



Research, Validation and Commercialization of Technologies

**Part C: Plausible Scientific Evidence of Supreme(AG)TM with
Nutri-MasticTM as a Mulch, Soil Amendment, Natural Fertilizer,
and More**
Rev.6-21Dec25-ifus

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As a brief reminder, the IFUS Scientific Team is challenged with finding plausible explanations as to the reported efficacy of SupremeAGTM with Nutri-MasticTM, and NOT attempting to create science to justify the use of this IFUS Product Line other than guidance on how to best make it work for any given respective application.

IFUS Point 4: Soil Fertilization

Again, we begin with the quote from Dr. Robert E. Pettit, Emeritus Associate Professor Texas A&M University, who published a treatise: "ORGANIC MATTER, HUMUS, HUMATE, HUMIC ACID, FULVIC ACID AND HUMIN: THEIR IMPORTANCE IN SOIL FERTILITY AND PLANT HEALTH."

As a reminder, Dr. Pettit stated, "Continued use of these acidic fertilizers in the **absence of adequate humic substances (in the soil) has caused many serious sociological and ecological problems.** Man needs to reconsider his approach to fertilization techniques by giving higher priority to soil humus."

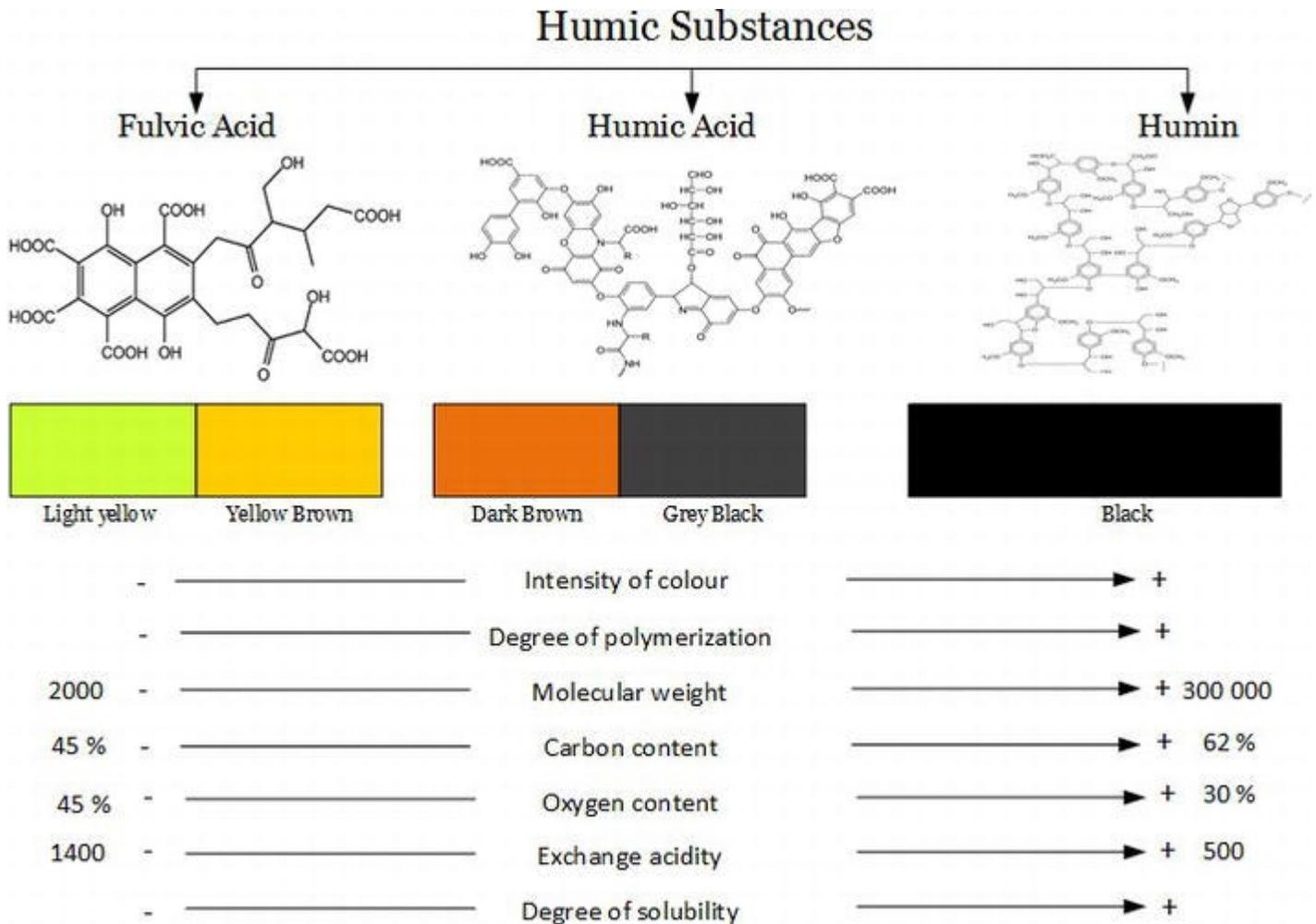


Source: <https://image.slidesharecdn.com/soilorganicmatter-181129065629/75/Soilorganic-matter-and-Humic-substances-1-2048.jpg>

The IFUS Scientific Team continues its efforts to find practical guidance for the application of SupremeAG™ to respective plants, trees, and shrubs. This guidance is to be based on Best Gardening Practices and Qualitative Testing and Observations...both the successes and failures in the application of **our product as the technological breakthrough we believe it to be.**

Hence, we start with a deeper dive into Humic Substances.

As shown in Diagram 1 below, Humic Substances are considered to be made of three major chemicals: (1) Fulvic Acid, (2) Humic Acid, and (3) Humin.



Source: Humic Substances: Its Toxicology, Chemistry and Biology Associated with Soil, Plants and Environment, Rajneesh Kumar Gautam, Dimuth Navaratna, Shobha Muthukumaran, Amarendra Singh, Islamuddin and Nandkishor More
 Submitted: 19 November 2020 Reviewed: 21 May 2021 Published: 07 June 2021
 DOI: 10.5772/intechopen.98518

We find invaluable information in a study published by "Sutradhar S, Fatehi P. Latest development in the fabrication and use of lignin-derived humic acid. Biotechnol Biofuels Bioprod. 2023 Mar 7;16(1):38. doi: 10.1186/s13068-023-02278-3. PMID: 36882875; PMCID: PMC9989592."

Where significant research is being expended in synthetically lignin-derived Humic Substance, IFUS holds the we have discovered how to naturally expedite the formation of Humic Substance in our SupremeAG™ Product Line. This

technology is realized through our IFUS Proprietary Formulation and Processing Methods. Furthermore, we hold that we do so in an eco-friendly and cost-effective manner, that when applied with Best Gardening Practices produces healthier plants with subsequent improved bloom, fruit, nut, vegetable yield and quality through supporting plant health and well-being.

Our IFUS Proprietary process utilizes all-natural ingredients to include: Nutri-Mastic™, Carob, and Sugarcane Bagasse. **As a reminder, Sugarcane Bagasse is typically considered unusable for most applications due to the "recalcitrant" nature of the lignin. In Louisiana, lignin is found at a level of roughly 28% of the total bagasse.**

Based on qualitative observations and limited quantitative analysis, IFUS holds that SupremeAG™ is an eco-friendly and cost-effective product, by which the "Holy Grail" of energy and nutrition for both plants and animals can be unlocked. The supporting plausible science that supports this contention can be found in a White Paper on the IFUS Website at <https://www.impactfusionbrands.com/knowledge-base/part-1-plausible-scientific-evidence-of-the-efficacy-of-sgptm-in-bovine-herd-performance-through-ration-management/>.

