



BioDiagnostics, Inc. hires Venkatramana Pegadaraju, Ph.D as Research and Development Scientist to Enhance Strategic DNA Efforts

RIVER FALLS, Wisc. (Posted January 19, 2009) – BioDiagnostics, Inc. (BDI) a leader in genetic purity and standard germination seed testing is proud to announce the addition of Venkatramana “Venki” Pegadaraju, Ph.D., as Research and Development Scientist. His role will be to enhance BDI’s ongoing commitment to provide innovative DNA-based technologies to its customers. His appointment became effective November, 2008.

“Hiring Dr. Venki Pegadaraju strengthens BioDiagnostics’ goal of hiring professionals committed to fostering innovation through research excellence. We look forward to him developing new DNA-based technologies that can be commercialized,” said Quentin Schultz, President.

With a doctorate in Biology from Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, Venki brings a wide range of research experience to BDI in areas like functional genomics, crop transformation, plant physiology, marker assisted breeding and molecular genetics. Prior to joining BDI, Venki was associated with various Public Research Organizations like, Directorate of Rice Research (DRR, Hyderabad, India), Center for Plant Molecular Biology (CPMB, Osmania University) and International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT, Hyderabad, India). In addition, Venki has more than 5 years of corporate research experience working for Monsanto. He worked on multiple projects ranging from gene discovery to trait development during his tenure at Monsanto, India and US. As a part of the crop transformation and functional genomics team at Monsanto, Venki developed Rice as a model monocot system to functionally evaluate the role of genes associated with yield and stress tolerance. Further, his research at Monsanto, Mystic was focused on developing several physiological, biochemical, and molecular tools to understand mode of action of genes associated with drought tolerance trait in Corn. Venki has been invited to present at international scientific conferences and has authored interesting scientific articles in peer reviewed journals. He is an active member of several professional societies including the American Society of Plant Biologists.

BDI is the chosen partner and trusted authority for agriculture seed industry. With its thorough perspective of the biotech landscape and a keen awareness of current industry challenges, BDI enhances customer success by creating innovative integrated solutions to meet the changing testing needs of the seed industry. As the nation’s first USDA accredited testing lab, BDI continues to raise the standard in seed testing by combining professional expertise, state-of -the-art technology and expert consultation for more than 12 years. For more information visit: www.biodiagnostics.net