



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Poliana Francescatto Joins Valent BioSciences PGR Team

Rising horticultural star joins VBC as technical development specialist following successful postdoc at Cornell

Libertyville, IL, February 13, 2019 – Valent BioSciences (VBC) announced Poliana Francescatto PhD. has joined its world-renowned team of horticultural scientists as Global Technical Development Specialist for the company's Biorational Crop Enhancement (BCE) business.

As the newest addition to the VBC team, Francescatto will apply her considerable experience in tree fruit and VBC products to support sales, marketing and development of the company's industry-leading biorational Plant Growth Regulator (PGR) portfolio around the world.

Francescatto joins VBC on the heels of a position as a Postdoctoral Research Associate under Terence Robinson in the Horticulture Section of Cornell's School of Integrative Plant Science. Named one of the fruit and vegetable industry's next generation of leaders (*Top 40 Under 40*) in 2018, Francescatto has become a leading expert on the use of PGRs to improve fruit quality and orchard profitability.

"Poliana's fresh outlook and extensive experience with PGRs on tree free and other crops makes her an excellent fit for VBC," said Regina Rieckenberg, Global Director for the VBC Biorational Crop Enhancement business. "Her demonstrated success helping growers to understand and achieve improved efficiency and profitability through the use of our PGRs makes her ideal for this important position and a strong candidate to continue our long history of innovation in the PGR space."

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About Valent BioSciences

Headquartered in Libertyville, IL, Valent BioSciences is a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sumitomo Chemical Company and is the worldwide leader in the development, manufacturing and commercialization of biorational products with sales in 95 countries around the world. Valent BioSciences is an ISO 9001 Certified Company. For additional information, visit the company's website at www.valentbiosciences.com



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