

Agricen Sciences Announces Hiring of Maud Hinchee as Chief Science Officer

Monsanto and ArborGen Veteran Will Lead Development Activities Focused on Sustainable and Efficient Plant Nutrition Technologies

PILOT POINT, TX - March 5, 2013 - Agricen Sciences, an applied sciences research company leading the development of novel microbial and biochemical solutions for plant nutrition and health, announced today the hiring of Maud Hinchee, PhD, as Chief Science Officer (CSO). Dr. Hinchee brings over three decades of experience in plant biology and biotechnology to Agricen Sciences, with specific expertise in functional genomics, collaborative research and development and related product development. In her role as Agricen Sciences CSO, she will lead scientific development activities focused on elucidating plant-soil interactions that influence plant nutrition and health and on harnessing those discoveries to develop effective solutions for increasing nutrient availability and uptake, improving agricultural sustainability and increasing crop yields.

"We are extremely excited to welcome Maud to the Agricen Sciences team," said David Lanciault, president and CEO, Agricen Sciences. "This move signals Agricen Sciences' strong commitment to leadership in plant nutrition technology, building on our programs to bring innovative biological and biochemical technologies to growers to help meet the demand for increased sustainability and productivity in agriculture. Maud's extensive experience, in both applied sciences and in biotechnology research, will make an invaluable contribution to our efforts to meet these challenges."

Prior to joining Agricen Sciences, Dr. Hinchee served for over a decade as CSO at ArborGen, Inc., leading R&D efforts for genetically improved tree products. Previously, at Monsanto Company, she led R&D programs aimed at enhancing the performance of row crops, specialty crops and forestry products. Dr. Hinchee earned her doctoral degree in botany from the University of California, Davis, where she was also named to Chancellor's and Regents' Fellowships. She has been an invited speaker at numerous industry and scientific conferences in her fields of expertise and is a council member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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About Agricen Sciences

Agricen Sciences is an applied sciences research company leading the development of novel microbial and biochemical solutions for plant nutrition and health. The company's cutting-edge research programs on soil-plant systems are yielding new insights for crop nutrition, soil science and nutrient management. By applying this knowledge, Agricen Sciences is developing innovative solutions to address the sustainability and production challenges facing modern agriculture. For more information, please visit **www.agricensciences.com**.

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