Hence, we once more focus our attention to the lignin contained in Sugarcane Bagasse.

An article published Dr. Sutradhar and his team informs us of the:

"Origin of humic substances: historical review:

Humic substances were first defined in 1761 by Wallerius as a decomposed organic matter [62]. In 1786, Achard extracted a brown substance from soil and peat using a KOH solution and named it humic acid [63, 64]. Humus, a Latin word suggesting a soil-like substance, was first introduced by de Saussure in 1804, referring to dark soil organic matter [62]. In 1837, Sprengel developed several methods for preparing humic acid by pretreating soil with **dilute mineral acids** before alkaline extraction [62]. Sven Oden (1919) postulated that HS are the light to dark-brown substances of unknown materials, which are formed in **nature by the decomposition of organic matter through the actions of microorganisms** or in a laboratory by oxidizing chemical reagents. Alternatively, it was suggested that humus is the product of the condensation reaction between carbohydrates and amino acids in a microorganism-free environment [65]. It was also stated that phenol, quinone, and hydroquinone oxidation in an alkaline solution yields compounds similar to humic acids [66]."

He and his team further share insight into what is known as THE LIGNIN

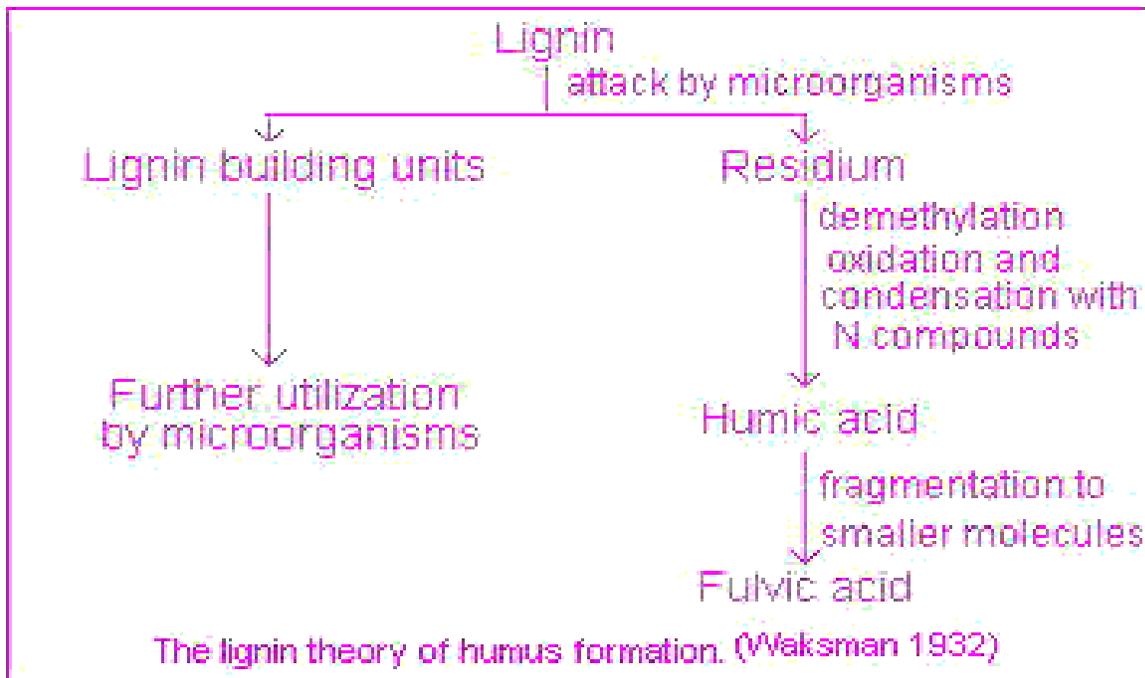
THEORY:

"In 1936, Waksman proposed the 'Lignin-protein theory' and stated that HS could be generated from the microbial attack of lignin [64]. According to this theory, the incomplete microbial attack of lignin molecules fragments lignin into smaller units and residues, which become part of the soil humus. In the degradation process, the methoxyl groups of lignin decompose into o-hydroxy phenols, and the oxidation of the aliphatic side chain converts into carboxylic acid groups. Moreover, Waksman reported that the presence of nitrogen compounds in the HS might result from the condensation of lignin with the microbial protein and other nitrogenous compounds. However, the final transformation of modified lignin residues to humic acids followed by fulvic acids was unclear in theory. Although the concept of Waksman's theory is controversial to many researchers, scientists agree with the theory that **HS originate from plant residues and lignin-based materials**. In 1982, Stevenson proposed the polyphenol theory of HS generation, as presented in Fig. 1. According to this theory, lignocellulosic biomass decomposes into lignin, cellulose and other non-lignin compounds (tannins, flavonoids, carotenoids, etc.). The lignin is fragmented into phenolic aldehydes and acids by the action of soil microorganisms. Some parts of these phenolic compounds (mainly phenolic acids) may oxidize to carbon dioxide by different enzymes. Later, these phenolic and non-lignin compounds are attacked by soil microorganisms and transformed into polyphenols. By enzymatic oxidation, the polyphenols convert to quinones. Finally, condensation occurs between animal protein amino compounds/acids in the soil and the quinones to transform into the natural HS in the soil [55]."

Your IFUS Scientific Team finds in "The formation of humic substances" (<http://karnet.up.wroc.pl/~weber/powstaw2.htm>), the illustration of 4 Pathways theorized to provide insight how lignin degradation and depolymerization leads to the formation of Humic Substances.

"Pathway 1:

According to this theory, lignin is incompletely utilized by microorganism and the residuum becomes part of the soil humus. Modification in lignin include loss of methoxyl (OCH₃) groups with the generation of o-hydroxyphenols and oxidation of aliphatic side chains to form COOH groups. The modified material is subject to further unknown changes to yield first humic acids and then fulvic acids. This pathway, illustrated on the picture, is exemplified by Waksman's lignin-protein theory."

