



## **Kultevat Inc licenses Biotech Trait Technologies from Performance Plants for Natural Rubber**

Kingston, ON, Canada – September 30, 2020 – Performance Plants Inc. (PPI) and Kultevat Inc. (Portageville, MO), have signed a commercial license agreement, giving Kultevat rights for certain PPI technologies for use in *Taraxacum kok-saghyz*, a source for the production of high-quality natural rubber, in North America and globally.

Rubber is a vital material utilized globally across a diverse array of industries and sectors. Natural rubber (NR) is 40% of a US\$26.6 billion global rubber market. Kultevat will leverage PPI technologies to increase the production of TKS rubber and thus to achieve its goal of ensuring a safe and sustainable supply of natural rubber. The yield-enhancing technologies licensed from PPI will further reduce overall rubber production costs by increasing rubber yields per acre.

All PPI technologies target different mechanisms and are focused on the use of the plants' own genes for improved and stabilized crop yield performance under challenging climate conditions. PPI has validated and patented a wide range of commercial-ready technologies that include Yield Protection Technology® ("YPT®"), Heat & Drought Tolerance Technology ("HDT"), Water Use Efficiency Enhancement Technology ("WET™"), Biomass Enhancement Technology ("BET™"), and Yield Enhancement Technology ("YET™"). Due to its diverse range of technologies, PPI's biotech traits can be combined or stacked into a single plant variety for genetic and agronomic improvements.

Partnering with innovative companies like Kultevat, Performance Plants continues to develop, expand, and open new markets advancing PPI's technologies, through collaboration with its partners, to provide a critical link to developing profitable and sustainable market solutions.

"PPI is an ideal partner for Kultevat because they are a leader in the discovery and development of second-generation agricultural biotechnologies that Kultevat will benefit from by improving and stabilizing crop yield performances," said Dan Swiger, Chief Executive Officer.

"We are delighted to see the establishment of this commercial research and product development agreement with Kultevat," said Dr. Yafan Huang, President & Chief Scientific Officer of Performance Plants. PPI Technologies have been validated in multiple crops and we are confident that they will help Kultevat to boost and maintain the yields of natural rubber production by TKS."

### **About Performance Plants Inc.**

Performance Plants Inc. is a global leader in the discovery and development of next-generation agricultural biotechnologies. The company's technologies of weatherproofing of food and non-food (feed and biofuel) crops through climate variabilities such as drought and heat stress, enhancement of plant productivity (including seed yield and plant biomass), and improving plant



herbicide and insect tolerance for effective farm management. The company has a robust gene-discovery & technology development pipeline for various crops and has licensed multiple breakthrough technologies to many world-leading seed companies. PPI won the prestigious international Agrow Awards for the Best Industrial Collaboration while being nominated for having the Best R&D Pipeline. The privately held Canadian company is headquartered with R&D facilities in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. [www.performanceplants.com](http://www.performanceplants.com)

**About Kultevat Inc.**

Kultevat is an Ag- Biotech company privately held company headquartered in Portageville, MO. Kultevat serves sustainable agricultural markets, primarily by the production of rubber and mixed sugar feedstocks for several different markets. Kultevat has vast experience in the commercial utilization of plant materials to develop profitable, sustainable, and environmentally benign sources of rubber. Kultevat serves to reduce near-total dependence on foreign sources of rubber globally.

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