



## **Herbicide Company “Genealogy”**

The following chart is intended to show the history of the major U.S. herbicide companies. The information depends largely on people’s memories, which sometimes can be inexact, on records from the headquarters of major companies, and from histories on the internet. No guarantees are made for accuracy, although I think it is pretty close. The dates of the founding of companies or of acquisitions and mergers sometime vary slightly from one reference to another, so they should not be considered as solid historical facts.

Only U.S. companies are listed. International companies are listed only if they had subsidiaries in the U.S., such as Ciba-Geigy or BASF. I have tried to include mergers or acquisitions of entire companies or the ag divisions of companies, but acquisition of individual products are mentioned only occasionally. In many cases, the major company continues in existence and it is the agricultural division that becomes part of another company. Example: Aventis sold its ag products division to Bayer while the pharmaceutical portion of Aventis continues. Acquisitions of seed companies are not included.

The major companies included are those with a history of synthesis, screening, and development of herbicides in the U.S., even if their parent company is overseas. This excludes marketing companies and those dealing only with other pesticides. Some companies have a distinguished herbicide history but no longer develop new herbicides. These are so noted.

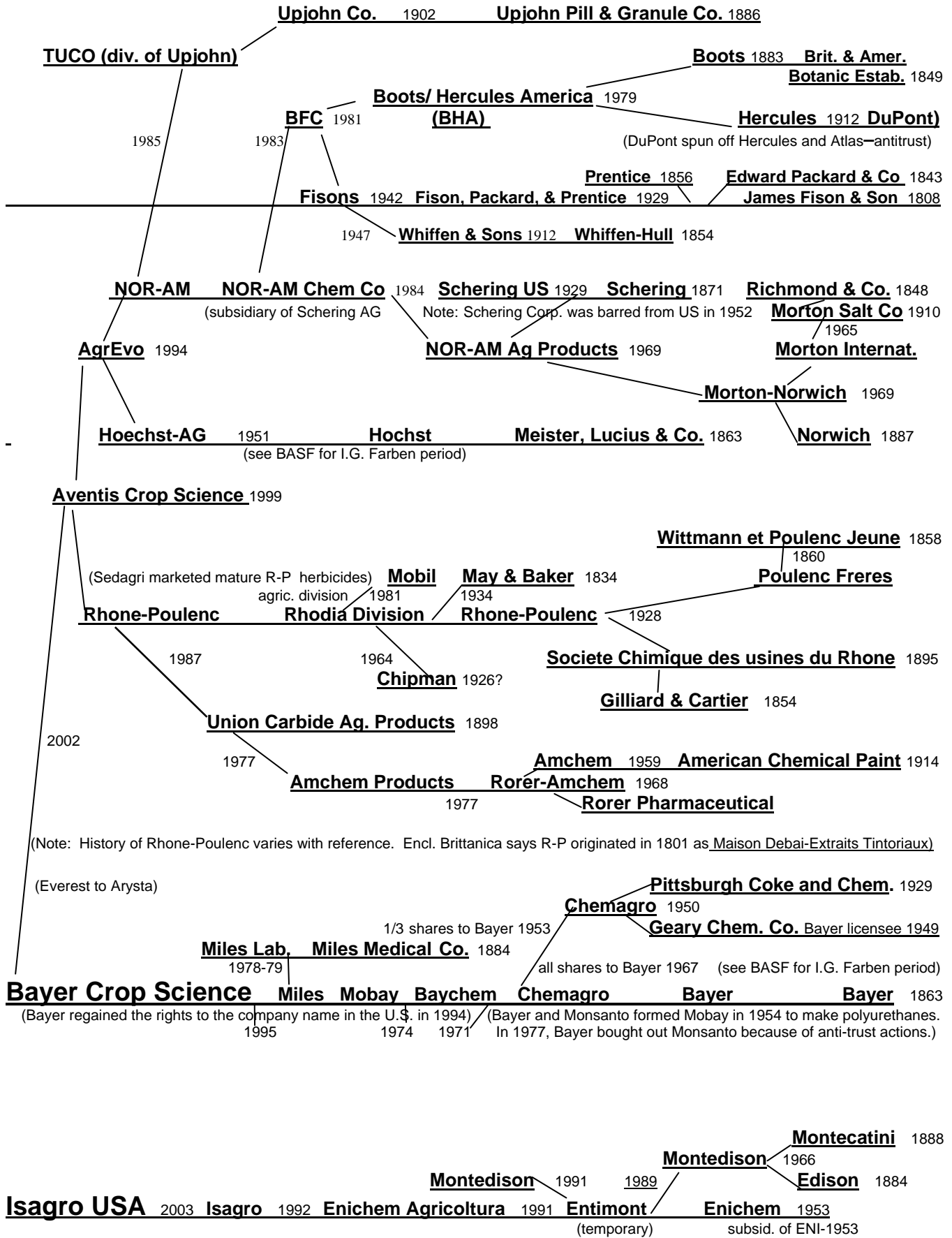
Numerous companies and individuals have been consulted and have been very helpful. But I have not always followed suggestions exactly if I felt I had more accurate information from a different source, so all the errors and omissions are mine.