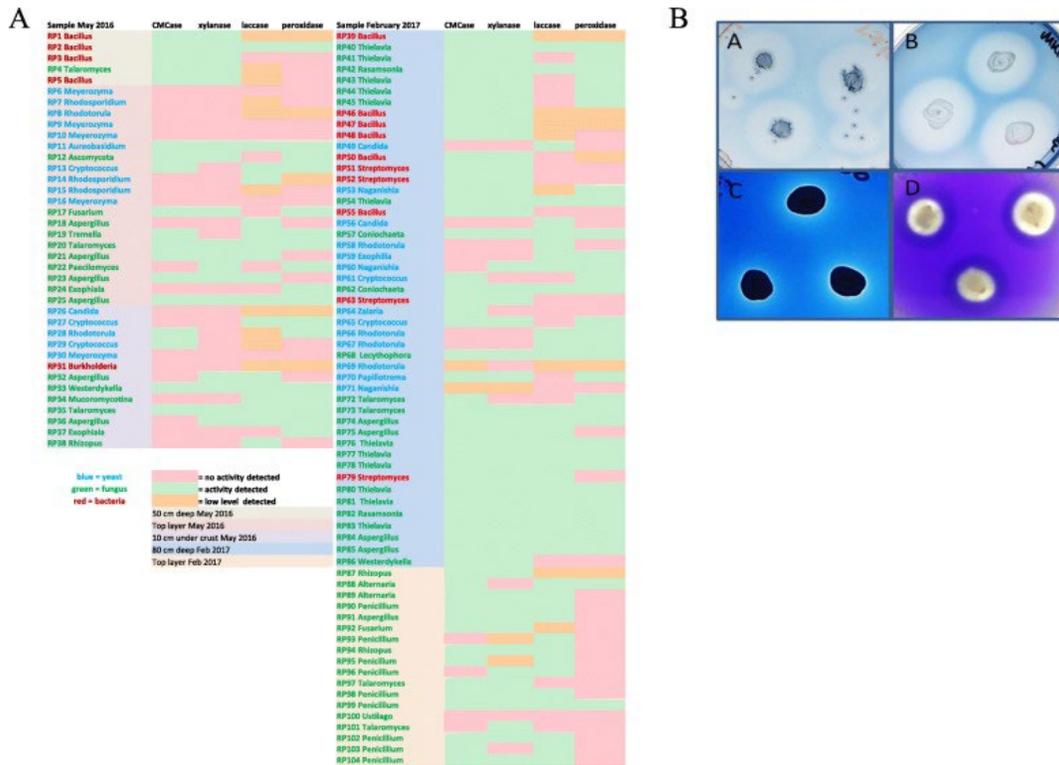


Once more, we consider the lignin and the "attack by microorganisms." In a White Paper on the IFUS Website at <https://www.impactfusionbrands.com/knowledge-base/part-1-plausible-scientific-evidence-of-the-efficacy-of-sgptm-in-bovine-herd-performance-through-ration-management/>, your IFUS Scientific Team offers:

Furthermore, the complexity of the microbial genome in Sugarcane Bagasse is complex at best as evidenced by, "The variety of species that was found and that are known for biomass degradation shows that the bagasse pile was a valuable selective environment for the identification of new microbes and enzymes with biotechnological potential. In particular, lignin-modifying activities have not been reported previously for many of the species that were identified, suggesting future studies are warranted."

"A snapshot of microbial diversity and function in an undisturbed sugarcane bagasse pile," Leigh Gebbie, et.al, BMC Biotechnol. 2020 Feb 28;20:12. doi: 10.1186/s12896-020-00609-y (See Fig. 2)

Fig. 2.



Screening of bagasse microbes for biomass-degrading enzymes. **a** The bacteria, yeast and filamentous fungi (RP1-RP103) isolated from different positions in the pile were screened for cellulase, xylanase, laccase and peroxidase on carboxy-methyl cellulose with trypan blue dye, azo-xylan, remazol brilliant blue and azure B containing agar plates, respectively. Activity was scored as positive or not based on clearance zones around the colonies. Low activity indicates a very minor clearance zone that took longer than 7 days to become visible. Examples of each assay are shown in **b**"

Hence, there exists plausible evidence of the presence of a broad array of beneficial microorganisms in Sugarcane Bagasse. Furthermore, the visible presence of White Rot and Brown Rot Fungi, when overlaid with the incredibly accelerated decomposition of the Sugarcane Bagasse fiber found in SupremeAG™, provides qualitative data that supports IFUS' claim that SupremeAG™ is high in Humic Substance. This accelerated degradation and depolymerization of lignin is believed to be driven by the addition of Nutri-Mastic™ and Carob to the Sugarcane Bagasse formulated then processed into SurpemeAG™.

Dr. Sutradhar and his team provide further insight into the degradation and depolymerization of lignin:

Pathway 2:

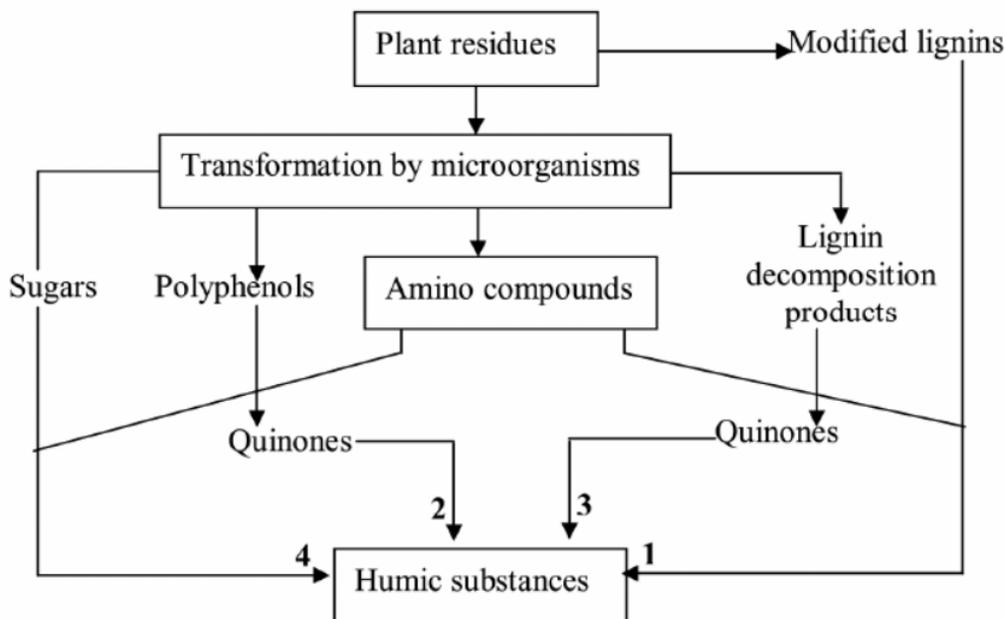


Figure 1. Mechanism of humic substances formation (Stevenson 1982). (1) theory of Lignin, (2, 3) theory of polyphenols and (4) theory of amino-saccharidic condensation.

Theory of Lignin (way formation 1)

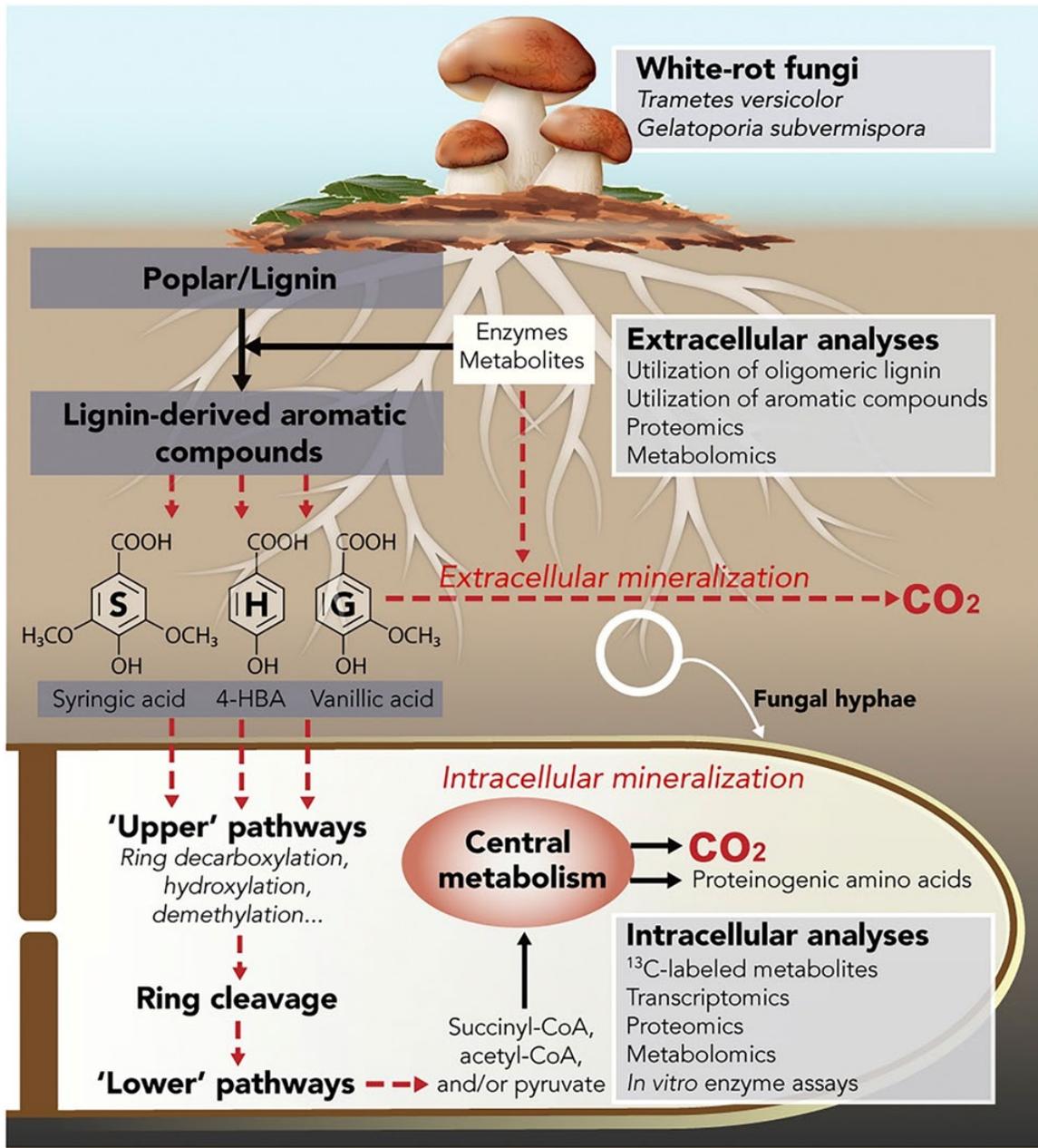
It is the classical theory defined by Waksman (1932). It hypothesized that HS formation starts from the modified lignin (Figure 1). The latter component is an easily biodegradable bio-polymer made up of an assembly of three types of units phenylpropanoids connected between them by various types of connections C-C and ethyl oxide. The process consists of a combination of modified lignin molecules with nitrogenized components of proteinic type (amino compounds) synthesized by the micro-organisms (Stenvenson, 1994), according to the following reaction:



