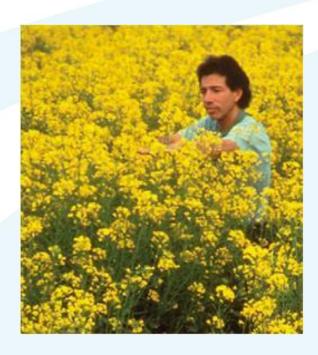
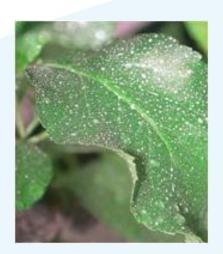
Production of Sulphur from biogas applied as fertilizer in Agriculture

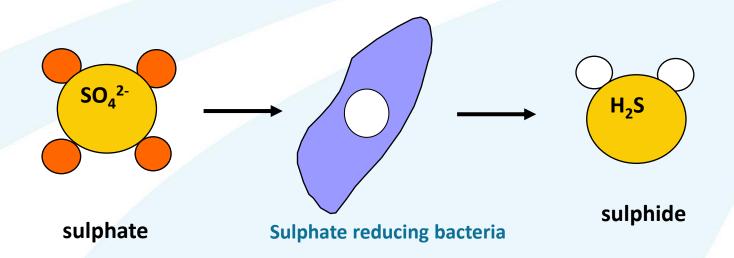




Date: 9 November 2017
Place: Wageningen
Speaker: ir. Leo Habets
I.habets@paques.nl



Bacterial conversions in the anaerobic digestion





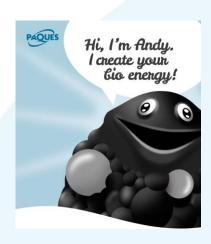
Average Biogas composition

Methane CH₄
Carbon dioxide CO₂
Hydrogen Sulphide H₂S

70 – 85%

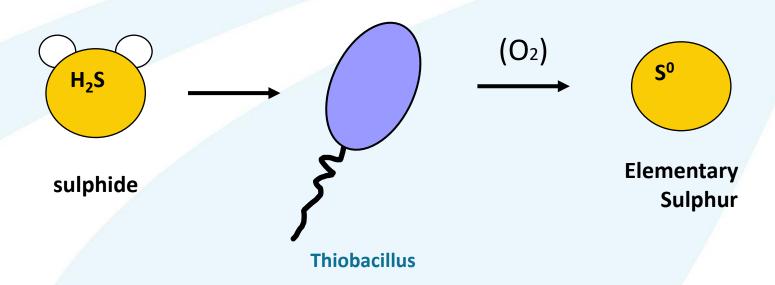
15 – 30%

0.5 - 2%





Bacterial conversion in the Thiopaq process



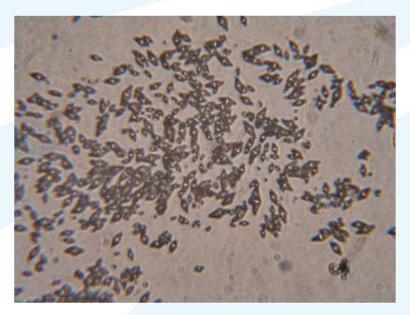


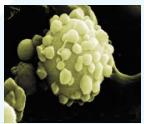
Thiopaq: bioconversion of H₂S into Sulphur



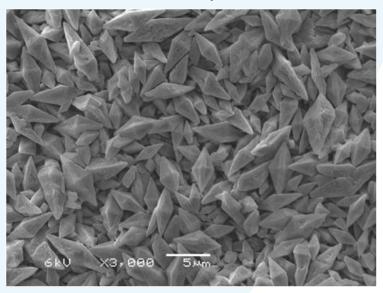
Rhombic Bio-Sulphur particles as seen via microscope

Optical microscope 1000 x





Electron microscope 3000 x





Bio-Sulphur allows better growth



Shortage of chlorophyll means:

Less capture of sun light

- → Less growth
- → Less yield!

