

SYNGENTA AG  
Form 6-K  
October 22, 2004

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**FORM 6-K**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**Report of Foreign Issuer**

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16**  
**of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of October 2004

Commission File Number: 001-15152

**SYNGENTA AG**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**Schwarzwaldallee 215**  
**4058 Basel**  
**Switzerland**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

Form 20-F X                      Form 40-F   

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Yes                                         No X

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Yes                                         No X

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the Registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

Yes                                         No X

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): N/A

Re: SYNGENTA AG

**Press Release: Third Quarter Trading Statement 2004**

Filed herewith is a press release related to Syngenta AG. The full text of the press release follows:

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**Item 1**

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**Media Release**

## **Third Quarter Trading Statement 2004**

**Basel, Switzerland, 22 October 2004**

Sales in the third quarter of 2004 increased by 17% to \$1.4bn (2003: \$1.2bn) and at constant exchange rates (CER) by 14%. Sales for the first nine months were 8% higher (CER) at \$6bn.

Crop Protection sales in the third quarter rose 12% (CER) to \$1.2bn. Sales in the low season in Europe, Africa and Middle East continued to demonstrate the strength witnessed in the first half with herbicides performing particularly well. The new season in Latin America started strongly, notably in Brazil, driven by high early demand for fungicides. Sales growth accelerated in Asia-Pacific with a good performance in Japan and India. In NAFTA, performance was driven by Professional Products, the continuing success of the CALLISTO® range and by fungicides, especially AMISTAR®. On a global basis, all product lines increased sales apart from insecticides which were slightly lower following an exceptionally strong first half. Growth in sales of new products for the quarter was \$26m; total sales of new products for the first nine months reached \$554m.

Seeds sales in the third quarter rose 28% (CER) to \$0.2bn. Field crop sales benefited from timing differences in the USA and strong early demand in Brazil. Growth in Vegetables and Flowers reflected both expanding consumer demand and the consolidation of Dulcinea Farms and Dia-Engei.

For the full year 2004, sales growth is expected to be in line with first half performance, leading to earnings per share1 growth of around 60 per cent.

Syngenta is a world-leading agribusiness committed to sustainable agriculture through innovative research and technology. The company is a leader in crop protection, and ranks third in the high-value commercial seeds

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market. Sales in 2003 were approximately \$6.6 billion. Syngenta employs some 19,000 people in over 90 countries. Syngenta is listed on the Swiss stock exchange (SYNN) and in New York (SYT). Further information is available at [www.syngenta.com](http://www.syngenta.com).

|                     |                                |                        |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
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### Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains forward-looking statements, which can be identified by terminology such as "expect", "would", "will", "potential", "plans", "prospects", "estimated", "aiming", "on track" and similar expressions. Such statements may be subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from these statements. We refer you to Syngenta's publicly available filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for information about these and other risks and uncertainties. Syngenta assumes no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changed assumptions or other factors. This document does not constitute, or form part of, any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer, to purchase or subscribe for any ordinary shares in Syngenta AG, or Syngenta ADSs, nor shall it form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract therefor.

<sup>1</sup> fully diluted, before restructuring and impairment and one-off tax credit

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## Unaudited Nine Months Product Line and Regional Sales

| Syngenta        | 9 Months<br>2004 | 9 Months<br>2003 | Actual(1)   | CER(1)(2)  | Ex RR<br>(1)(3) |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
|                 | \$m              | \$m              | %           | %          | %               |
| Crop Protection | 4908             | 4386             | + 12        | + 7        | + 8             |
| Seeds           | 1054             | 892              | + 18        | + 12       | + 12            |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>5962</b>      | <b>5278</b>      | <b>+ 13</b> | <b>+ 8</b> | <b>+ 9</b>      |

### Crop Protection

| Product line             | 1571 | 1432 | + 10 | + 5  | + 6  |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Selective herbicides     | 541  | 509  | + 7  | + 4  | + 4  |
| Non-selective herbicides | 1338 | 1122 | + 19 | + 13 | + 13 |
| Fungicides               | 806  | 718  | + 13 | + 9  | + 9  |
| Insecticides             | 560  | 499  | + 11 | + 7  | + 9  |
| Professional products    | 92   | 106  | - 14 | - 20 | - 20 |
| Others                   |      |      |      |      |      |

|                                |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total                          | 4908 | 4386 | + 12 | + 7  | + 8  |
| <b>Regional</b>                |      |      |      |      |      |
| Europe, Africa and Middle East | 1933 | 1677 | + 15 | + 6  | + 6  |
| NAFTA                          | 1679 | 1634 | + 3  | + 2  | + 3  |
| Latin America                  | 623  | 471  | + 32 | + 32 | + 33 |
| Asia Pacific                   | 673  | 604  | + 11 | + 5  | + 5  |
| Total                          | 4908 | 4386 | + 12 | + 7  | + 8  |

