

Sydney, Australia, October 26, 2023

Syngenta Australia and Metagen partner to accelerate development of biologicals

- Syngenta Australia and Metagen are collaborating to research and develop innovative biological solutions.
- The partnership will leverage Syngenta's expertise in crop protection and seed treatment technologies, along with Metagen's cutting-edge microbial solutions and advancement of soil microbial DNA assessment.
- The partnership underscores the importance of collaboration in driving innovation in the industry.

Syngenta Australia and Metagen announce a collaboration to research and develop innovative biological solutions derived from natural sources, to manage crop resilience while benefiting soil health in a variety of crops.

Syngenta Australia, a leading global plant health company, and Metagen, an agricultural biotechnology firm based in the Lockyer Valley, Queensland, specialising in microbial solutions, have joined forces to develop new technologies that will help farmers improve crop yields while enhancing the crop environment.

The partnership will leverage Syngenta's expertise in crop protection and seed treatment technologies, along with Metagen's cutting-edge microbial solutions and advancement of soil microbial DNA assessment, to develop new products that promote sustainable agriculture practices.

The Managing Director and Country Head of Syngenta ANZ, Paul Luxton said "we are excited to partner with Metagen to develop innovative solutions that will help farmers improve their productivity while regenerating the crop environment."

"Syngenta is committed to providing growers biological solutions as part of an integrated crop management system, providing farmers with the flexibility to bring together different solutions to suit their specific cropping challenges."

"This partnership is a testament to our mutual foundation in science-based innovation, our commitment to sustainable agriculture and our belief that collaboration is key to driving

innovation in our industry and ensuring the next generation of biologicals gets into the hands of farmers," said Mr. Luxton.

Founder of Metagen, Shane Fitzgerald said "Over the last 10 years Metagen has methodically built their team to incorporate expertise in chemistry, process engineering, agronomy, microbiology, DNA analysis, bioinformatics and intelligent computing - pushing the boundaries of research - to deliver innovative and sustainable technologies with a singular focus to shape our customers profitability and sustainability."

Dr. Neil Wilson, Director of Research at Metagen added "We are excited to partner with Syngenta to expand our research platform across a wider range of crops and growers in support of a sustainable future in agriculture."

"Our innovative technologies have the potential to revolutionise agriculture by improving soil health and plant growth and we look forward to working with Syngenta to bring these benefits to more farmers," said Dr Wilson.

The partnership between Syngenta Australia and Metagen is a significant step forward in the development of sustainable agriculture practices and underscores the importance of collaboration in driving innovation in the industry.

ENDS

For more information or for an interview, please contact:

Ms Jaelle Bajada, Syngenta ANZ

0438396154

jaelle.bajada@syngenta.com

Dr Neil Wilson, Metagen

0410566621

neil@metagen.com.au

Metagen is an agricultural biotechnology company based in Australia that specialises in the development of innovative products for soil and plant health. Metagen's goal is to assist growers achieve higher productivity and sustainability in their agricultural practices. Metagen produce locally a diverse range of products, including biostimulants and inoculants, which are carefully designed to cater to the unique conditions found in Australia. These products are formulated to enhance nutrient availability, improved soil quality and overall plant health.

Syngenta is a leading agriculture company helping to improve global food security by enabling millions of farmers to make better use of available resources. Through world class science and innovative crop solutions, our 28,000 people in over 90 countries are working to transform how crops are grown. We are committed to rescuing land from degradation, enhancing biodiversity and revitalizing rural communities. To learn more visit www.syngenta.com.au and www.goodgrowthplan.com.



- **How did this collaboration come about?**

Syngenta, an agricultural company providing cropping solutions in over 90 countries worldwide, developed an interest in our nematode testing service and simultaneously received positive feedback about our products in QLD, which subsequently led to their interest in our work and the research partnership proposal.

- **What is this partnership between Metagen and Syngenta?**

Metagen and Syngenta will employ a researcher to conduct product trials using biological products from both Metagen and Syngenta across a wide range of crops and soils.

- **What does this partnership mean for Metagen's relationship with our clients?**

There will be no change for our clients in the short term. We do anticipate long-term benefits for our clients due to the nature of the partnership. Numerous product trials across a wide variety of crops and soils will lead to improved data on a variety of measures (soil chemistry, soil and plant health, yield, etc), which will in turn advance our knowledge of in-field issues and their solutions, inform the development of novel products, and improve Metagen's ability to help our clients' needs.

- **Will you start selling Syngenta products?**

No, this is a research partnership only.

- **Does Syngenta now own a part of Metagen?**

No.

- **Will there be product changes?**

No.

- **Will there be any lab services changes?**

No.

- **Will there be any price changes based on this partnership?**

No.

- **Will there be any turnaround time changes?**

No.

- **What products (both Metagen and others) will Syngenta be trialing and in what crops?**

Digestor, Evergrow, Lipoguard and some other biological products of interest will be trialed on a broad variety of vegetable crops, cotton and broadacre crops.

- **When will the agreement begin?**

As soon as we find a suitable researcher to fill the role. Recruitment has started.

- **How long will the Metagen, Syngenta partnership be in place?**

We have an initial agreement for 18 months with the intention of extension.

- **Will Syngenta provide increased distribution outlets for Metagen's current product range?**

Not at this point.