Accordingly, the lignin is incompletely used by the micro-organisms, because of the solidity of its structure (stable connections C-C) and, as a consequence, its residue becomes the constituent part of the soil humus (Saiz-Jimenez et al., 1989).

Source: [Mechanism-of-humic-substances-formation-Stevenson-1982-1-theory-of-Lignin-2-3.png \(850×533\)](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Youssef-Ouni/publication/262414337/figure/fig2/AS:667835118399503@1536235708676/Mechanism-of-humic-substances-formation-Stevenson-1982-1-theory-of-Lignin-2-3.png): <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Youssef-Ouni/publication/262414337/figure/fig2/AS:667835118399503@1536235708676/Mechanism-of-humic-substances-formation-Stevenson-1982-1-theory-of-Lignin-2-3.png>

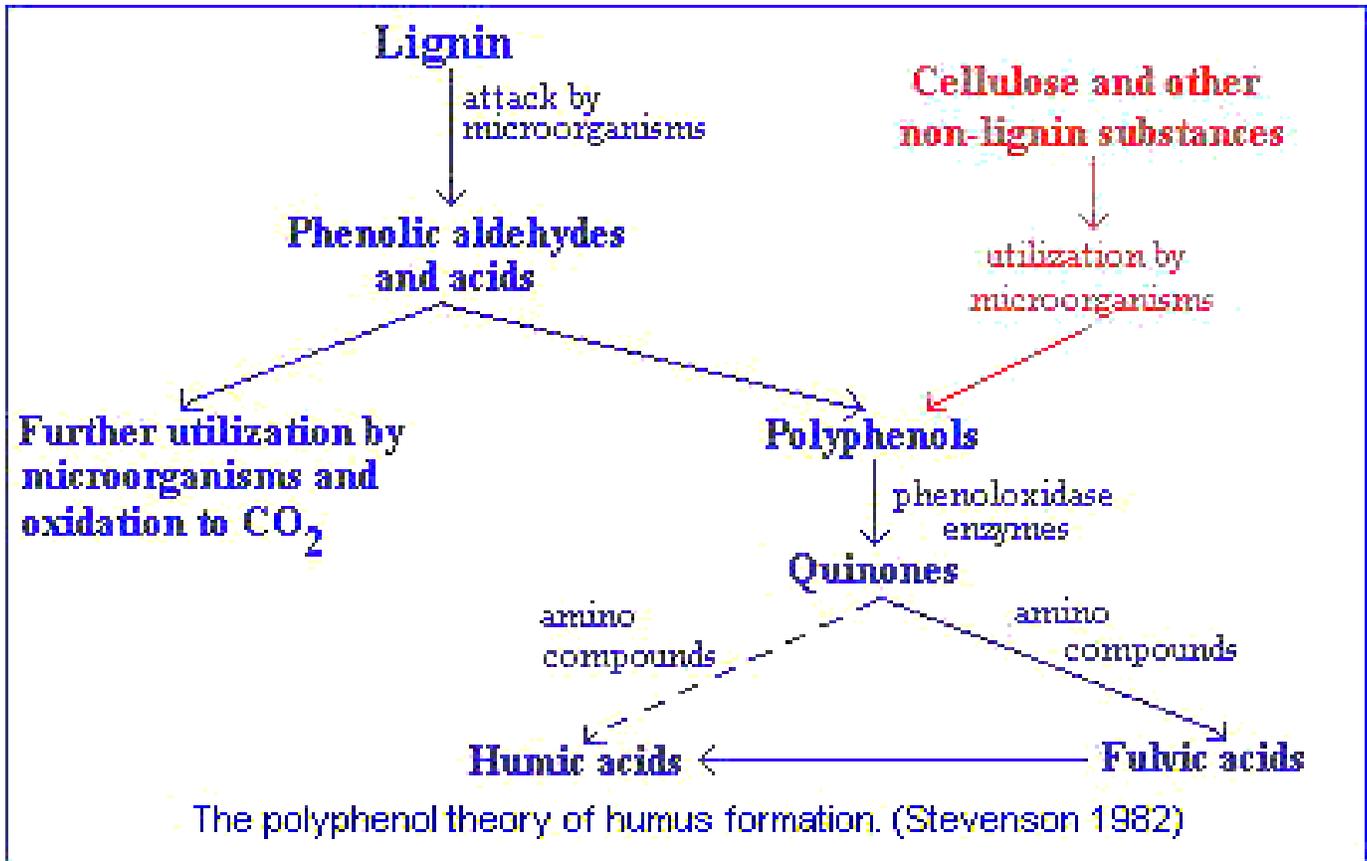
Let us again remember the significance of White Rot Fungi and the complex biome found in Sugarcane Bagasse, which then transforms the lignin into Humic Substance and other key nutritive components that can be affectively applied to plants, animals, and at some point...humans.



