

GROWERTALKS

GT in Brief

11/1/2023

Valent to Build New Oregon Fungi Facility

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The fungi in question is MycoApply arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF), one of the products from Mycorrhizal Applications, a subsidiary of Valent BioSciences. Mycorrhizal Applications just broke ground on a new manufacturing facility in White City, Oregon, that will complement its existing headquarters and manufacturing operations in Grants Pass, Oregon.

What are mycorrhizal fungi? These specialized fungi colonize plant roots to create a symbiotic root-and-mycelial network within the surrounding soils, increasing efficiency in nutrient and water absorption to optimize plant hardiness and vigor.

Another benefit of MycoApply is that it sequesters carbon effectively in the soil, supporting parent company Sumitomo Chemical Company's goal of achieving a 50% reduction of greenhouse gas by 2030 and helping meet its pledge to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2050.

"We are excited to begin construction in White City and expand our operations in southern Oregon, where Mycorrhizal Applications was founded more than 25 years ago," said Valent BioSciences President and CEO Salman Mir. **GT**

Pictured: Valent BioSciences and Mycorrhizal Applications executives, local government officials and representatives of Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. (SORED) participated in a groundbreaking ceremony at the White City site.