



Yielding the Future™

**FUTURAGENE PLC (“FuturaGene” or the “Company”)
FuturaGene’s Wholly Owned Subsidiary, CBD Technologies, Ltd. (FGN’s CBD
Tech) announces the granting of plant cell wall modification patent in Japan**

Rehovoth, Israel
15 April, 2009

FuturaGene, which develops environmentally friendly solutions that enhance crop yields and improve the processability of plants for forestry, biofuels, biopower and agriculture is pleased to announce that its wholly owned subsidiary, CBD Technologies Ltd. (“**CBD Tech**”), has been granted Japanese patent no. 4276780 entitled “Transgenic plants of altered morphology and the isolated *arabidopsis thaliana* endo-1,4-beta-glucanase gene, promoter and protein”. The patent claims, *inter alia*, transgenic plants of altered morphology, expressing cellulose binding domains or endo-1,4-beta-glucanase enzymes, which are cell wall modifying proteins. The altered morphology includes higher biomass, faster growth rate, higher yield, higher cellulose content, more amenable for digestion by ruminants or increased resistance to heat, biodegradation or pests.

Dr. Stanley Hirsch, Group CEO of FuturaGene said “This patent consolidates our global intellectual property position in the critical area of cell wall modification, which is a fundamental technology for yield enhancement in plants. This is highly significant for the sustainable industrial forestry, biofuel and biopower sectors. Japan is home to some of the world’s largest pulp and paper producers, enhancing the significance of this patent.”

FuturaGene Plc

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About FuturaGene PLC

FGN is a leading agricultural biotechnology company focused on research, development, and commercialisation of technologies that play key roles in substantially improving agronomic traits of value in plants. In particular the Company is focused on the development and commercialisation of genetically modified plants for improving and protecting yields, and enhancing processability and environmental sustainability in the forestry, biofuels, biopower and agricultural sectors. FuturaGene licenses intellectual property from leading universities in its strategic fields of interest and is exploiting the synergies of these technologies with the cell wall modification platform of its wholly owned subsidiary, CBD Technologies, Inc. (CBD Tech) in forestry, biofuel, food and feed crops.

CBD Tech has pioneered a modality for altered cell walls, resulting in enhanced growth and biomass, increased cellulose, improved fiber properties, improved digestibility and processability, and increased yield properties and has secured broad intellectual property covering plants with modified cell walls showing such altered properties. More information is available at www.futuragene.com.

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