

# Nimbus Therapeutics Achieves Second Milestone in Research Collaboration with Monsanto

### Novel, broad-spectrum fungicides are progressed to follow-on crop field trials

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. and ST. LOUIS, Mo. – December 22, 2015 – Nimbus Therapeutics, LLC, a biotechnology company discovering novel approaches for previously inaccessible disease targets, and Monsanto Company, today announced the achievement of the second milestone in their research collaboration. The research collaboration, which was announced in 2013, focuses on the development of new discoveries to help farmers control diseases and promote overall plant health.

Under the collaboration, Nimbus and Monsanto are co-developing agricultural fungicides using Nimbus' innovative research tools and Monsanto's agricultural testing capabilities. The breakthrough science collaboration pairs computational technology and robust experimental screens in a rapid cycle discovery process. This process allows the companies to identify and optimize agrochemicals that can help farmers mitigate challenges on-farm and deliver better harvests.

The Nimbus-Monsanto collaboration is already highlighting early season seed treatment benefits in row crops as well as strong foliar disease control in vegetable trials. With today's announcement, Monsanto will make an undisclosed payment to Nimbus based on the further progression of novel broad-spectrum fungicides in crop field trials.

Growers around the world are continuously searching for new tools to help them control fungal infestations which impact their harvest on farms. Today, it is estimated that fungal infestations reduce global yields 13 percent on average despite the use of resistant crop varieties and the approximately \$14 billion that is spent annually on fungicide treatments.

Fungal infections appear as rusts, leaf spots, mildews and blights on a range of important crops. Novel fungicides would provide growers with additional tools to prevent yield loss, as well as combat emerging resistance to existing fungicide treatments or applications.

Under the terms of the agreement, a jointly-owned entity has been created that has access to Nimbus' validated computational and molecular-evolution platform. Monsanto

has rights to applications within agriculture, and Nimbus will retain rights for all other applications.

## **About Nimbus**

Nimbus Therapeutics is a biotechnology company headquartered in Cambridge, Mass., that is pioneering a new computational technology-driven paradigm to rapidly advance a diverse pipeline of novel small molecule product candidates into clinical development. We are designing highly selective and potent medicines to disrupt known drivers of serious diseases, including metabolic disease, cancer and immune-inflammatory disorders.

Nimbus' development programs target well-characterized biological mechanisms which have proven unreachable by traditional drug development methods. Our lead targets – ACC, IRAK4, Tyk2, and KRas – were each discovered more than a decade ago, but have proven elusive to drug intervention due to limitations of potency, selectivity and pharmacokinetics in first-generation molecules.

We overcome these challenges through a deep integration of multiple disciplines, including computer-aided drug design, chemistry and pharmacology, working in close coordination with a focused network of close partners and collaborators. For more information please visit <u>www.nimbustx.com</u>.

# **About Monsanto Company**

Monsanto Company is a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products that improve farm productivity and food quality. Monsanto remains focused on enabling both small-holder and large-scale farmers to produce more from their land while conserving more of our world's natural resources such as water and energy. To learn more about our business and our commitments, please visit: <a href="https://www.monsanto.com">www.monsanto.com</a>. Follow our business on Twitter® at <a href="https://www.twitter.com/MonsantoCo">www.twitter.com/MonsantoCo</a>, on the company blog, Beyond the Rows® at <a href="https://www.monsantoblog.com">www.monsantoblog.com</a>, or subscribe to our News Release RSS Feed.

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Certain statements contained in this release are "forward-looking statements," such as statements concerning the company's anticipated financial results, current and future product performance, regulatory approvals, business and financial plans and other nonhistorical facts. These statements are based on current expectations and currently available information. However, since these statements are based on factors that involve risks and uncertainties, the company's actual performance and results may differ materially from those described or implied by such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, among others: continued competition in seeds, traits and agricultural chemicals; the company's exposure to various contingencies, including those related to intellectual property protection. regulatory compliance and the speed with which approvals are received, and public acceptance of biotechnology products; the success of the company's research and development activities; the outcomes of major lawsuits and the previously-announced SEC investigation: developments related to foreign currencies and economies: successful operation of recent acquisitions; fluctuations in commodity prices; compliance with regulations affecting our manufacturing; the accuracy of the company's estimates related to distribution inventory levels; the company's ability to fund its shortterm financing needs and to obtain payment for the products that it sells; the effect of weather conditions, natural disasters and accidents on the agriculture business or the company's facilities; and other risks and factors detailed in the company's most recent Form 10-K Report to the SEC. Undue reliance should not be placed on these forwardlooking statements, which are current only as of the date of this release. The company disclaims any current intention or obligation to update any forward-looking statements or any of the factors that may affect actual results.

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