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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **AGRELIANT GENETICS ADDS KANSAS RESEARCH STATION IN K-96 CORRIDOR**

WESTFIELD, Ind. - AgReliant Genetics is expanding its corn research efforts in Kansas by adding a breeding program facility and nursery that will accommodate the company's continued business growth in the western Corn Belt states.

Located in the K-96 Corridor between Hutchinson and Wichita, Kan., this facility will be led by Station Manager and Corn Breeder, Dr. Mike Popelka. Popelka grew up on a farm in Republic County, Kan. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University and a doctorate in plant breeding from Purdue University.

"This research investment in the K-96 Corridor will be a great addition to the AgReliant Genetics research effort," said Popelka. "The location provides an optimal environment for extensive testing of our products in order to best serve our western Corn Belt customers."

Joining Popelka at the station will be Bryan Unruh. Serving as the facility's Yield Trial Manager, Unruh, received his Master of Science degree in crop production from Kansas State University.

The station's staff will manage product performance trial results on products suitable for Kansas, western Missouri, southwest Iowa and southern Nebraska geographies. This southwestern section of the Corn Belt has been a key source of growth for AgReliant Genetics. The goal of the station will be to continue the development of top-performing hybrids for both irrigated soil and dry land terrain.

Dr. Tom Koch, AgReliant Genetics Vice President of Research, is confident that the new facility and personnel will be an effective compliment to the existing company-wide research effort.

"This addition, combined with our recent expansion in Ames, Iowa, signifies our dedication to providing the highest quality, most successful products in this geography," said Koch. "We're capitalizing on an opportunity created by our recent sales growth and this location will provide a positive basis for continued advancement."

The facility itself will consist of 12,000 square feet of seed packaging labs, machinery storage and additional office space. Located adjacent to the facility will be a 25 acre breeding nursery which is expected to seasonally employ over 25 part-time high school and college students who will facilitate corn hand-pollination.

Headquartered in Westfield, Ind., AgReliant Genetics is an innovative seed company committed to delivering high quality seed, providing exceptional service and creating consistent customer value. Created in 2000 as a joint venture between the international seed groups KWS and Limagrain, AgReliant Genetics is ranked as one of the largest field seed companies in North America. AgReliant Genetics markets corn, soybean and alfalfa seed through six brands: **AgriGold Hybrids®**, **Great Lakes® Hybrids**, **LG Seeds®**, **Producers Hybrids®**, **Wensman Seed®** and **PRIDE Seeds®**. ©2013 AgReliant Genetics, LLC. The service marks and trademarks mentioned herein are registered trademarks of AgReliant Genetics, LLC or its affiliated entities.

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