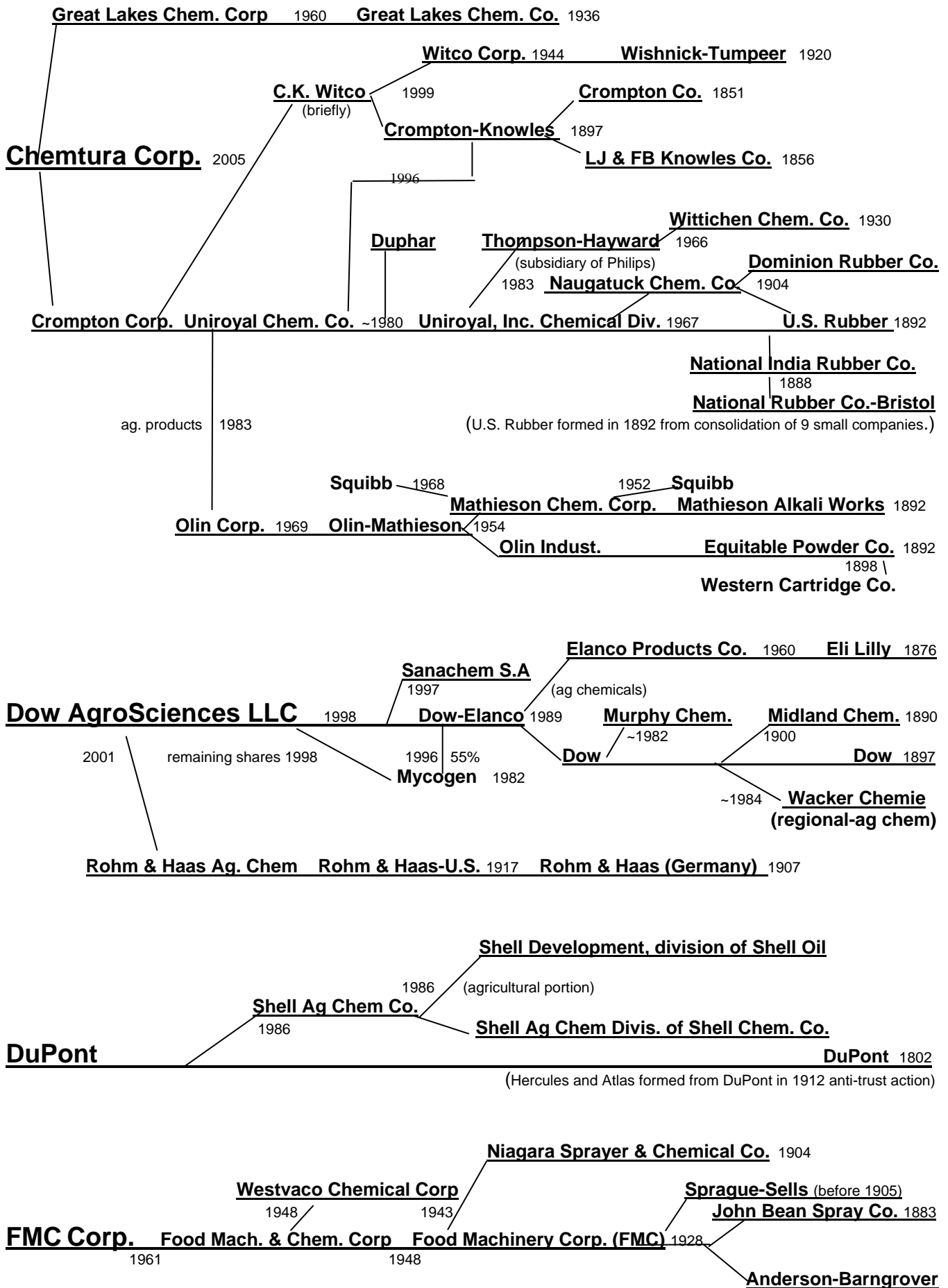
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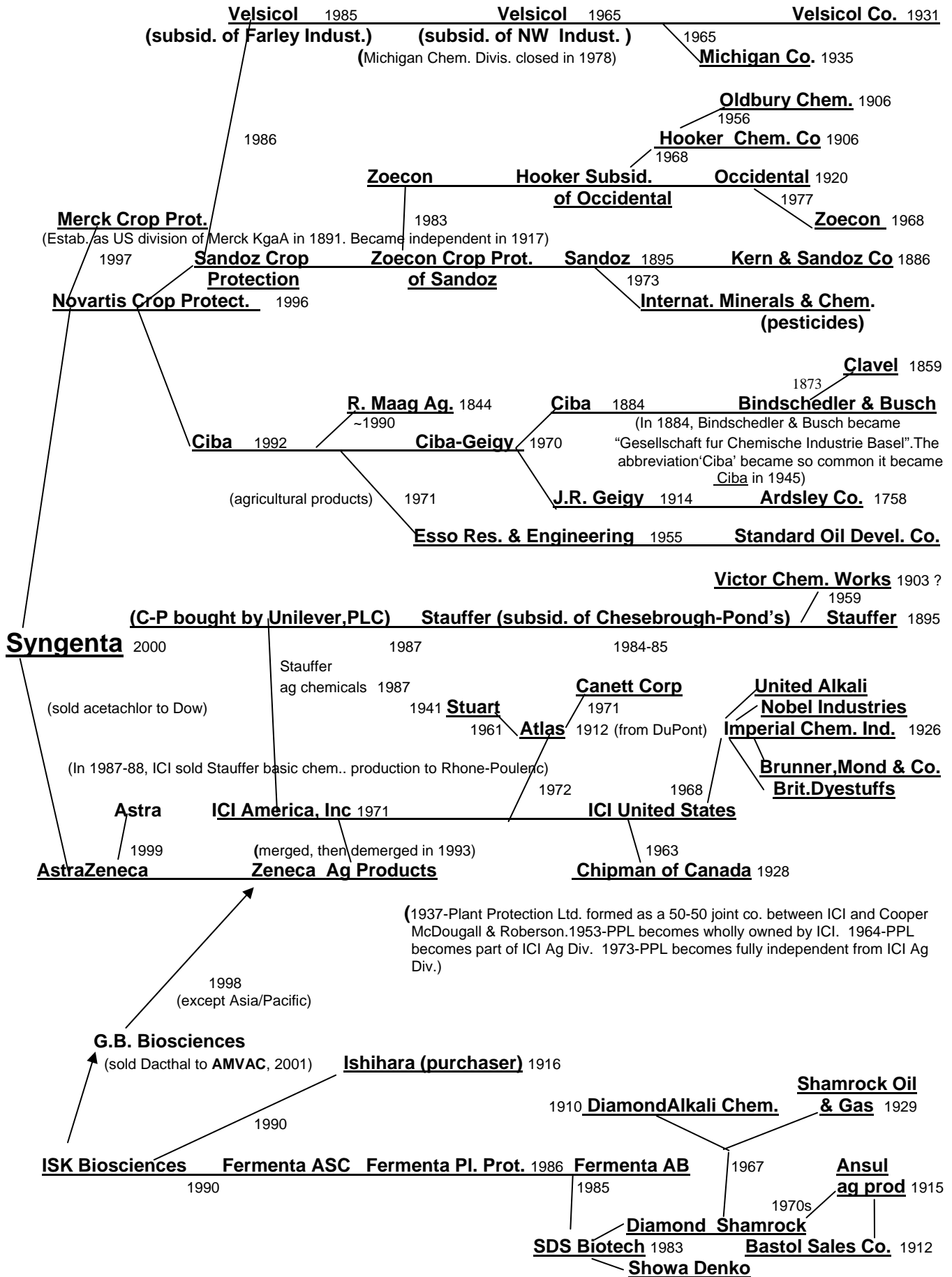
