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Nodulator® XL wins Ag Innovation award at Agri-Trade in Red Deer

Breakthrough pea and lentil inoculant snags major industry award in Alberta

Saskatoon, SK – November 21, 2011 – Nodulator® XL, a new, high-performing pea and lentil inoculant, was one of the 2011 Agri-Trade Ag Innovation Winners at the Agri-Trade show just over a week ago in Red Deer, Alberta.

Nodulator® XL is considered a significant ag innovation because it produces a 3-8% yield increase over competitive inoculants. It features a new strain of rhizobia available only from Becker Underwood.

"We're thrilled that our research and development staff has been recognized for producing such a superior product," says David Townsend, product manager, Becker Underwood. "It's going to be an important tool this spring for pea and lentil growers as they use Nodulator® XL to increase yields above what they can achieve with other inoculants."

Field research clearly shows a 3-8% increase in yield when using Nodulator® XL over competing inoculants and was a significant factor in awarding the Ag Innovation award. The yield result was determined through extensive research over 171 station years and is a conservative range, not representing the highest values seen in the plots.

Ag Innovations is Canada's industry-leading innovations awards program honouring inventors, innovators and fabricators in the agricultural industry who continuously strive to advance the interests of farmers everywhere. The awards are adjudicated by an impartial panel of farmers, each representing an ag specialty reflected by the entries.

The foundation of Nodulator® XL is the highly efficient, more active strain of rhizobia known as *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *viceae*. In 2012, its first year on the market, Nodulator® XL will be available in liquid, sterile peat and solid core formulations.

Nodulator® XL-treated crops exhibit a more advanced root system – showing more vigorous, robust and highly branching growth. The nodules stay pink longer than plants

treated with other leading inoculants – a sure sign of increased nitrogen fixation. Pea and lentil plants are also a darker green, with improved uniformity of growth. Increased plant vigour provides a stronger defense against pests and better nutrient uptake.

In Western Canada, the Becker Underwood portfolio of products includes Nodulator® XL and Nodulator® for peas and lentils, Nodulator® N/T and Nodulator® Spherical Granules for soybeans, and Nodulator® for dry beans, faba beans and chickpeas.

Becker Underwood, Inc., founded in 1982, is an international developer of bio-agronomic and specialty products. In addition to being the leading manufacturer of seed coatings and colorants, the company is also the leading global producer of inoculants, beneficial nematodes, and a wide range of agricultural and horticultural products. To learn more about how we are inventing the future, visit our web site at www.BeckerUnderwood.ca.

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