**Seeds**

|                                |      |     |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------|------|-----|------|------|------|
| <b>Product line</b>            |      |     |      |      |      |
| Field Crops                    | 572  | 488 | + 17 | + 11 | + 11 |
| Vegetables and Flowers         | 482  | 404 | + 19 | + 12 | + 12 |
| Total                          | 1054 | 892 | + 18 | + 12 | + 12 |
| <b>Regional</b>                |      |     |      |      |      |
| Europe, Africa and Middle East | 558  | 486 | + 15 | + 4  | + 4  |
| NAFTA                          | 376  | 308 | + 22 | + 21 | + 21 |
| Latin America                  | 63   | 55  | + 14 | + 14 | + 14 |
| Asia Pacific                   | 57   | 43  | + 33 | + 25 | + 25 |
| Total                          | 1054 | 892 | + 18 | + 12 | + 12 |

(1) Product line variances take into account minor reclassifications made in 2004

(2) Growth at constant exchange rates

(3) Growth at constant exchange rates excluding the effects of range rationalization

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**Unaudited Third Quarter Product Line and Regional Sales**

| Syngenta        | 3rd<br>Quarter<br>2004<br>\$m | 3rd<br>Quarter<br>2003<br>\$m | Actual(1)<br>% | CER(1)(2)<br>% | Ex RR<br>(1)(3)<br>% |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Crop Protection | 1166                          | 1016                          | + 15           | + 12           | + 13                 |
| Seeds           | 208                           | 157                           | + 32           | + 28           | + 28                 |

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|       |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total | 1374 | 1173 | + 17 | + 14 | + 15 |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|

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**Crop Protection**

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**Product line**

|                          |     |     |      |      |      |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Selective herbicides     | 281 | 245 | + 15 | + 12 | + 14 |
| Non-selective herbicides | 165 | 145 | + 14 | + 12 | + 12 |
| Fungicides               | 290 | 224 | + 30 | + 27 | + 27 |
| Insecticides             | 209 | 212 | - 1  | - 2  | - 2  |
| Professional products    | 190 | 171 | + 9  | + 6  | + 6  |
| Others                   | 31  | 19  | + 62 | + 54 | + 54 |

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|       |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total | 1166 | 1016 | + 15 | + 12 | + 13 |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|

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**Regional**

|                                |     |     |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Europe, Africa and Middle East | 394 | 342 | + 15 | + 8  | + 8  |
| NAFTA                          | 299 | 289 | + 4  | + 4  | + 4  |
| Latin America                  | 286 | 228 | + 25 | + 25 | + 26 |
| Asia Pacific                   | 187 | 157 | + 19 | + 17 | + 18 |

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|       |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total | 1166 | 1016 | + 15 | + 12 | + 13 |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|

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**Seeds**

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**Product line**

|                        |     |    |      |      |      |
|------------------------|-----|----|------|------|------|
| Field Crops            | 87  | 58 | + 48 | + 44 | + 44 |
| Vegetables and Flowers | 121 | 99 | + 23 | + 18 | + 18 |

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|       |     |     |      |      |      |
|-------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Total | 208 | 157 | + 32 | + 28 | + 28 |
|-------|-----|-----|------|------|------|

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**Regional**

|                                |    |    |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------|----|----|-------|-------|-------|
| Europe, Africa and Middle East | 97 | 92 | + 5   | - 3   | - 3   |
| NAFTA                          | 58 | 22 | + 164 | + 164 | + 164 |
| Latin America                  | 36 | 30 | + 20  | + 20  | + 20  |
| Asia Pacific                   | 17 | 13 | + 29  | + 25  | + 25  |

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|       |     |     |      |      |      |
|-------|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| Total | 208 | 157 | + 32 | + 28 | + 28 |
|-------|-----|-----|------|------|------|

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(1) Product line variances take into account minor reclassifications made in 2004

(2) Growth at constant exchange rates

(3) Growth at constant exchange rates excluding the effects of range rationalization

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

SYNGENTA AG

Date: October 22, 2004

By: /s/ Daniel Michaelis

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Name: Daniel Michaelis  
Title: Authorized Signatory

By: /s/ Otto Schürmann

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Name: Otto Schürmann  
Title: Authorized Signatory