



Syngenta Media Releases:

Collaboration between Syngenta and IAC accelerates sugar cane Research and Development activities

São Paulo, Brazil, February 8, 2010

Collaboration reinforces Syngenta's commitment to Brazilian sugar cane market
Syngenta expands its sugar cane solution portfolio

Syngenta announced today that it has signed a long-term collaboration agreement with the Agronomy Institute of Campinas (IAC) of the São Paulo Agribusiness Technology Agency, a research entity of the Department of Agriculture and Supplies of the state of São Paulo, Brazil. The agreement, signed through FUNDAG (Agricultural Research Support Foundation) will enable joint surveys by leveraging common infrastructure and technical knowledge for sugar cane studies. Syngenta will also gain access to a set of genotypes from the IAC Sugar Cane Program, allowing the company to accelerate its sugar cane research and development activities.

"We are bringing innovation to sugar cane cultivation through 40 different projects, focused on agronomy performance, weed and bug control, and raising sugar content," said Marco Bochi, director of New Sugar Cane Technologies at Syngenta for Latin America. "We are looking forward to working with IAC to expand our solutions portfolio in sugar cane," adds Bochi.

The collaboration includes mutual training of researchers and technicians from the involved parties. According to Marcos Landell, coordinator of the IAC Sugar Cane Program, the use of IAC's genotypes will accelerate development and selection of varieties that are better adapted to Plene™. The Plene™ technology announced in 2008 will offer significant reduction in planting costs, in addition to environmental benefits offered by reduced soil compacting, by planting buds with approximately four centimeters treated with Syngenta products.

The collaboration will also enable Syngenta to accelerate other research activities in sugar cane involving self-owned and licensed technologies, such as SugarBooster™ and Chromatin gene stacking – for which the company has exclusive licenses in sugar cane. Syngenta is committed to introducing innovations in the Brazilian market for this crop, which leads global production with approximately 40% of the total volume.

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