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media release

## **Syngenta Seeds Submits USDA Petition for Deregulation of Next-Generation Corn Rootworm Trait**

MINNETONKA, MINN. — December 7, 2010 — Syngenta Seeds, Inc., today announced it has submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) a petition for the deregulation of its Event 5307\*, a next-generation corn rootworm trait.

Syngenta's Event 5307 expresses the eCry3.1Ab protein, which has demonstrated resistance to corn rootworm in Syngenta trials. This protein has a novel mode of action that binds differently in the gut of target insects than the protein in Syngenta's Agrisure® RW corn rootworm trait. As such, once approved, the new event will provide Syngenta with the opportunity to create proprietary trait stacks with multiple modes of action against corn rootworms.

"This is a major milestone toward the Syngenta goal of delivering the best, most convenient and most effective single-bag refuge solution to growers," said David Morgan, President, Syngenta Seeds. "We have heard growers say they need a simple, time-saving solution that captures lost yield from refuge acres. At the same time, we believe any such solution needs to be based on sound science to help protect against the potential development of resistant insects. By developing multiple traits with novel modes of action on the same target pest, we believe we can accomplish both of these objectives."

In Syngenta trials, corn hybrids containing Event 5307 demonstrated resistance to Western corn rootworm, Northern corn rootworm and Mexican corn rootworm, and provided effective root protection even under heavy insect pressure.

Syngenta has previously announced its refuge-in-a-bag product concept which would stack Event 5307 with its industry-leading Agrisure Viptera™ trait, its Agrisure RW trait and traits with multiple modes of action against European corn borer, to create a reduced refuge stack, the Agrisure Viptera 3222 E-Z refuge™ stack\*. This trait stack, which is anticipated to be available in 2014 following receipt of all U.S. regulatory and key import market approvals, will feature multiple modes of action on all major above- and below-ground corn insects and a 5% refuge in the Corn Belt.

Syngenta plans to make additional regulatory submissions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Food and Drug Administration, as well as key export countries to gain the necessary regulatory approvals for this trait.

## **About Syngenta**

Syngenta is one of the world's leading companies with more than 25,000 employees in over 90 countries dedicated to our purpose: Bringing plant potential to life. Through world-class science, global reach and commitment to our customers we help to increase crop productivity, protect the environment and improve health and quality of life. For more information about us please go to [www.syngenta.com](http://www.syngenta.com).

Agrisure®, Agrisure Viptera™, Agrisure Viptera E-Z refuge™, and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company.

\*Event 5307 and the Agrisure Viptera 3222 E-Z refuge stack are not yet registered for sale or use in the United States and are not being offered for sale.

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### ***Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements***

This document contains forward-looking statements, which can be identified by terminology such as 'expect', 'would', 'will', 'potential', 'plans', 'prospects', 'estimated', 'aiming', 'on track' and similar expressions. Such statements may be subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from these statements. We refer you to Syngenta's publicly available filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for information about these and other risks and uncertainties. Syngenta assumes no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changed assumptions or other factors. This document does not constitute, or form part of, any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer, to purchase or subscribe for any ordinary shares in Syngenta AG, or Syngenta ADSs, nor shall it form the basis of, or be relied on in connection with, any contract therefor.