Source: "Intracellular pathways for lignin catabolism in white-rot fungi" written by Carlos del Cerro, et.al in "The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences: Systems Biology/Biological Sciences," Feb. 23, 2021

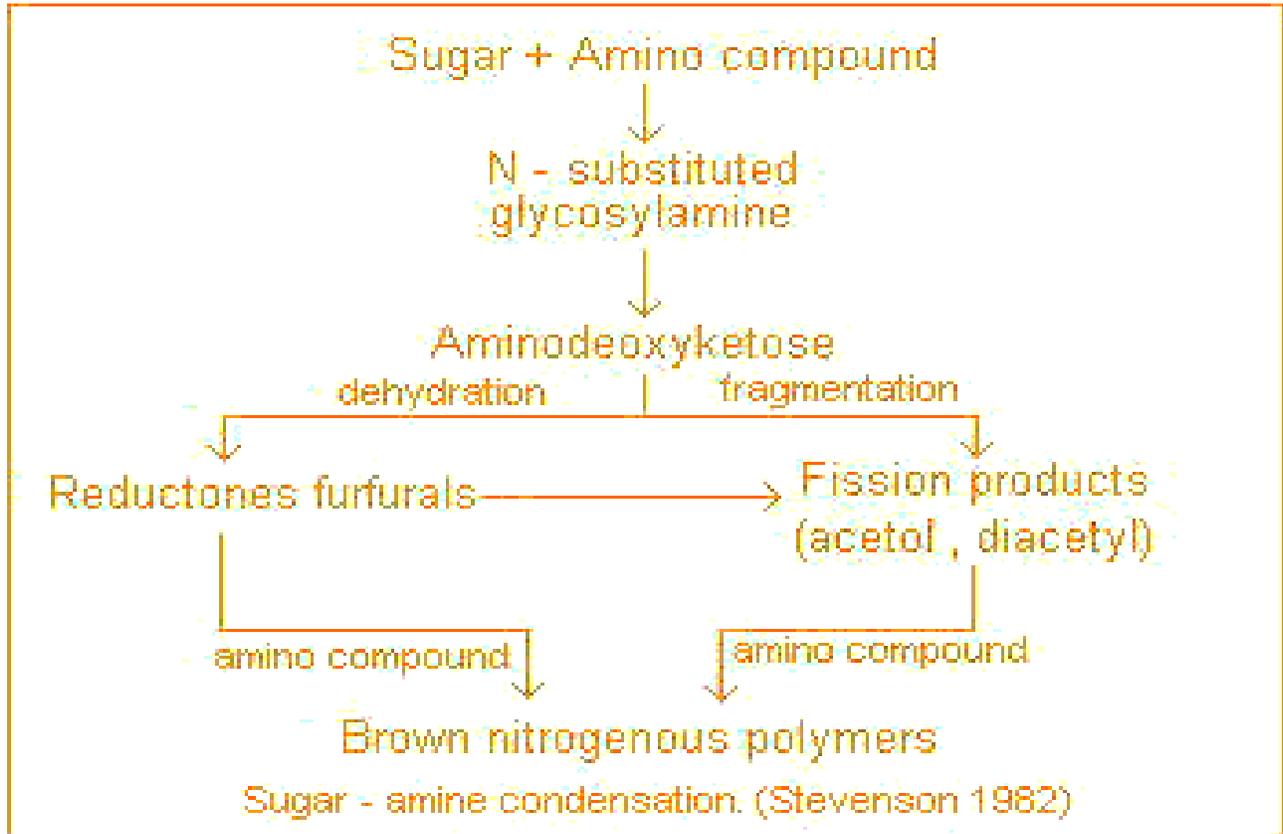
Pathway 3: Flaig's concept of humus formation

Source: [The formation of humic substances](http://karnet.up.wroc.pl/~weber/powstaw2.htm): at <http://karnet.up.wroc.pl/~weber/powstaw2.htm>



Please note that in Pathway 3, we see further interaction of microorganisms degrading, then depolymerizing the lignin in conjunction with cellulose and hemicellulose (all found in Sugarcane Bagasse). Also of note is the production of CO₂, which cools the earth and is released from the soil such that the plant canopy can absorb it, process it through photosynthesis, and transform it into beneficial Oxygen critical to survival of life on Planet Earth. Hence, SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™ offers a plausible natural eco-friendly, cost-effective, and carbon sequestration mechanism that produces healthier soil, healthier plants, healthier beneficial insects/bugs/worms, healthier animals, and healthier humans.

Pathway 4 - Sugar-amine condensation

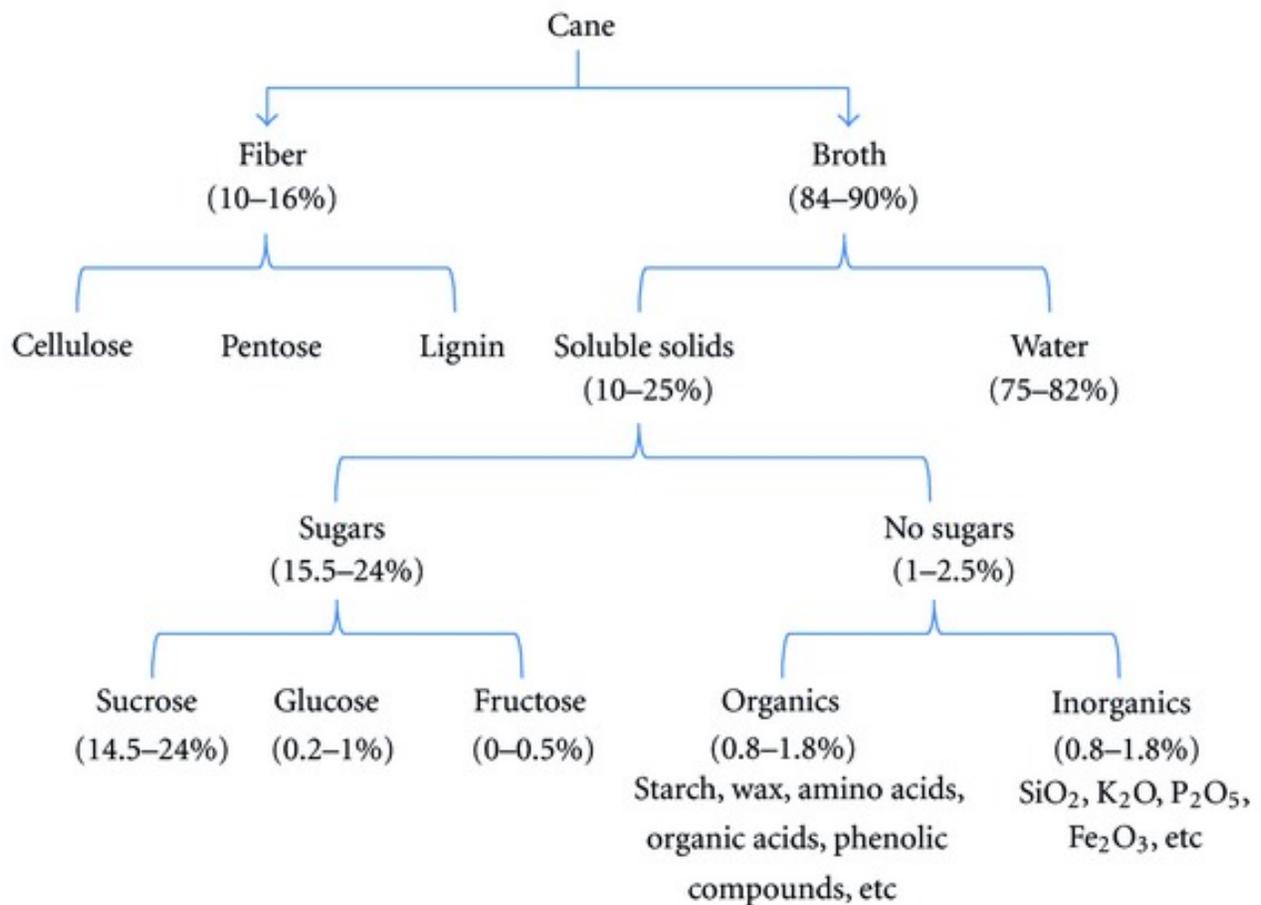


"The initial reaction in sugar-amine condensation involves addition of the amine to the aldehyde group of the sugar to form the n-substituted glycosylamine. The glycosylamine subsequently undergoes to form the N-substituted-1-amino-deoxy-2-ketose. This is subject to: fragmentation and formation of 3-carbon chain aldehydes and ketones, such as acetol, diacetyl etc.; dehydration and formation reductones and hydroxymethyl furfurals. All of these compounds are highly reactive and readily polymerize in the presence of amino compounds to form brown-colored products."

