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PlantForm signs new license agreement with the University of Guelph

Agreement covers IP related to biosimilar versions of cancer drugs Avastin[®] and Erbitux[®]

GUELPH, Ont., March 12, 2013 —The University of Guelph has granted PlantForm Corporation an exclusive license for technology that drives high levels of protein expression in plants, and for inventions and technologies related to the plant-based production of two anti-cancer drugs, biosimilar bevacizumab and biosimilar cetuximab.

“This license covers a unique combination of vectors that significantly increase antibody production in tobacco plants and related species,” said Dr. Don Stewart, PlantForm President and CEO. “This discovery adds to our high-yield system of antibody production, using both transient expression and stable transgenic plants, thus further reducing our already significantly low manufacturing cost.”

Plasmid vectors are small DNA molecules that are transferred to a cell to trigger production of a specific protein.

PlantForm also has a license agreement with the university that includes intellectual property related to the production of recombinant trastuzumab, a biosimilar version of the breast cancer drug Herceptin[®]. All intellectual property licensed by the company is from the lab of **University of Guelph Professor J. Christopher Hall**, School of Environmental Sciences. Dr. Hall has held the Canada Research Chair in Recombinant Antibody Technology since 2002. He is a PlantForm co-founder and the company’s Chief Scientific Officer.

Under the terms of the agreement, PlantForm has issued the University of Guelph 200,000 common shares in the company.

Bevacizumab is the generic name for the oncology drug Avastin[®], which had \$5.8 billion in sales in 2011. Cetuximab the generic name for the oncology drug Erbitux[®], which had \$1.8 billion in sales in 2011.

PlantForm Corporation’s mission is to provide low-cost biologic drugs to help people fight cancer and other critical conditions. The company is currently raising Series A capital to advance into the regulatory approval process for biosimilar trastuzumab. Projected revenue is more than \$50 million by 2017.

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For more information, please contact:

Don Stewart
President and CEO

don.stewart@plantformcorp.com
(416) 452-7242

Stacey Curry Gunn
Director of Communications

stacey.curry.gunn@plantformcorp.com
(519) 827-1131