

## SÃO PAULO ADVANCED RESEARCH CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL (SPARCBIO)



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Business partner: Koppert Biological Systems

[www.sparcbio.com.br](http://www.sparcbio.com.br)

*Center for Excellence in Biological Control*

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SPARCBio appears as a world centre for advanced studies on biological control in Brazil. The center is the result of FAPESP partnerships within Koppert Biological Systems and Universidade de São Paulo ESALQ/USP in support of high-level scientific research for the development of the sustainable agriculture technologies.

The center's aim to establish a new model to control pests and diseases for tropical agriculture with mission of develop research projects, products and technologies that will result in a strong relationship with this novel integrated pest management and their adoption in a modern and sustainable agriculture.

Those products and technologies that comes from researchers has challenges as to improve brazilian farmers point of view in relation of biotech competitiveness and responsibilities.

SPARCBio organizationally placed under the Department of Entomological and Acarology at Universidade de São Paulo, located in ESALQ/USP and a research team led by PhD José Roberto Postali Parra as Director of the Center and Renata Morelli, agronomic engineer, as Executive vice-diretor.

Other professors from brazilian universities as Unesp, UFSCar, UFES, UFV and internationals partners as University of California, Davis and University of Minnesota, USA, as well as researches from Embrapa and international researches from INRA, Sophia Antipolis (France), USDA and ARS (both USA) and UCPH from Denmark also are integrants of the advanced research center.

Research projects are listed according to priorities, in soybean, corn, sugar cane, cotton, coffee and fruit crops. These are short, medium and long-term research in Biological Control meeting sector demands. Currently, the biodefensives market generates around US\$ 100 million annually, growing an average of 20% per year. The prospecting of new macro and microorganisms combined with the biological agents currently under study, should increase the biological control agents portfolio in Brazil.

Ultimately, SPARCBio is developing research to generate products and technologies allowing the vast insertion of Biological Control as part of Integrated Pest and Disease Management, towards sustainable agriculture.