Source: [The formation of humic substances:](http://karnet.up.wroc.pl/~weber/powstaw2.htm)
<http://karnet.up.wroc.pl/~weber/powstaw2.htm>

What is striking is that Sugarcane is particularly unique in the Plant Kingdom, especially in consideration of the degradation and depolymerization of its lignin component.

The broad categories of various components of Sugarcane are illustrated below.



Source: [General-composition-of-Sugarcane-Adapted-from-13.png \(600×447\)](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Larissa-Canilha/publication/233949726/figure/fig3/AS:213910767575043@1428011709826/General-composition-of-Sugarcane-Adapted-from-13.png)
 (https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Larissa-Canilha/publication/233949726/figure/fig3/AS:213910767575043@1428011709826/General-composition-of-Sugarcane-Adapted-from-13.png)

In the natural world, Sugarcane is one of the only grasses high in sucrose, which is made up on one unit of Glucose and one unit of Fructose. The Glucose / Fructose balance is of PARAMONT importance to all things living...especially humans and animals.

And, IFUS has qualitative evidence that when once Sugarcane is harvested from the fields, then processed into raw sugar, the residual bagasse begins its transformation into producing Humic Substances.

Sugarcane being harvested in SE, Louisiana November 2025. The mechanical John Deere harvester has been specifically designed to removing and shredding the

Sugarcane Tops, while chopping the Sugarcane stalks and feeding this valuable part of the Sugarcane into a tractor with trailer paralleling the harvester.

Picture A:



In Picture B below, a post-harvested field is covered with freshly cut/chopped sugarcane tops. These will eventually be burned away, and considered by some to erode the topsoil and add carbon-load to the environment.

Note the tan coloration with fresh green and tinges of yellow both in the field and in the background. Per Diagram I above, this would suggest the presence of Fulvic Acid.

In India, these Sugarcane tops are part of the forage fed to dairy cows. In the U.S., IFUS' SGP+™ and SupremeAG™ were to continue successful growth, then these tops may become a secondary commodity producing eco-friendly financial benefits to all stakeholders...to include the Sugarcane farmers.

Picture B:



Picture C shows a close-up of freshly cut sugarcane tops covering the field, which if harvested would be an invaluable feedstock for SGP+™ and SupremeAG™. Note the tan and yellowish coloration, with some fresh green that will transform to yellow with time.

Picture C:

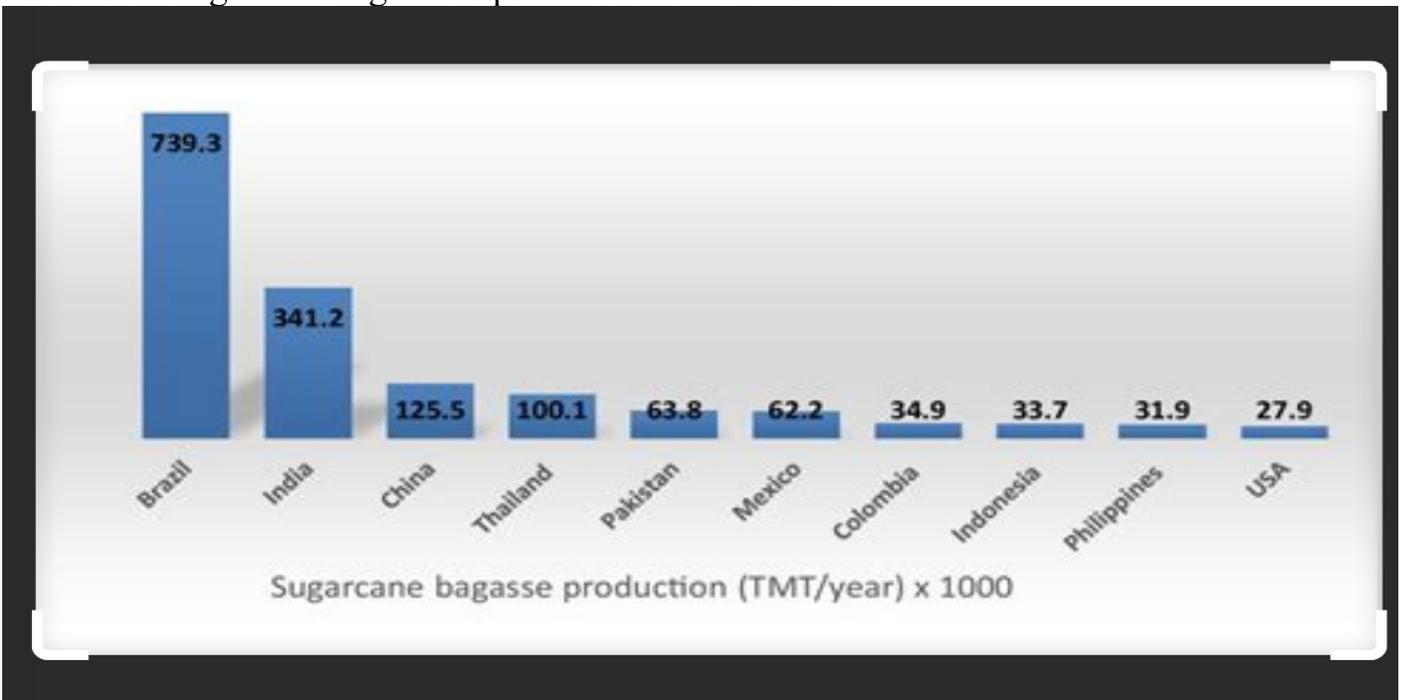


Picture D shows a Sugarcane Bagasse Pile in Louisiana resulting from Sugarcane processed in a Raw Sugar Mill creating Bagasse Mountains of sorts. Note the changing color. Per Diagram 1 above, this suggests the presence of Humic Acid.



Source: Uses for bagasse in Louisiana | Baton Rouge | theadvocate.com

How much sugarcane bagasse is produced in the world?



Source: Rahul Vikram Singh, et.al. Application of Sugarcane Bagasse in Chemicals and Food Packaging Industry: Potential and Challenges March 2022Circular

Picture E illustrates fresh SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™ mulched over aged Supreme(AG) with Nutri-Mastic™. Note the rusty-reddish color in the mulch as compared to the black of the older Supreme(AG) (used as soil amendment).



Picture F shows slightly aged SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™ used as mulch. Note the color shift and the reduction in the rust/reddish coloration as the product is transforming into light brown. Again, per Diagram 1 above, this suggests the presence of Humic Acid.

Picture F:



Picture G illustrates roughly 9-12 month old Supreme(AG) with Nutri-Mastic™ applied as soil amendment. Note the dark grey-black coloration. Per Diagram 1 above, this suggests the presence of "Humin".

