



Yield10 Bioscience Grants Research License to Forage Genetics to Evaluate Novel Yield Traits in Sorghum

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WOBURN, Mass., Sept. 21, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Yield10 Bioscience, Inc. (Nasdaq:YTEN), a Company developing new technologies to create step-change improvements in crop yield that enhance global food security, today announced that it has granted a non-exclusive research license to Forage Genetics International, LLC, a subsidiary of Land O'Lakes, Inc., to evaluate five novel yield traits in forage sorghum. Under the license, Forage Genetics plans to conduct research with the novel traits within its sorghum development program as a strategy to improve biomass yields.

The novel yield traits included in the research license agreement include C3003, a trait derived from algae, as well as four traits from Yield10's "GRAIN" platform, C4001, C4002, C4003 and C4029. The C4000 series traits included in the research license have been shown to significantly increase photosynthesis and biomass in research conducted by Yield10. One of the traits, C4029, may increase yield as well as confer drought tolerance to crops. The key objective of the licensing agreement is to provide Forage Genetics with novel traits to test alone and/or in any combination in sorghum that may identify new yield traits for potential future licensing from Yield10 for development and commercial deployment.

"Yield10 has benefited from its novel transcriptome network/metabolic engineering-based approach to gene discovery with a focus on photosynthesis and has defined a set of transgenes that have large potential for the enhancement of crop yield," said Roger Pennell, Ph.D., Director of Innovation for Forage Genetics. "We at Forage Genetics believe these genes to be among the best in class for this trait. We are very excited to evaluate them in our state-of-the art field evaluation platform."

"Research with our traits has suggested they may be uniquely suited for deployment in forage crops," said Oliver Peoples, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of Yield10. "Forage Genetics is a leader in the development of forage crops, and we are pleased that they have chosen Yield10 and our novel traits for integration into their sorghum program. The Yield10 team looks forward to supporting Forage Genetics with further insights from our research to contribute to their R&D success with the technology."

Yield10 has established an open innovation model for the evaluation of its novel yield traits by agricultural companies. The intended benefit of the model is to allow agricultural companies to deploy traits in their proprietary, elite germplasm and test the performance of these traits in greenhouse and field studies they design and control. The research licenses granted under this model are non-exclusive but allow the licensees to initiate negotiations for exclusive licenses for traits they may seek to license from Yield10. Yield10's innovation platform and pipeline of yield traits are applicable to commercial row crops in North America, and therefore may represent significant opportunity for commercialization of Yield10 discovered traits through licensing agreements.

According to the USDA, sorghum was grown on 5.6 million acres in the U.S. in 2018. Forage Genetics views forage sorghum as a key crop to deliver sustainable and profitable options to feed producers and consumers. Forage Genetics develops and markets forage sorghum products throughout the United States.

About Yield10 Bioscience

Yield10 Bioscience, Inc. is focused on developing new technologies to achieve step-change improvements in crop yield to enhance global food security. Yield10 has an extensive track record of innovation based around optimizing the flow of carbon in living systems. Yield10 is leveraging its technology platforms and unique knowledge base to design precise alterations to gene activity and the flow of carbon in plants to produce higher yields with lower inputs of land, water or fertilizer. Yield10 is advancing several yield traits it has developed in crops such as Camelina, canola, soybean and rice. Yield10 is headquartered in Woburn, MA and has an Oilseeds Center of Excellence in Saskatoon, Canada.

For more information about the company, please visit www.yield10bio.com.

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Safe Harbor for Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The forward-looking statements in this release do not constitute guarantees of future performance. Investors are cautioned that statements in this press release which are not strictly historical, including, without limitation, statements regarding the potential of Yield10's transgenes to enhance crop yield and confer drought tolerance to crops; the potential for work conducted under the research license to produce higher biomass yielding varieties of sorghum and the potential to sign a commercial license in the future, constitute forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated, including the risks and uncertainties detailed in Yield10 Bioscience's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Yield10 assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking information contained in this press release or with respect to the matters described herein.

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