

Bayer CropScience agrees to products divestments to Makhteshim-Agan

Agreements include the sugarbeet herbicide Goltix®

Monheim – Bayer CropScience has agreed to sell or license out a number of crop protection products to Israel-based agrochemicals company Makhteshim-Agan Industries Ltd. pending the approval by the European Commission and national antitrust authorities.

The European Commission had cleared last April the acquisition of Aventis CropScience by Bayer subject to conditions of which the now agreed upon divestments are part.

The agreements with Makhteshim-Agan include the following products:

| Type of divestment | Product | Country / Region |
|--------------------|---|------------------|
| sale | Goltix® herbicide in sugarbeets (Metamitron) | worldwide |
| exclusive license | Herold® herbicidal mixture of Flufenacet + Diflufenican in cereal crops | Germany, Belgium |
| exclusive license | Baytan® (Triadimenol) fungicide | UK |

| Type of divestment | Product | Country / Region |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| non exclusive distribution rights | Folicur® foliar fungicide (Tebuconazole) | Germany |
| sale | Gusathion® insecticide (Azinphos-Methyl) | Europe |
| exclusive license | Thiodan® insecticide (Endosulfan) | Greece and Portugal |

The total turnover in 2001 for the listed products in the indicated regions amounted to € 88 million. The purchase price for the whole deal has been set at € 155 million.

“After very intensive and focussed negotiations we are pleased to have reached an agreement with Makhteshim-Agan”, said Dr. Jochen Wulff, Chairman of the Board of Bayer CropScience. “This is another important step forwards to complete all required divestitures within the given timeframe”, he added.

Bayer CropScience, a subsidiary of Bayer AG with annual sales of some Euro 6.5 billion, is one of the world’s leading innovative crop science companies in the areas of crop protection, seeds and green biotechnology, as well as non-agricultural pest control. The company offers an outstanding range of products and extensive service backup for modern, sustainable agriculture and for non-agricultural applications. Bayer CropScience has a global workforce of 22,000 and is represented in 122 countries, ensuring proximity to dealers and consumers.

Makhteshim Agan Industries Ltd. with 2001 annual sales of some 890 million dollars is the world's leading generic manufacturer of agrochemical products. Characterized by high technological-chemical ability, environmental responsibility, and worldwide registration marketing and distribution capabilities, the company is focused on growth in preferred markets such as Western Europe and North America.

Monheim, October 2, 2002

Forward-Looking Statements

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