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Biosurfactants Market ? Global Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity, and Forecast, Segmented By Type (Glycolipids, Alkyl Polyglucosides, Methyl Ethyl Sulfonates, Sucrose Esters, Sorbitan Esters and Others), By Application (Household Detergents, Personal Care, Industrial & Institutional Cleaners, Food Processing, Oilfield Chemicals, Agricultural Chemicals, Textiles and Other), By Region & Competition, 2021-2031F

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Abstracts

The Global Biosurfactants Market is projected to expand from USD 3.65 Billion in 2025 to USD 5.96 Billion by 2031, reflecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8.52%. These amphiphilic surface-active agents, synthesized by microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi, effectively lower surface tension while offering enhanced biodegradability compared to synthetic counterparts. Growth is largely driven by strict environmental mandates and a decisive industrial pivot toward sustainable chemistry aimed at reducing carbon footprints. Highlighting this trend, the American Cleaning Institute's 2024 Sustainability Report notes that 36% of its members have pledged to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, a commitment that is fast-tracking the incorporation of renewable inputs, such as biosurfactants, into commercial formulations.

Despite this progress, the broad commercial adoption of these ingredients is significantly obstructed by economic challenges related to production. Elevated operational costs stem from complex fermentation processes and downstream purification, resulting in a price premium that weakens their competitive stance against entrenched petrochemical options. Consequently, this cost disparity hinders wider

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market penetration, particularly within price-sensitive industrial sectors that prioritize affordability over sustainability.

Market Driver

Rising consumer demand for natural and organic personal care products is fundamentally transforming the Global Biosurfactants Market, prompting manufacturers to overhaul cosmetics and hygiene products with renewable ingredients. As shoppers increasingly demand label transparency and reduced environmental impact, leading beauty corporations are actively substituting petrochemical surfactants with bio-based equivalents to maintain market share. This strategic shift is highlighted by industry giants such as L'Oreal, which reported in March 2025 via its '2024 Annual Report' that 66% of its formula ingredients are now biobased, sourced from abundant minerals or circular processes. Such extensive adoption by major personal care brands indicates a lasting shift away from synthetic chemicals, guaranteeing consistent demand for biosurfactants.

Concurrently, technological breakthroughs enabling the use of low-cost waste substrates are effectively dismantling historical cost barriers to mass commercialization. Advances in fermentation and downstream processing now permit the conversion of agricultural residues and organic by-products into high-efficiency surfactants, markedly decreasing dependence on costly refined sugars or vegetable oils. For example, Sasol Chemicals introduced LIVINEX IO 7 in October 2025, a novel bio-circular surfactant made from insect oil waste, with plans to enter the personal care market within a year. This transition to circular feedstocks is supported by wider sustainability goals; in June 2025, Stepan Company announced a 22% decrease in Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions, demonstrating the operational efficiency gains that are making bio-based production increasingly economically feasible.

Market Challenge

The widespread market adoption of biosurfactants is severely restricted by unfavorable production economics, placing them at a competitive disadvantage relative to established petrochemical alternatives. The intricate nature of biological synthesis through fermentation, coupled with energy-intensive downstream processing and purification, leads to substantial operational costs. These expenses result in a price premium that cost-conscious industries are often reluctant to accept, especially given that synthetic surfactants provide equivalent functional performance at a much lower cost. As a result, this price gap confines biosurfactants to niche, high-value uses and

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obstructs the achievement of economies of scale necessary to challenge fossil-based ingredients.

This economic obstacle is evident in the current feedstock composition of the chemical industry. Data from the Renewable Carbon Initiative in 2024 indicates that fossil resources still account for over 90% of the embedded carbon within the global chemical and derived materials sector. This heavy dependence on petrochemicals highlights the significant challenge bio-based alternatives face in displacing established supply chains based on environmental benefits alone, without first reaching price parity with traditional options.

Market Trends

The market is shifting from niche uses to widespread industrial application through the large-scale commercialization of rhamnolipids and sophorolipids, supported by the construction of dedicated manufacturing infrastructure. Producers are advancing beyond pilot capabilities to build resilient supply chains that ensure consistent volumes for global FMCG partners. This trend is illustrated by major capital investments, such as Evonik's inauguration of a triple-digit million-euro facility in Slovakia in May 2024, described in its press release as the world?s first industrial-scale rhamnolipid plant. These capacity expansions are essential for lowering unit costs and enabling biosurfactants to reliably substitute petrochemicals in high-volume consumer goods.

In parallel, the rise of biosurfactant-based agricultural biostimulants offers a rapidly growing application area, distinct from the traditional cleaning and personal care markets. The agriculture industry is increasingly utilizing these molecules to boost soil health and crop yields, utilizing their amphiphilic characteristics to enhance nutrient absorption and water retention in compacted soils. Confirmation of this utility comes from Locus Agriculture, which reported in an October 2024 press release that independent field trials showed its biosurfactant soil amendment technology boosted crop yields by up to 34% across various produce types. Such performance evidence is hastening the adoption of microbial surfactants in modern farming, creating a profitable revenue channel separate from the hygiene sector.

Key Market Players

Evonik Industries AG

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Croda International plc

Jeneil Biotech, Inc.

AGAE Technologies LLC

Saraya Co., Ltd.

GlycoSurf LLC

TensioGreen

AkzoNobel N.V.

Givaudan SA

Report Scope

In this report, the Global Biosurfactants Market has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Biosurfactants Market, By Type

Glycolipids

Alkyl Polyglucosides

Methyl Ethyl Sulfonates

Sucrose Esters

Sorbitan Esters and Others

Biosurfactants Market, By Application

Household Detergents

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- Personal Care
- Industrial & Institutional Cleaners
- Food Processing
- Oilfield Chemicals
- Agricultural Chemicals
- Textiles and Other

Biosurfactants Market, By Region

- North America
  - United States
  - Canada
  - Mexico
- Europe
  - France
  - United Kingdom
  - Italy
  - Germany
  - Spain
- Asia Pacific
  - China
  - India

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- Japan
- Australia
- South Korea

South America

- Brazil
- Argentina
- Colombia

Middle East & Africa

- South Africa
- Saudi Arabia
- UAE

Competitive Landscape

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies present in the Global Biosurfactants Market.

Available Customizations:

Global Biosurfactants Market report with the given market data, TechSci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

- Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

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