



News Release

Financing farmers, financing Ukraine's food future

Monheim, September 15, 2011 – Ukraine needs higher farm productivity and rural development. Ukrainian farmers have difficulty acquiring private credits to buy agricultural inputs for securing harvests and increasing agricultural productivity.

Bayer CropScience partnered with local banks and the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The result is a new business model that improves financial access for small and medium-sized agricultural companies and farmers across the Ukraine. IFC and Raiffeisen Bank Aval structured a risk-sharing facility on a portfolio of up to USD 140 million of seasonal payment obligations to Bayer CropScience. IFC's investment will total up to USD 70 million. Raiffeisen Bank Aval will provide a guarantee to farmers allowing them to buy Bayer CropScience products on-credit.

Ukrainian farmers are now able to buy necessary crop protection inputs, which lead to increased productivity and a secure income. The agricultural sector benefits from new business opportunities, e.g. export of agricultural commodities to other European countries. Support is given to Ukraine's rural development, helping the country achieve its full agricultural potential.

About Bayer CropScience

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the fields of health care, nutrition and high-tech materials. Bayer CropScience, a subgroup of Bayer AG with annual sales of EUR 6.830 billion (2010), is one of the world's leading innovative crop science companies in the areas of crop protection, non-agricultural pest control, seeds and traits. The company offers an outstanding range of products and extensive service backup for modern, sustainable agriculture and for non-agricultural applications. Bayer CropScience has a global workforce of 20,700 and is represented in more than 120 countries. This and further news is available at: www.press.bayercropscience.com.