Picture G:

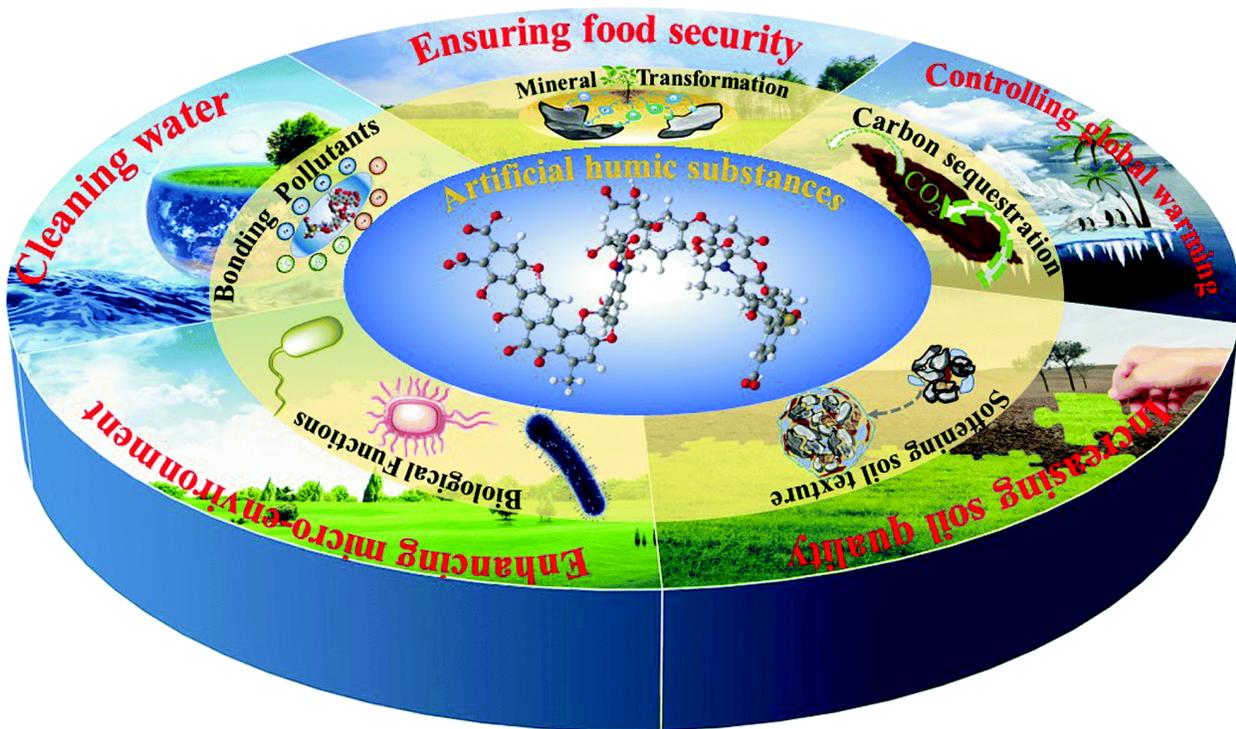


Based on these qualitative observations, your IFUS Scientific Team portends that "Humic Substance:" is found in SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™. The significance of this is illustrated in Diagram 2 below. Where it is proposed that synthetic Humic Substance can be produced, resulting in many positive impacts on the globe, IFUS contends that its natural process utilizes a readily available and annually renewable resource that can be transformed in an eco-friendly and cost-effective product that is potentially transformative.

IFUS also contends that the impact of using lignin (which is thought to be the second most prevalent biomaterial in the world behind chitin) from Sugarcane

Bagasse would improve the quality of the Humic Substance, while creating an added eco-friendly cost benefit for the worldwide Sugar Industry.

Diagram 2: Where this diagram was seemingly created to support the production of "Artificial Humic Substances", IFUS contends that based on the science it is uncovering, "Natural Humic Substance" would contain phytochemical compounds, natural ionic minerals, and a complex biome of microbial activity that simply CANNOT be replicated by artificially. However, the diagram establishes the incredible impacts that Humic Substance can have of the globe.



Source: [d0cs01363c-f9_hi-res.gif \(1980×1164\)](https://pubs.rsc.org/image/article/2021/cs/d0cs01363c/d0cs01363c-f9_hi-res.gif)

https://pubs.rsc.org/image/article/2021/cs/d0cs01363c/d0cs01363c-f9_hi-res.gif

Hence, your IFUS Scientific Team contends that SupremeAG™, when applied as a mulch, soil amendment, or both with Best Gardening Practices for the respective plant, tree, or shrub, can plausibly provide an all-natural eco-friendly, and cost-effective solution that reduces the need for synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides (as well as water).

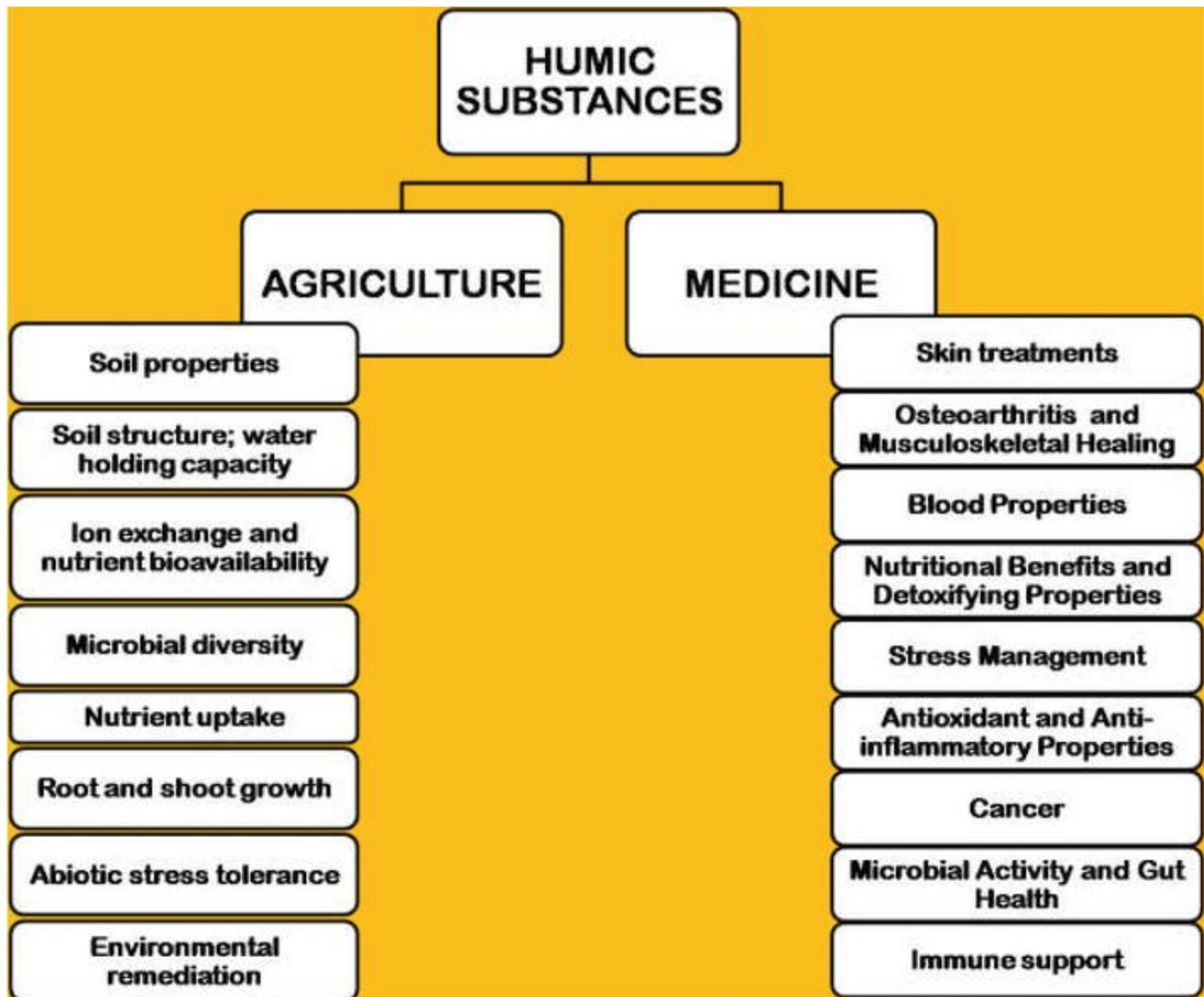
These impacts include (per Diagram 2):

- Ensuring Food Security
- Controlling Global Warming
- Increasing Soil Quality

- Enhancing Micro-environment
- Cleaning Water

Furthermore, the growth rates, yields, and other performance benefits of SupremeAG™ can contribute to a multitude of beneficial effects as illustrated in Diagram 3:

Diagram 3:



Source: [F1.png \(709×591\)](#)

<https://api.intechopen.com/media/chapter/78385/media/F1.png>

All of this begs the question: What additional evidence does IFUS contend that it has?