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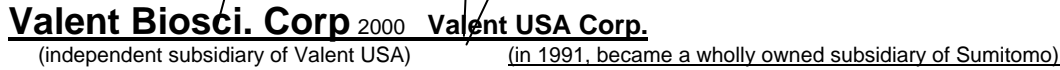
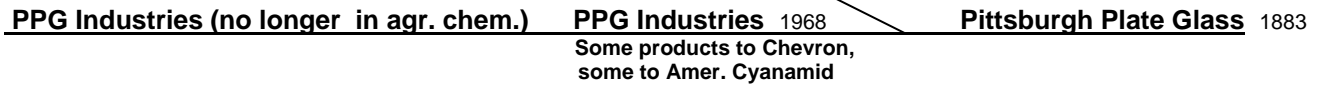
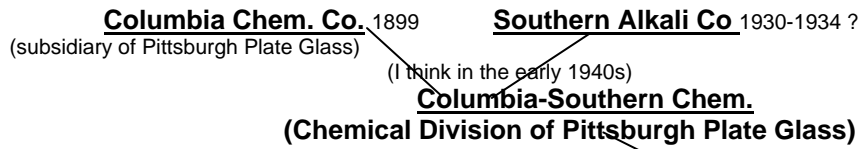
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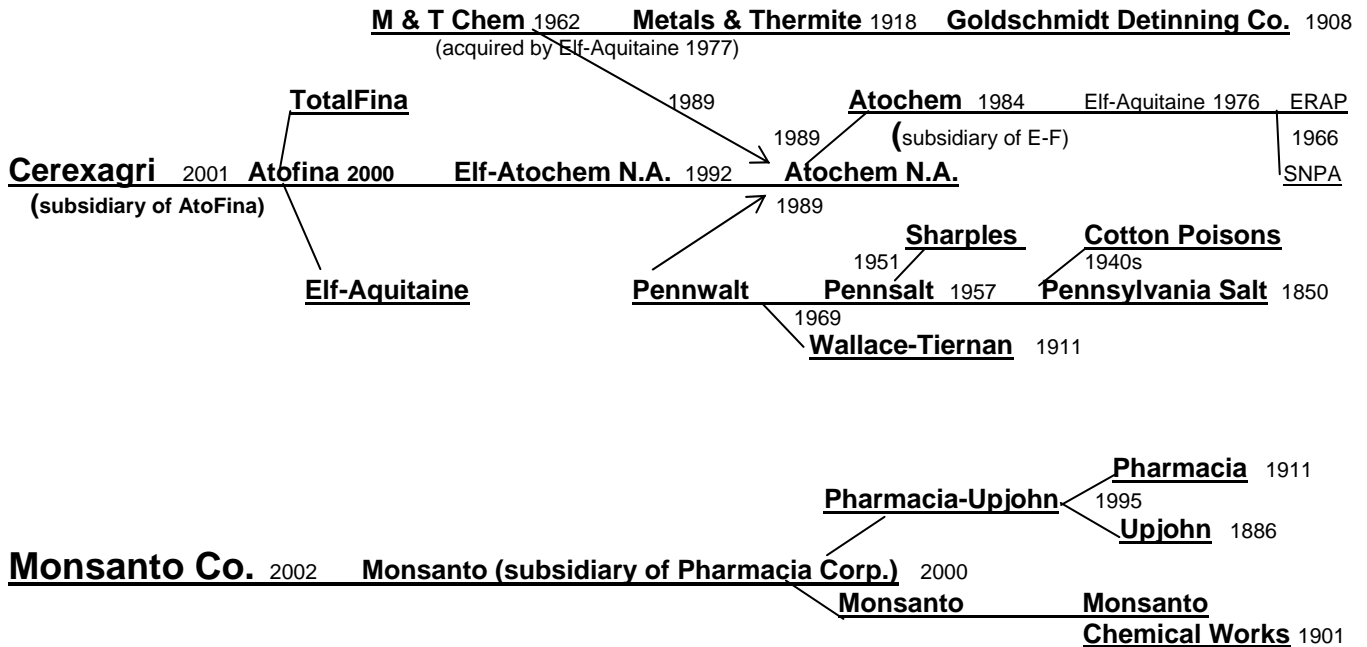






