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World First in Precision Agriculture Coming to the Downs

On Thursday the 27th October, 2005 Agline Distributors will introduce the BIO Range of Minimum/Zero Till Planters to the Darling Downs region of Queensland. The Bio Drill and Bio Tyne will be demonstrated before a group of current customers, agricultural stakeholders and select members of the farming community at "Cowan", Cecil Plains.

The Bio range of precision planting implements has been a dogged eight-year quest by Ross Hubbard, farmer, dealer principle of Namoi Valley Implements and Managing Director of Agline Distributors. From originally coming across the concept in part of a university study in New Zealand and taking out a patent on the technology, to building a prototype in a shed in central NSW, the project has been one driven by a vision of what it could deliver Australian farmers. A planting implement that winter or summer, can deliver the seed and fertilizer to the ideal level in the soil to maximise subsoil moisture, heighten plant emergence and maturity and also support minimum/zero till farming practices. If a farmer could achieve all of this, his ability to minimise the risk to his crop from lack of rainfall would be significant and also year after year improve the productivity of his soil and therefore crop yields. The commercial realisation of this aim is a world first in precision agriculture.

For 5 years the range of Bio implements have been tested and honed by a group of farmers across Australia to ensure their performance in a wide range of cropping operations and soil types. One of these farmers, Phil Egan, has experienced the radical benefits that can be achieved through this world first in implement technology with his enviable 2004/2005 summer sorghum crop result on his property "Traighli", outside Moonie in Queensland. Through a combination of fitting his Magnum 8950 and 2188 header with BEELINE technologies Arro SM guidance system and using the Bio Blade to plant, it allowed him to maximise his minimum/zero farming practices, producing a four tonne per acre result with only one small fall of rain. With many farmers on far richer soils and greater rainfall proud of 2 tonne/acre summer sorghum results this is truly a result to be proud of.

The BIO range of planting implements consist of the Bio Drill, Bio Tyne and Bio Blade, each design adapted to match the soil type and operation a farmer is looking to work in. With the formation of Agline Distributors, Ross Hubbard took his vision for precision agriculture in Australia to a new level, with his successful negotiation to become also the national distributor of BEELINE technologies guidance systems and supplier of Farmworks software. For the first time the Australian farmer can source a front to back precision agriculture solution via a national network of dealers, providing world leading farming solutions backed by local expert service and support. If interested in attending the day please contact Felicity White, QLD Manager on 0428 537 934 for further details and directions.

Contact:

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Members of the media are more than welcome to attend the day, Please contact me to RSVP for catering purposes as appropriate.

Details: 2pm "Cowan", Cecil Plains-Toowoomba Rd, Cecil Plains

Pictures and further technical information can be emailed to you on request.