B3 influences their transport for skin uniformity. This product helps reduce the appearance of age spots and provides a more uniform skin pigmentation. Pollenique Juvenescent™ Facial Renew offers a unique moisturizer with natural hydrating ingredients and amino acids for tighter, smoother skin. These two natural ingredients of apple extract and Flower Pollen Extract™, provide the necessary nutrients for the skin to properly retain moisture naturally, preventing excess water loss. Pollenique Juvenescent™ Eye Renew contains a combination of Flower Pollen Extract™ and canon wood extract to both diminish dark circles under the eyes and alleviate swollen and puffy eyes. The natural ingredients in this product have been clinically shown to reduce the bag volume around the eyes for a rejuvenated and brighter appearance.

These two skincare lines are available to all of our customers for retail and wholesale prices. Any of the formulations may be private labeled in-house at Graminex to suit customer needs. Please contact us at (989) 797-5502 for more information.
Wellness News: Probiotics

More and more consumers are becoming aware of probiotics and their uses. Many different food products are now formulated with these “good bacteria” added into the mix. Historically they were only in fermented foods like unpasteurized sauerkraut and kefir (fermented milk). So what are probiotics and why do we want them in our food?

Probiotics are bacteria that live naturally inside of our digestive tracts that help maintain the balance of the intestinal microflora. The human digestive tract hosts about 400 types of probiotic bacteria. These good bacteria reduce the growth of harmful bacteria and promote a healthier functioning digestive system.1

**Escherichia coli**  
**Lactobacillus casei**

Different types of bacteria are in different areas of the digestive system. For example *Escherichia coli* or *E. coli* is beneficial in the intestine, but harmful in the stomach. *Lactobacillus casei* is a beneficial bacteria that can be found in the mouth and intestine.

So how do probiotics work for us? Probiotics, once ingested, colonize the intestines and other areas of the body and become self sustaining. They act in many beneficial ways in the body including; suppressing the growth of potentially harmful bacteria, improving immune functions, enhancing the protective barrier in the intestinal tract and helping produce vitamin K.2 By using probiotics you get what is called competitive inhibition, where the large quantities of bacteria have to compete for survival. Basically if there is enough good bacteria, they are able to outcompete the bad bacteria. During this competition the bad bacteria populations are often killed by the probiotics as they multiply.

Probiotics are often used to correct dysbiosis, or microbial imbalances on or within the body. Dysbiosis may be caused by inadequate fiber intake, oral antibiotics, infant formula feeding or ingestion of environmental toxins. Without this balance in the digestive system, bad bacteria and yeasts are left to flourish. This may lead to diarrhea, irritable bowel syndrome, yeast infections, constipation, and canker sores.

Many studies have also been done linking the use of probiotics to reduced antibiotic associated diarrhea, especially *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacteria*.3,4 When a person takes antibiotics for an infection, both harmful and beneficial bacteria in the digestive system are often destroyed, causing diarrhea. Probiotics will help to fill in the missing bacteria until the body has time to recover.

With regular use of probiotics, it has been shown that you may also increase the immune system’s ability to ward off infections in the workplace.5 Since probiotics are already part of the digestive system, they are considered safe for consumption. With the increase in interest about probiotics, companies have been manufacturing a larger variety of products for consumers.

Probiotics may be taken orally in many different forms. As a dietary supplement they can be taken in capsule, liquid, powder or tablet form. There are also some stores offering probiotic drinks. Yogurt products are available now with added live cultures of various probiotics. Consumers should be careful when buying these products however; as the quantities of live organisms varies depending on the different processing methods. When storing probiotic products they need to be kept within a specific temperature range as indicated on the package to insure that the cultures stay alive. If you have problems with your digestive system, ask your doctor if probiotics will help.

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New Ultrasonic Cleaning Unit

from Elma for the laboratory. This unit will be used to prepare glass used for samples going into the HPLC unit. The ultrasonic technology will clean laboratory glass where ever the cleaning solution can reach. This is ideal for difficult shaped glassware like flasks and smaller diameter test tubes that require complete cleaning after each use.

Beside cleaning laboratory glassware, it will also be used to degas liquid samples. When liquid samples are placed into the HPLC there can be no gas in the liquid solutions. The test results will not be accurate if any micro-bubbles are present. The degas feature on this ultrasonic cleaning unit will remove all of the oxygen from samples.

Graminex is constantly updating and expanding the in-house laboratory capabilities to deliver a consistently high quality Flower Pollen Extract™. More testing in-house, will help Graminex reduce production times with less sample shipping costs. This will allow faster product delivery times.

Graminex Manufacturing Plant Open House

Graminex has recently purchased a new Elmasonic S Ultrasonic Cleaning Unit for the laboratory. This unit will be used to prepare glass used for samples going into the HPLC unit. The ultrasonic technology will clean laboratory glass where ever the cleaning solution can reach. This is ideal for difficult shaped glassware like flasks and smaller diameter test tubes that require complete cleaning after each use.

Beside cleaning laboratory glassware, it will also be used to degas liquid samples. When liquid samples are placed into the HPLC there can be no gas in the liquid solutions. The test results will not be accurate if any micro-bubbles are present. The degas feature on this ultrasonic cleaning unit will remove all of the oxygen from samples.

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Graminex Manufacturing Plant Open House

Graminex hosted an Open House on August 29th in Deshler, Ohio at the manufacturing facility. Local area business owners and residents attended to get a behind the scenes tour of the manufacturing process required to make our Flower Pollen Extracts. Tours of the manufacturing facility were given from 1 pm to 5 pm. This included tours of the drying, processing, blending and packaging facilities.

There was a picnic lunch for all attendees. The first 50 people to arrive received the gift of a free t-shirt. The rest of the visitors received free samples of our skincare line. All the Graminex employees were very happy to see such a large turnout from the local community.

Employee Corner

This quarter’s spotlight employee is Brandon Nagel. He is in Graminex’s maintenance department at the manufacturing facility in Deshler, Ohio. Brandon has worked for Graminex since 2008. Brandon began working in the maintenance department and since then has taken on many other roles including blending and bottling operations and assisting with new equipment installations.

In the maintenance department Brandon is responsible for conducting Graminex’s preventative maintenance on equipment. This includes maintenance on the bottling line, blending equipment, processing equipment and harvesting equipment. Along with maintenance, Brandon also completes equipment modifications designed to enhance Graminex’s production processes. This includes repairing or modifying harvesting equipment along with packaging and processing equipment.

When overseeing blending and bottling operations, Brandon often makes onsite adjustments to the equipment to make production run more smoothly and processes run more efficiently.

Everyone at Graminex recognizes Brandon Nagel as an important part of the staff. We look forward to having him as part of the Graminex team for many years to come.

Suggestions or submissions for future articles can be emailed to the Editor Colleen May at bugs@graminex.com