**Note:** Chevron ex-U.S. agric. products to Tomen Agro. and Rhone Poulenc  
Chevron lawn and garden (Ortho) to Monsanto (Solaris Divis. in 1993). These products then sold to Scotts in 1998.

**Companies With Herbicide History That No Longer Synthesize and Develop New Herbicides**



## Other Companies

Besides the 80-some names included in the preceding chart, there were other companies that were once associated with herbicides. Some are still companies, such as PPG, but are no longer in the herbicide business. Some apparently sold any products and ceased to exist. Some perhaps were primarily distributors and owned no products of their own, although I have omitted what I perceive to be strictly marketing companies.

Following is a partial list along with examples of products that were associated with them. Please feel free to send me additions or corrections.

| <u>Company</u>   | <u>Herbicides</u>   |
|--|---|
| Agrolinz   | Sold pyridate to Sandoz in the 1990s.   |
| Air Products   | AP-20   |
| Allied Chem. (General Chem. Div.)  | HCA. Urox, Urab (Some products to Hopkins) → United Ag Products. Since dropped.)  |
| Antara   | Primarily wetting agents  |
| Atlas and Hercules   | Atlas had Atlacide (later sold by Chipman), Hercules had Herban and Antor. Hercules formed in 1882 jointly by Laflin & Rand and DuPont. Because of antitrust action, Atlas and Hercules were formed from DuPont in 1912. Atlas was purchased by ICI in 1971 and Hercules merged with Boots. |
| Buckman Labs.  | Buban   |
| Esso (Standard Oil of NJ) –ag chem sold to Ciba-Geigy. Name then changed to Exxon. | Stoddart solvent, Tolban sold to Ciba-Geigy.  |
| PBI-Gordon   | Originally formed from merger of Private Brands, Inc. and Gordon's Chem. Co. in 1947. Absorbed tech. personnel from Gulf, Thompson-Hayward, and Farmland. Were associated with diclobenil, Embark, et al. Now market phenoxy formulations, primarily for lawn care.                         |
| 3 M  | Destun, Sustar. Embark was sold to PBI-Gordon.  |
| Reichhold  | Na PCP  |
| Sharples   | Introduced endothall in 1951. Became subsidiary of Pennsylvania Salt Co. in 1951, and their chem. products integrated in 1955.  |
| Spencer → Gulf   | Clobber, Outfox, Topcide, Prefox. Carbyne sold to Velsicol.   |
| Sunco  | Major supplier of Stoddart Solvent.   |
| Tenneco  | TCH-1626. TCH- 1636   |
| U.S. Borax   | Borascu, Borolin, Ureabor, Cobex (Some products to Occidental; Cobex now produced by Wacker in Germany)   |
| Vertac   | dinoseb, manufactured and distributed several generic chemicals   |
| Vineland   | organic arsenicals  |