



METAMORPHIX, INC.

Improving Livestock Production and
Animal Health Through
Biotechnology

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For Immediate Release

MetaMorphix Designates Team To Drive Commercialization of First Products

**—Company Installs Three Executives Who Will Play Key Role In Launching
New Technologies For Improving Livestock Production—**

Baltimore, Md., July 27, 2000—MetaMorphix, Inc., a privately held agricultural biotechnology company, today announced that it has put in place a team of three livestock and agricultural biotechnology executives to propel the launch of its first line of products aimed at dramatically improving livestock production efficiency:

- **Anthony Barnes**, former President of Cobb-Vantress, Inc., the world's largest broiler chicken breeding company, has been retained as Consultant, Business Development, Poultry
- **Douglas Kolodny-Hirsch**, Ph.D., most recently a consultant to DuPont, has been named Business Development Manager
- **David Ozment**, owner of a marketing agency representing vendors to the poultry and feed industries, has been appointed Manager of Poultry Field Operations

MyoXtra™, based on the company's Myostatin™ platform technology, is slated to be the company's first product out of the pipeline. Aimed at the \$37 billion worldwide chicken industry, MyoXtra™ has in recent studies achieved dramatic production improvements in chickens, including significantly increased meat per bird, improved feed efficiency, and decreased waste per animal. The product has the potential to substantially improve profitability, reduce costs, and decrease waste in poultry production, as well as to minimize the widespread use of antibiotics to improve weight gain. For consumers, the technology is expected to result in meat that contains less fat, has more protein, and is more tender.

“In contrast to the traditional model of licensing through intermediaries such as animal health companies, our plan is to rapidly deliver the benefits of the Myostatin™ technology to the poultry industry by entering into partnerships directly with a select group of leading poultry companies,” said Edwin C. Quattlebaum, Ph.D., Chairman, President, and CEO of MetaMorphix. “Tony Barnes, Doug Kolodny-Hirsch, and Dave Ozment are all eminently

qualified to assist MetaMorphix in introducing these changes. Tony Barnes is intimately familiar with both the needs of chicken producers around the world for quality growing stock and with negotiating with producers; he will focus on securing MetaMorphix's poultry industry relationships. Doug Kolodny-Hirsch combines first-hand business knowledge of several markets with a scientific background in agricultural biotechnology. Dave Ozment's grasp of poultry markets will be crucial as we establish MetaMorphix's alliances with chicken companies; we expect him to be working with poultry producers soon to field-test MyoXtra™."

Anthony Barnes retired in 1996 from Cobb-Vantress, Inc., the world's largest broiler chicken breeding company. He joined Cobb in 1962 as production manager, was made president in 1982, and was later appointed president of Cobb-Vantress, Inc., then a joint venture with Tyson Foods, Inc., and now solely owned by Tyson. Barnes was instrumental in establishing 10 of the company's joint ventures; the company now supplies 60 countries through operations in 25 countries. At MetaMorphix, Barnes joins another executive formerly involved with Cobb: Gerald Welch, a member of MetaMorphix's board of directors and a former executive vice president of The Upjohn Co., assisted in Upjohn's 1974 purchase of Cobb, and helped to set up the Cobb-Tyson joint venture. Barnes will be based in Arkansas.

Douglas Kolodny-Hirsch most recently organized DuPont's corporate spin-off of its baculovirus business, which develops human therapeutic proteins and bioinsecticides. Prior to that, he was market development manager for biosys, Inc., an agricultural biotechnology company. Kolodny-Hirsch has served as a senior scientist at Crop Genetics International; director of product development for Espro, Inc.; and a research scientist with the Consortium for International Crop Protection in Mali, Africa.

David Ozment has represented vendors to poultry and feed companies since 1978 through his firm, the Ozment Co. Prior to that, he was executive director of the Southwestern Meat Packers Association, a five-state regional trade group. He has served as a manager of three poultry trade groups: The Alabama Poultry & Egg Association, for which he was executive vice president; the Texas Poultry Federation, for which he was executive director; and the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association, located in California, for which he was assistant executive director. Ozment has held the post of sales manager for River Rest Turkey Farms, a turkey breeding company located in Oklahoma. Ozment will be based in Alabama.

*Established in 1994, **MetaMorphix, Inc.** is a privately held agricultural biotechnology company focused on discovering, acquiring, developing, and commercializing a new generation of products and technologies to improve livestock production and animal health.*

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