The answer: We return to the qualitative observations on the performance of Blackberry Vines planted in the Late Spring of 2025 at the IFUS Test Farm in SE Louisiana about 15.5 Miles WSW of NOLA.

Blackberry Vines soil amended and mulched with SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic and pruned 3-times



Please note the SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic mulch. Note the color and texture of the mulch...as contrasted to freshly cut Sugarcane Tops covering the fields.

Again, these vines have been pruned three times.

Additionally, no predation by bugs and insects are noted.

As a reminder, blackberries are Acid- and Iron-loving plants.



Dr. Kenneth Gravois of the Louisiana State University Ag Center reports that "In 2023, Louisiana's sugarcane industry expanded its acreage to 532,000 acres, marking an increase of 12,000 acres from the previous year. This growth reflects the industry's resilience and ability to adapt to changing conditions. The sugarcane crop not only contributes to the state's economy but also supports a significant number of jobs, making it a vital part of Louisiana's agricultural landscape."

This number has also been reported by Cheryl Michelet of The American Sugarcane League. Ms. Michelet also reports, The economic impact of Louisiana's sugarcane industry has grown as well. In 2022, it contributed \$4 billion to the state's economy, and in 2023, that figure rose to \$4.3 billion. This growth brings more than just economic prosperity—it translates into more tax revenue to support the rural communities where our farmers live and work, and more jobs in areas where employment opportunities are limited. Today, the sugarcane industry provides approximately 16,000 jobs, supporting families across Louisiana from the field to the

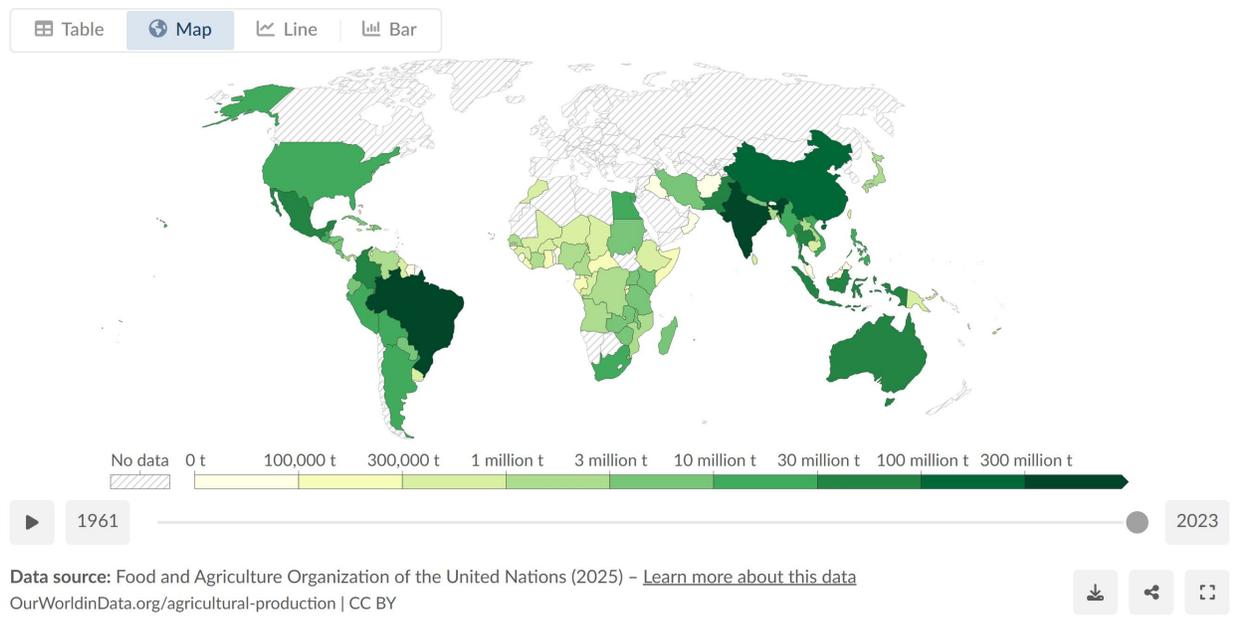
mill to the refinery, the local bank, tire repair shop, tractor dealership, insurance agency, fuel distributor, office supply store...etc."

These numbers are exponentially replicated and increased across the globe in Sugarcane growing areas. "Globally, sugarcane is cultivated on approximately 26 million hectares, which translates to a total production yield of about 2.0 billion tons. The leading countries in sugarcane production include Brazil, India, Thailand, China, and Pakistan, which collectively contribute significantly to the world's sugarcane supply."

Please note that 1-hectare = 2.47105381 acres. Hence, roughly 64.2 million acres across the globe support sugarcane production.

Sugar cane production, 2023

Sugar cane production is measured in tonnes.



Source: <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/sugar-cane-production>

Hence, in the pictures that reflect the successful mulching of Blackberry vines with SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™ (as contrasted to struggling Blackberry vines below that were left un-mulched), PLUS considering the view of only a few acres of land with the shredded and chopped Sugarcane tops covering the fields, we at IFUS beg the question. Does SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™ create for Louisiana and the Global Community at-large an eco-friendly, cost-effective solution for healthier, higher-yielding plants, trees and shrubs? We content that the answer is "Yes!"

By contrast the pictures to follow are those of Blackberry Vines with NO soil-amendment or mulch with SupremeAG™... "Charlie Brown" Christmas Tree Vines so in need of TLC from SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™."



If IFUS can provide this type of growth deferential to plants, trees, and shrubs, such that these yield higher quality and quantity fruits, nuts, vegetables, and more...and do so in a cost-effective and eco-friendly manner, what possibilities might result if SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic™ was to applied with Best Gardening Practices for any respective plant, tree, and/or shrub.

Furthermore, do these plants, trees, and shrubs mulched and/or soil amended with SupremeAG™ with Nutri-Mastic present an opportunity to not only improve the respective plant, tree, and/or shrub, BUT create food sources for animals and humans that result in impacts (while utilizing the second most abundant and annually renewable biomaterial on planet Earth...the polymer known as lignin) like those listed below?

Nutritional Benefits of Blackberries

Benefit	Description
High in Nutrients	Blackberries are rich in vitamins C and K, fiber, and manganese, offering a variety of essential nutrients.
Antioxidant Rich	They are high in antioxidants like anthocyanins, which help combat oxidative stress and may reduce disease risk.
Supports Oral Health	Certain compounds in blackberries have antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties that may benefit oral health.
Brain Health	The antioxidants in blackberries may improve brain health and help prevent age-related memory loss.
Skin Health	Vitamins C and E in blackberries help promote skin health and can protect skin against UV damage and aging.
Heart Health	The fiber, potassium, and other heart-healthy nutrients in blackberries can support cardiovascular health.
Immune Boosting	High vitamin C content strengthens the immune system and helps the body fight off infections.
Digestive Health	The high fiber content aids in digestion, helps prevent constipation, and contributes to a healthy digestive tract.
Weight Management	Being low in calories and high in fiber, blackberries can promote satiety and aid in weight management.
Anti-inflammatory	Their anti-inflammatory properties can reduce the risk of chronic inflammation, a precursor to many diseases.
Blood Sugar Regulation	Blackberries have a low glycemic index and high fiber content, which can help regulate blood sugar levels.

Hence, the exploration into the science continues.