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Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc. Products Show Impressive Results in International Trials Against Key Pests and Diseases

DAVIS, Calif., July 10, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc. (NASDAQ:MBII), (MBI) a leading provider of bio-based pest management and plant health products for agriculture, turf and ornamental and water treatment markets, has reported excellent product efficacy results in fast growing international markets with intense pest and plant disease problems.

The drivers behind the rapid adoption of biologicals are globally recognized and include evidence of increased yields and crop quality when biologicals are integrated into programs. Biologicals are also a key driver behind the reduction or elimination of synthetic pesticide residues on crops for export markets, delay of pest and plant pathogen resistance to chemicals, safety for workers and pollinators, and less environmental pollution.

In South Africa, Grandevo[®] and Venerate[®] Bioinsecticides have generated positive trial results in citrus - a key agricultural market. MBI products reduced citrus rust mite populations more than 96% and offered fruit a comparable level of protection as commonly used chemical products. Both Grandevo and Venerate provided effective control of citrus fruit damage caused by false codling moth. This pest bores into the citrus fruit, making them unmarketable. South Africa is Africa's largest exporter of agricultural products and exports more than 1.6 million metric tons of citrus annually, with most fruit being shipped to the EU and Asia where limits on chemical residues are strictly enforced¹. South African growers are increasing their use of biologicals to meet the demands for residue-free food from local and international markets, and in response to the EU's ban on controversial neonicotinoid insecticides.

In Latin America, field trials with MBI products have demonstrated efficacy in addressing serious, key crop problems. For example, the addition of Regalia[®] Biofungicide enhanced existing industry programs for controlling coffee rust. Venerate Bioinsecticide, used in integrated pest management (IPM) programs for managing the dreaded coffee berry borer or "Broca," successfully reduced the number of organophosphate insecticide applications, including that of the controversial chlorpyrifos, by 50 percent. The program with Venerate reduced boring damage by almost 70%, which was 40 percent more effective than the chemical-only program. Broca can cause coffee farmers to lose up to 20 percent of a crop and reduce the crop's marketable price by 30 to 40 percent². Coffee rust causes \$1 billion in damage to coffee plants across Latin America and the Caribbean.³

Majestene[®] Bionematicide reduced the most important pest nematodes of bananas (burrowing nematodes) as well as or better than the organophosphate, chlorpyrifos. The burrowing nematode destroys the roots of bananas and plantains so that the plants are starved of water, nutrients, and lack support, causing 30-60% yield loss⁴. The use of Majestene to control nematodes would be a major step forward in reducing exposure risks to pesticide applicators as well.

In Mexico, both Grandevo and Venerate bioinsecticides have demonstrated effective and reliable control of the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), a serious pest that transmits HLB disease. The Asian citrus psyllid has devastated Florida groves and has been recently found in California. Field trial data supporting the use of these two MBI-developed bioinsecticides to control Asian citrus psyllid is now being submitted to support label amendments, adding ACP control to existing Grandevo and Venerate registrations and labels in Mexico.

In Asia, Regalia is advancing in banana trials in the Philippines, showing good activity against the most serious disease this crop faces globally, black sigatoka. In previous trials in Costa Rica, Regalia combined with the standard chemical program increased banana girth by 27% compared to the standard chemical program alone. Conventional sprays for this disease are 15-20% of the cost of bananas (\$1000/hectare, 25-40 sprays per season).⁵

In Vietnam, MBI's distribution partner has completed initial trials with Regalia showing a 20% increase in rice yields, and a concurrent reduction in discolored and unfilled grain caused by rice neck blast disease. Also, in citrus trials in Vietnam, Regalia decreased bacterial canker by more than 70%. In insecticide trials, Grandevo performed under intense pest pressure, reducing pest populations for control of red mites, thrips and mealybugs on strawberry, pumpkin, custard apple,

orange and dragon fruit.

Sources: ¹USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Global Agricultural Information Network Report 12/15/16, ²Specialty Coffee Association of America, ³US AID, ⁴Pestnet.org, ⁵American Phytopathological Society

About Marrone Bio Innovations

Smart. Natural. Solutions.

Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc. (NASDAQ:MBII) strives to lead the movement to a more sustainable world through the discovery, development and promotion of biological products for pest management and plant health. MBI's effective and environmentally responsible pest management solutions help customers operate more sustainably while uniquely improving plant health and increasing crop yields. MBI currently has six commercially available products (Regalia[®], Grandevo[®], Venerate[®], Majestene[®], Haven[™] and Zequanox[®]) as well as eight product candidates in various stages of the company's rapid development pipeline. MBI also distributes Bio-tam 2.0[®] for Isagro USA in the western U.S. and Jet-Ag[®] for Jet Harvest in most regions of the U.S.

Marrone Bio Innovations is dedicated to pioneering smart biopesticide solutions that support a better tomorrow for both farmers and consumers around the globe. For more information, please visit www.marronebio.com.

Marrone Bio Innovations Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included in this press release regarding strategy, future operations and plans, including assumptions underlying such statements, are forward-looking statements, and should not be relied upon as representing MBI's views as of any subsequent date. Examples of such statements include statements regarding sales of the Company's products, the potential benefits of the Company's products, and MBI's efforts with respect to expansion of its product labels in international markets. Such forward-looking statements are based on information available to the Company as of the date of this release and involve a number of risks and uncertainties, some beyond the Company's control, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated by these forward-looking statements, including consumer, regulatory and other factors affecting demand for the Company's products, any difficulty in marketing MBI's products in global markets, competition in the market for pest management products, lack of understanding of bio-based pest management products by customers and growers, and adverse decisions by regulatory agencies and other relevant third parties. Additional information that could lead to material changes in MBI's performance is contained in its filings with the SEC. MBI is under no obligation to, and expressly disclaims any responsibility to, update or alter forward-looking statements contained in this release, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise

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