

## Syngenta and Bayer reach agreement on patent disputes

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**Leverkusen** – Bayer AG and Syngenta AG today announced that they had reached an agreement on their intellectual property disputes in neonicotinoid chemistry which are the subject of various proceedings in the USA, Europe and Japan. Under the terms of the agreement, Syngenta will pay Bayer \$ 120 million in return for full access to crop protection and related markets worldwide.

“Reaching an agreement on this lengthy patent dispute was not easy but we are convinced that this is in the best interest of our customers”, said Dr. Jochen Wulff, President and CEO of Bayer’s Crop Protection division. Bayer will continue to serve all markets with its imidacloprid based insecticides CONFIDOR<sup>®</sup>, ADMIRE<sup>®</sup> and GAUCHO<sup>®</sup> as well as with the recently launched new-generation chloronicotinyl insecticide CALYPSO<sup>®</sup>.

“Thiamethoxam’s worldwide potential can now be fully realized particularly in the major agricultural markets. We are pleased to have resolved these complex issues and to have reached this agreement with Bayer”, said John Atkin, Chief Operating Officer of Syngenta Crop Protection. Syngenta’s thiamethoxam brands include ACTARA<sup>®</sup>, CRUISER<sup>®</sup>, HELIX<sup>®</sup>, PLATINUM<sup>®</sup> and CENTRIC<sup>®</sup>.

Bayer is an international, research-based group with core businesses in health care, agriculture, polymers and specialty chemicals. In 2000 Bayer had sales of EUR 31 billion, net income of EUR 1.8 billion, and approximately 122,000 employees at year end. Capital expenditures amounted to EUR 2.6 billion, R&D spending to EUR 2.4 billion. Bayer's Crop Protection Business Group is one of the world's leading suppliers of crop protection products, with sales in 2000 of EUR 2.5 billion.

Leverkusen, January 11, 2002

### Forward-Looking Statements

This news release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer Group management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to substantial differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. The company accepts no obligation to continue to report or update these forward-looking statements or adjust them to future events or developments.