Is Monsanto's focus on crop biotechnology backfiring?

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

Pity Monsanto, the genetically modified seed and agrichemical giant. Its share price has <u>plunged 25</u> <u>percent</u> since the spring. Market prices for corn and soybeans are in the dumps, meaning Monsanto's main customers—farmers who specialize in those crops—have less money to spend on its pricey seeds and flagship herbicide.

Monsanto's CEO hinted that the company may be too invested in high-tech seeds, and underinvested in old-fashioned pesticides.

Monsanto's long, noisy attempt to buy up rival pesticide giant Syngenta <u>crumbled into dust last month</u>. And on October 7, Monsanto reported quarterly revenues and profits that sharply underperformed Wall Street expectations. For good measure, it also sharply lowered its profit projections for the year ahead.

Massive layoffs, share buybacks, dreams of buying up the pesticide portfolios of competitors—these aren't characteristics of a company confident in the long-term profitability of its core technology: the genetic modification of crops.

Read full, original post: Monsanto's Stock Is Tanking. Is the Company's Own Excitement About GMOs Backfiring?