Abstract: Modern agriculture is all about doing more with less. Nanotechnology can help deliver key inputs – whether synthetic or bio-based – more effectively. At Vive, we use polymer nanoparticles to increase shelf stability and in-field viability and performance for every type of input from small molecule synthetics to whole organisms. Our products are used on over 2.5M acres in the US today, primarily on broad-acre row crops such as corn, sugar beets, and cotton. In this talk, we'll describe the polymer nanoparticle delivery technology – but also describe the key barriers to adoption of new technologies like ours from an industry and grower perspective.

Speaker: Darren Anderson, PhD is a co-founder and CEO of Vive Crop Protection and serves on its Board of Directors. Darren is passionate about using technology to improve the sustainability of agriculture while creating quantifiable results for growers. Darren is on the Board of CropLife America, the trade association for the pesticide industry in the USA; a member of the Advisory Committee for CHLOE, an organization committed to increasing STEM learning through agriculture and natural resources; and a founding member of ElectSTEM, a non-profit encouraging people with STEM backgrounds to run for political office.

Under Darren's leadership, Vive has raised over $43M CAD of equity and debt, launched the first nanotechnology-enabled pesticide products that are approved by the EPA, and doubled its commercial business annually for the last 4 years. Dr. Anderson is the inventor on 13 issued patents and 44 pending applications. Dr. Anderson earned his PhD from University of Toronto as an NSERC doctoral fellow.

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