

**Syngenta International AG**

Media Office  
CH-4002 Basel  
Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 323 23 23  
Fax: +41 61 323 24 24

[www.syngenta.com](http://www.syngenta.com)

**Media contacts:**

Paul Barrett  
Switzerland +41 61 323 2323

Paul Minehart  
USA +1 202 737 8913

**Analyst/Investor contacts:**

Jennifer Gough  
Switzerland +41 61 323 5059  
USA +1 202 737 6521

Lars Oestergaard  
Switzerland +41 61 323 6793  
USA +1 202 737 6520



media release

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## **New PLENE<sup>®</sup> for commercial planting of sugar cane in Brazil**

- **Exclusive access to innovative CEEDS<sup>™</sup> technology**
- **Step change in planting speed and quality**
- **Complements PLENE<sup>®</sup> Evolve and PLENE<sup>®</sup> PB for nurseries**

Syngenta today announced plans to broaden and scale up its PLENE<sup>®</sup> platform of integrated sugar cane solutions. Through an exclusive licensing agreement with New Energy Farms, Syngenta will access an innovative planting system for sugar cane in Brazil: CEEDS<sup>™</sup> (Crop Expansion Encapsulation and Drilling System).

The CEEDS<sup>™</sup> technology enables the realization of PLENE<sup>®</sup> on a commercial scale. It is complementary to PLENE<sup>®</sup> Evolve and PLENE<sup>®</sup> PB, launched last year, which are for nursery production and gap-filling.

The new PLENE<sup>®</sup> offer will be based on encapsulated plant tissue produced in a controlled environment. It provides a higher multiplication rate and a lower unit cost per ton compared with conventional planting systems. The new PLENE<sup>®</sup> will use high quality plants from Syngenta's biofactory in Itápolis and will offer a step change in sugar cane planting in terms of speed and quality. Significantly longer shelf life compared with the original PLENE<sup>®</sup> concept should improve transportation logistics and make the technology broadly available. The target market is some two million hectares planted annually in Brazil, with commercialization starting in 2017.

Syngenta Chief Operating Officer, John Atkin, said: "We have added another innovative technology to our PLENE<sup>®</sup> platform. This will make the planting process for growers more efficient and will bring them high quality genetic material at scale. By multiplying in a controlled environment, we can eliminate field production uncertainties and related economic risks."

Dr Paul Carver, CEO of New Energy Farms, said: "We have been developing the CEEDS<sup>™</sup> technology since 2009 and have demonstrated that it is very effective on a number of vegetatively propagated crops. We are excited that the expertise and infrastructure of Syngenta will enable the commercialization of this technology on sugar cane in Brazil."

Syngenta's portfolio for sugar cane is already delivering broad benefits to growers in Brazil, the world's largest sugar cane producer. Producing more than 40 percent of the world's sugar cane, Brazil has increased production by more than 100 percent in the past 10 years. Further growth is expected supported by Brazil's leading role in meeting an increase in global sugar demand.

Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies with more than 28,000 employees in over 90 countries dedicated to our purpose: Bringing plant potential to life. Through world-class science, global reach and commitment to our customers we help to increase crop productivity, protect the environment and improve health and quality of life. For more information about us please go to [www.syngenta.com](http://www.syngenta.com).

***Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements***

This document contains forward-looking statements, which can be identified by terminology such as 'expect', 'would', 'will', 'potential', 'plans', 'prospects', 'estimated', 'aiming', 'on track' and similar expressions. Such statements may be subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from these statements. We refer you to Syngenta's publicly available filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for information about these and other risks and uncertainties. Syngenta assumes no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changed assumptions or other factors. This document does not constitute, or form part of, any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer, to purchase or subscribe for any ordinary shares in Syngenta AG, or Syngenta ADSs, nor shall it form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract there for.