No Sulphur

Complete



You can see it when looking over a field

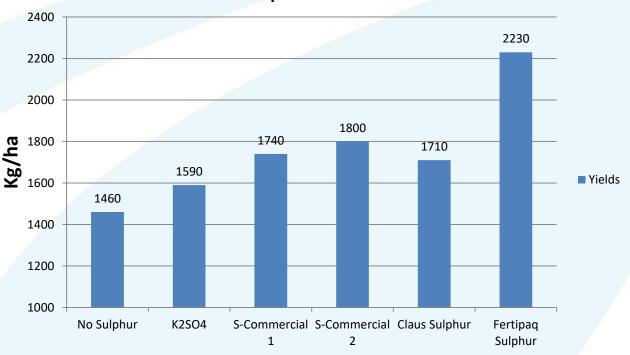




Growth stimulant for rape seed

research at University of Alberta Canada shows 23 tot 40% more yield



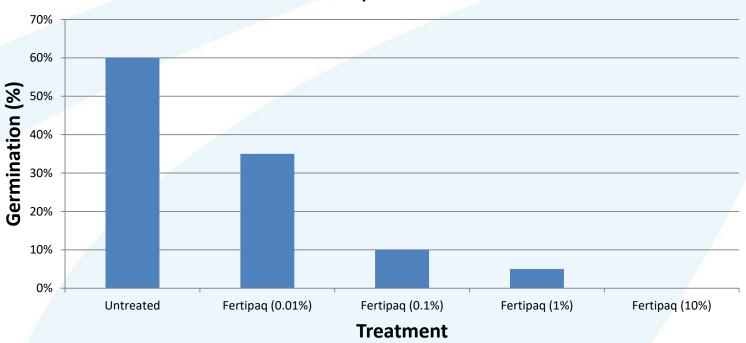




Inhibition of apple scab germs

tested at PPO Fruit

Germination of scab spores on agar plates, at different dosage Fertipaq Bio-Sulphur

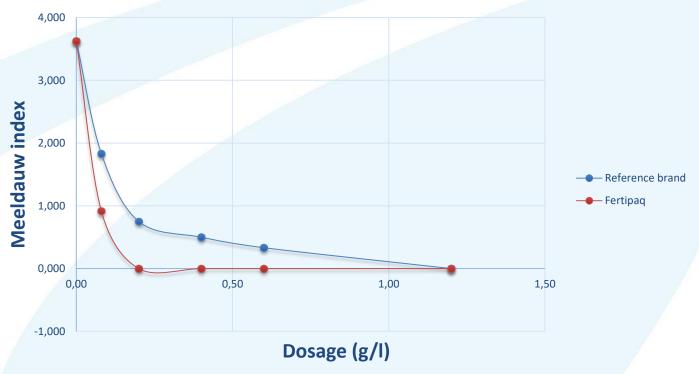




Dosage-effect ratio for mildew on cucumber

Tested at PPO Fruit

Dosage-effect ratio of Fertipaq Bio-Sulphur and one other Sulphur product for mildew on cucumber

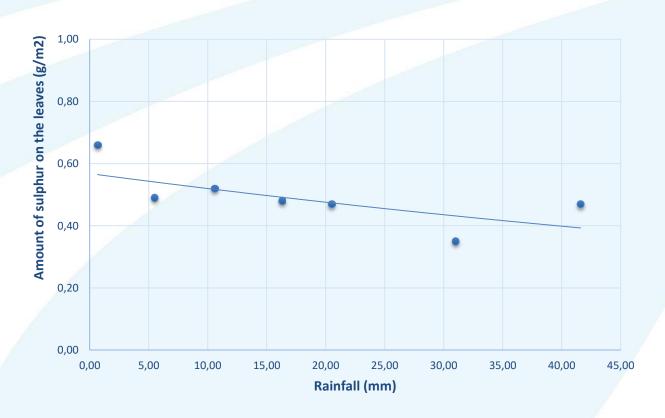




Rain fastness of Bio-Sulphur

Tested at PPO Fruit

Residue of Fertipaq Bio-Sulphur on the leaves during rainfall



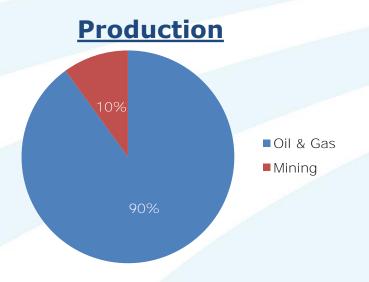


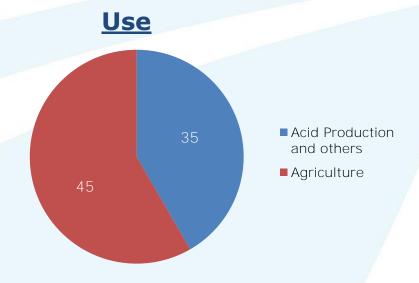
Summary of test results

- Bio-Sulphur has very good properties as fertilizer
- it shows very high rain fastness on leaves
- Is very effective against fungi spores such as from apple scab and mildew
- In total less dosing is needed compared to established products



Since fuel is all desulphurized the world Sulphur production has become huge





World: >80 million ton/y

(China import: 10 million ton/y but demand 60 million ton/y)

(Bio-Sulphur 30.000 ton \rightarrow 50.000 ton/y)

The use in agriculture is significant!



