



PRESS RELEASE

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Bacteria Promise Billions in Potential Revenue in Industry and Healthcare Prof. Dr. Christine Lang participates in debate at the House of Science in Brunswick

Bacteria promise billions in economic potential for the energy, health, plastics, and food industries, have the capability to reduce environmental impacts and resource use, and may help people in the prevention and treatment of diseases. Prof. Dr. Christine Lang, professor at the TU Berlin and managing director of the biotechnology company Organobalance, emphasised these points at the House of Science in Brunswick yesterday evening.

During a debate with representatives of the Leibniz Institute and the Ruhr University Bochum, she stressed that “there are thousands of healthy bacteria which keep our bodies running, protect our skin and keep harmful bacteria in check, and make organic processes possible.” And this not only applied to our metabolism and digestion, but also to generating energy from natural substances.

We remained a long way from having knowledge of all bacterial species, and even those we are aware of had not been fully researched. “There is tremendous potential here”, Prof. Lang said. Organobalance GmbH alone boasted a collection of more than 8,000 bacterial and yeast strains whose positive impact on health, food, feed, synthetics, or chemical processes are currently researched.

In the run-up to the debate, the House of Science had noted that there are some 50,000 different bacterial species in a tablespoon of potting soil, and that bacteria could be considered “incredibly adaptable chemical works in miniature.”

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