



Dr. Sowmya (Shoumo) Mitra is the Syngenta Asia Pacific Regional Technical Lead for Lawn and Garden based in Singapore. His primary responsibility includes coordinating regional development projects for new active ingredients and technical support for commercial control products in the lawn and garden organization which includes turf, ornamentals, vegetation management, professional pest management, aquatics, vector control and the consumer business.

Shoumo comes from a diversified technical and commercial background. Before moving to Singapore he was the Global Technical Manager for Turf based in Basel. His primary responsibilities included coordinating global development projects for new active ingredients for control products in turf and providing strategy for global research & development activities for the turf business.

Prior to joining Syngenta he was a Professor in the Plant Science & Technology Department at the California State University Pomona, U.S.A. with both teaching and research responsibilities. He taught several classes including weed science, turfgrass physiology, soil science, soil fertility and fertilizers. His research has been focused on turfgrass environmental stress physiology mainly environmental stress management, soil and water quality, soil fertility and fertilizers, fate of pesticides, chemical and biological control of weeds, biochemical detection of herbicide injury on turfgrasses, and water conservation with wetting agents. His research program has been funded by industry partners, water agencies, the United States Golf Association (USGA), U.S. National Turfgrass Evaluation Program and the Environmental Research Institute of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

As a consultant, he has done extensive product development research for leading industry players and has spoken at various international conferences. Before joining academics Shoumo held positions of product manager and product development manager in the private industry. He received his M.S. in Weed Science/Agronomy and Doctorate in Environmental Soil Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He has over 90 science peer-reviewed publications and other scientific publications.

He has also received over a dozen honors and awards from different organizations like the **“Outstanding Young Scientist”** award from the **American Chemical Society (ACS)-Agrochemicals Division** in recognition of his research with herbicide resistance, **Excellence in Research Award** from the **Gamma Sigma Delta**, the honor society of Agriculture and the **“Industry Innovation”** award from the **European Society of Agricultural Engineers** for his work on fermentation and delivery of bacterial inoculants for disease control and plant growth promotion.