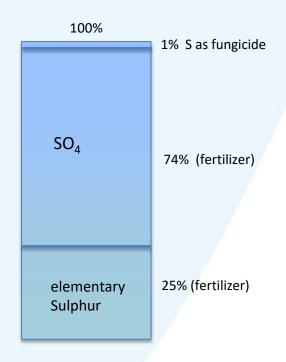
Sulphur demand in agriculture increases by 14% per year

Why?

- Modern intensive agriculture needs more S
- Flue gas desulphurization leads to shortage in the soil
- S is important for N uptake by plant (synergy)
- S becomes more important for crop protection

(Prices for S are low and depend on application and package size)

Agricultural use of Sulphur:





Visible difference between hydrophylic and hydrophobic





How did Fertipaq become alive?

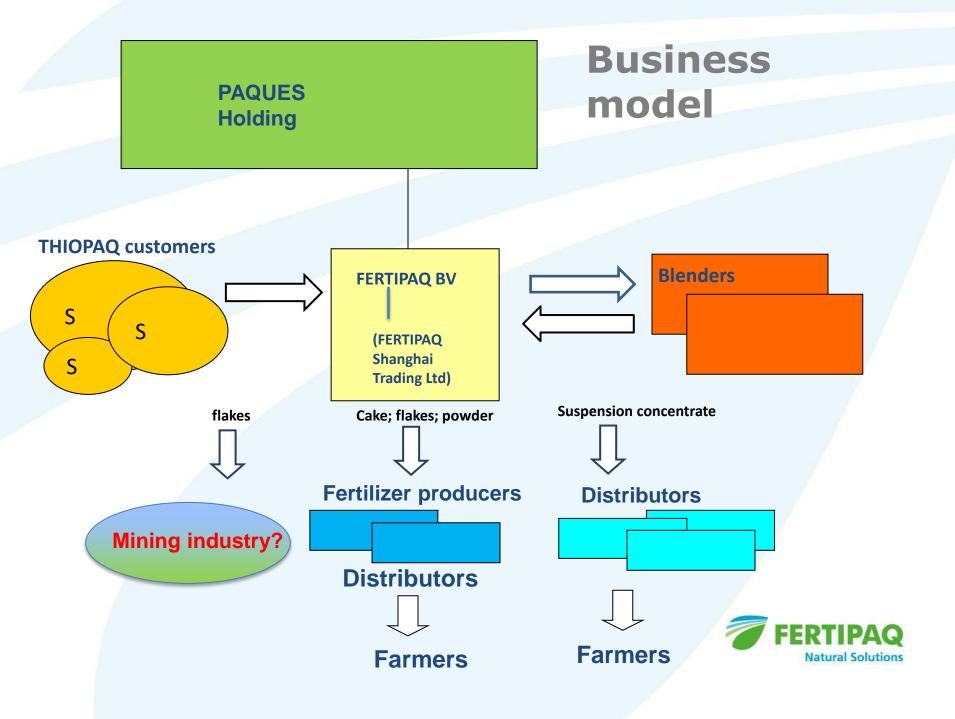
- Paques has the desire to give a new and sustainable live to the residues of its installations
- The use of Bio-Sulphur for business generation had won 2nd prize in Paques Innovation Award in 2010
- Marketing study was done resulting in Business plan.
- Fertipaq has been established to recover Sulphur but also nutrients and minerals in order to market them for sustainable use



Questions to be solved beforehand

- 1. In which form to supply the Sulphur to the market?
- 2. How to collect and transport (Logistics)?
- 3. Who will be our customers; farmers; distributors?
- 4. Do we need a permit for fertilizer application?
- 5. Do we want/need fungicide registration?
- 6. How to organize the business structure?
- 7. Can we integrate the activities in the existing Paques departments?





Packages of SC for large and small customers



800 litres IBC



75 x 10 litres



10 litres



100 ml





300 ml

Amount of raw material to be processed is still a challenge!





Conclusions

- A sustainable solution for our gas scrubber residue has been realized.
- Bio-Sulphur has advantages over established Sulphur products
- Bio-Sulphur SC can be applied in organic farming.
- Business has grown to break-even.
- New destinations of Bio-Sulphur such as for metal precipitation are under investigation.



Thanks for your attention!



