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Population Genetics raises \$5.7M in a Series B financing and announces research agreement with Syngenta Biotechnology

Population Genetics has closed a \$5.7 million Series B financing round intended to enable completion of several ongoing biological validations of the Company's technology, setting the stage for a future major financing aimed at making that technology broadly available. New investor, Syngenta Ventures, the corporate venture capital arm of Syngenta, joins the Company's existing shareholders: Compass Genetics Investors LLC, the Wellcome Trust, Auriga Partners and Beringea LLP.

The Company also announced today a research agreement with Syngenta Biotechnology, Inc., aimed initially at validating the use of its technology in plant breeding studies.

The Population Genetics proprietary technology evolved from ideas proposed by its co-founder, Nobel Laureate Sydney Brenner. It exploits the power and efficiency of next generation DNA sequencers which it enables to interrogate simultaneously for sequence information, sets of suspected candidate genes in hundreds, if not thousands of genomes. It is thus expected to facilitate greatly both the identification and statistical validation of sequence variants associated with phenotypic traits, be they disease pre-dispositions or drug responses in medicine, or even, soon, important agronomic plant traits. Population Genetics has already initiated a number of studies aimed at validating its technology.

One, a collaborative study with researchers at Cardiff University, aims to analyze a number of suspected genes in both a population of 1,000 patients suffering late-onset Alzheimer's disease and a population of 500 age-matched controls. Funded by a Translation Award from the Wellcome Trust, the study has also been augmented with additional funding from the Medical Research Council (MRC) of the UK. Another study with Quintiles, follows a genome-wide association study supported by a large pharmaceutical company in a population of renal cancer patients. Yet other collaborative studies, with several oncologists in different parts of the UK, investigate the efficacy of chemotherapy protocols in large populations of patients affected by breast cancer or childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

"We are gratified," said Sam Eletr, a co-founder of the Company and its Chairman of the Board, "that these yet unpublished studies helped highlight, to a sophisticated research organization such as Syngenta, the ease with which our

proprietary process can readily discover or validate genomic markers, across very large populations of genomes, using only just one (or just a few) DNA sequencing run(s). Once completed, we expect these studies to convince many researchers, whether academic or corporate, in health or in agriculture, that they can tackle, together with our Company, population studies that only very large laboratories, well-equipped with very large numbers of very expensive sequencers, can now undertake."

"We are pleased to be able to work with Population Genetics to extend the use of their novel technology for human diagnostics into the agricultural field," said Michiel van Lookeren Campagne, Head of Biotechnology for Syngenta. "This technology will allow us to simultaneously characterize the molecular basis for complex multigenic traits across very large number of lines in one test tube. This will increase the rate of innovation in our breeding programs while reducing the cost and complexity of the analysis."

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Notes to Editors:

About Population Genetics

Founded on 2nd April, 2005, Population Genetics Technologies Limited is located at the Babraham Research Campus, near Cambridge, UK, and has developed a novel approach for the rapid identification of rare genetic variants in large populations of interest. This approach represents a significant advancement in the identification and utilisation of genetic biomarkers, which are fundamental to the development of personalised medicine.

In 2005, Population Genetics received a Strategic Translation Award from the Wellcome Trust to support development of its proprietary technology. The genetic association with Alzheimer's disease study is supported by an additional Translation Award from the Wellcome Trust. The latest \$5.7 million Series B financing adds to existing venture capital investment of over £3.8 million.
www.populationgenetics.com.

About the Wellcome Trust

The Wellcome Trust is a global charitable foundation dedicated to achieving extraordinary improvements in human and animal health. It supports the brightest minds in biomedical research and the medical humanities. The Trust's breadth of support includes public engagement, education and the application of research to improve health. It is independent of both political and commercial interests.
www.wellcome.ac.uk.