



Primordial Genetics and Bayer Establish Research Collaboration to Enhance Crop Performance

– Program will use Primordial Genetics’ Function Generator™ technology to identify new protein activities for Bayer’s research initiatives –

SAN DIEGO, Calif. November 4, 2016 – Primordial Genetics and Bayer CropScience LP announced today the establishment of a research collaboration to evaluate Primordial Genetics’ proprietary Function Generator™ technology. Bayer will provide multi-year funding for this project and will receive access to Primordial Genetics’ technology platform and expertise. Results of the collaboration have the potential to accelerate the development and enhance the biological performance of future Bayer crop protection solutions.

Proteins are the fundamental building blocks of all living organisms. The Primordial Genetics Function Generator™ system provides a rapid way to create and discover new genetic traits from the protein diversity already present in an organism. These protein variants can then be tested for new functions and incorporated into biological crop protection products to combat pests and diseases and increase yield.

“This partnership with Bayer is an important validation of the commercial importance of our technology platform and its relevance to industrial partners. The interest and support from a major innovative company like Bayer is a measure of how far we have come in advancing our genetic platform over the past three years,” stated Helge Zieler, Ph.D., CEO of Primordial Genetics.

Dr. Adrian Percy, Head of Research and Development at Crop Science, a Division of Bayer, commented: “This partnership is an example of Bayer’s ongoing commitment to Science For A Better Life. By partnering with Primordial Genetics, one of the world’s most innovative companies we will continue to deliver new products to help our customers produce high-quality food in a sustainable manner and help feed the growing world population.”

About Primordial Genetics

Primordial Genetics Inc is a privately held company based in San Diego that is a leading provider of genetic and synthetic biology solutions for microbial improvement and protein engineering. The company’s ultimate goal is to be able to shape the genetics and characteristics of useful organisms and proteins rapidly and flexibly.

Function Generator™ platform genetic technology is broadly capable of developing novel and advanced traits in microbes used for the production of useful compounds ranging from fuels and chemicals to pharmaceuticals, therapeutic proteins and enzymes. The technology also represents a novel way for

optimizing enzymes with higher catalytic efficiency, improved temperature tolerance, altered substrate specificity, and resistance to inhibitors.

Bayer: Science For A Better Life

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the Life Science fields of health care and agriculture. Its products and services are designed to benefit people and improve their quality of life. At the same time, the Group aims to create value through innovation, growth and high earning power. Bayer is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to its social and ethical responsibilities as a corporate citizen. In fiscal 2015, the Group employed around 117,000 people and had sales of EUR46.3 billion. Capital expenditures amounted to EUR 2.6 billion, R&D expenses to EUR 4.3 billion. These figures include those for the high-tech polymers business, which was floated on the stock market as an independent company named Covestro on October 6, 2015. For more information, go to www.bayer.com.

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