



**FLORIDIENNE**

GROUP



## PRESS RELEASE

### Floridienne announces a capital increase in its subsidiary BIOBEST, underwritten by the Mérieux Développement group.

Floridienne is pleased to announce that, on 3rd May 2018, it completed a capital increase in its subsidiary BIOBEST, a global player in biological control and pollination.

Founded in 1987, BIOBEST is a Belgian company that originally specialized in breeding bumblebees and useful predatory insects, and today has established itself as a world leader, offering complete, natural and sustainable solutions for protecting horticultural crops. Its products have become essential substitutes for chemicals in the production of various species of fruit and vegetables, as well as in ornamental crops. Biobest currently has 10 production sites worldwide and sells its products in over 60 countries.

This operation, for an initial amount of €10 million and up to €20 million, was led by Mérieux Développement, and values the BIOBEST group at €145.5 million ("pre-money").

Mérieux Développement is a growth and venture capital investment company, operating in the healthcare and nutrition sectors. Mérieux Développement is a subsidiary of the Institut Mérieux family group, world renowned in human and animal health, and has the same long-term industrial vision as Floridienne.

In addition to additional financial means, BIOBEST will be able to count on the expertise of the investment team, and on Mérieux Group's important scientific and industrial network, to support its international growth.

Floridienne is delighted with this new partnership, which substantiates the group's desire to accelerate its development in green businesses with strong positive results for the environment.

Biobest and Mérieux Développement press releases are available on [www.floridienne.be](http://www.floridienne.be).

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**About Floridienne** – [www.floridienne.be](http://www.floridienne.be)

The Belgian industrial group, Floridienne, holds leading European and global positions in market niches. Its activities focus on three sectors - Gourmet Food, Life Sciences and Chemistry. Floridienne is listed on the Euronext Belgium Stock Exchange.

**About Biobest** - [www.biobestgroup.com](http://www.biobestgroup.com)

Biobest is based in Belgium and is a major player in pollination and biological control. The company offers its solutions to producers in over 60 countries. Through its subsidiaries, the company has production sites, and sales and technical support personnel strategically located around the world to provide an efficient service, worldwide. Biobest distributors, located in many countries, are key partners who work closely with the company works to help its customers achieve their economic and environmental goals.

**About Mérieux Développement** - [www.merieux-developpement.com](http://www.merieux-developpement.com)

Mérieux Développement invests in growth and venture capital in the healthcare and nutrition sectors. Mérieux Développement works alongside entrepreneurs whose products and services can bring genuine advances throughout the world, offering them access to its industry expertise and global network. Mérieux Développement is an affiliate of Institut Mérieux, which currently employs around 17,000 employees and with consolidated revenues exceeding EUR 2.9 billion in 2017.