



## BIOLEAP ENTERS INTO RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITH SYNGENTA ON MOLECULAR DESIGN OF CROP PROTECTION PRODUCTS

**Ewing, NJ, USA, (April 5, 2011)** -- BioLeap, Inc. announced today that the company has entered into a research collaboration with Syngenta to apply BioLeap molecular-design technology to the discovery of Syngenta crop protection products.

Under the agreement, Syngenta Ventures will make an equity investment in BioLeap, and BioLeap will provide molecular designs for the synthesis of compounds aimed at targets of interest in crop protection research. BioLeap's work on these targets will be exclusive to Syngenta.

The agreement builds upon and expands previous research carried out for Syngenta. Financial details of the agreement are not being disclosed.

David Pompliano, chief executive officer of BioLeap, said, "One of our objectives at BioLeap is to further our alliances with companies in the agriculture and consumer-products industries even as we maintain our focus on pharmaceuticals as well. We are gratified by Syngenta's confidence in our capabilities, and we look forward to expanding our role in Syngenta's emphasis on world-class science."

The collaboration with Syngenta will take advantage of the proprietary advances that BioLeap chemists have made in creating and using computer simulations both to design compounds *de novo*, chemical fragment by chemical fragment, and to tailor existing designs. Every BioLeap design builds on calculations of the binding energies between the compound being fashioned *in silico* and its biological target.

The exactitude of this method, known as computational fragment-based design, seeks to ensure greater affinity for the target than is available through conventional compound screening and to achieve other optimal chemical properties. The method thus promises to reduce costly and time-consuming trial and error, minimizing the number of compounds that need actually to be synthesized and then tested, improving the odds of success in early research, and accelerating overall product development.

### **About BioLeap**

BioLeap is a pioneer in computational fragment-based molecular design. In pharmaceutical applications, the company uses its proprietary software to design drug candidates both through its internal programs and in collaboration with partners. BioLeap thus addresses one of the biggest problems in drug discovery: the limitation of drug-like and patentable leads for important but often difficult biological targets. This *in silico* design capability also finds application in product development for the consumer-product and agriculture industries, promising to achieve greater speed, economy, and odds of success than traditional compound screening. More information is available at [www.bioleap.com](http://www.bioleap.com). On the home page, a video offers an overview of the company from CEO David Pompliano.

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