



Heliospectra Awarded Research Grant for Innovative Studies on the Stimulation of Aroma and Nutrients in Plants Using Light

(GOTHENBURG, Sweden / SAN FRANCISCO, CA, December 21, 2015) - Heliospectra AB, (OTCQB: HSPY, FIRSTNORTH: HELIO), a world leader in intelligent lighting technology for plant research and greenhouse cultivation, is pleased to announce that the Company has been awarded a research grant from Vinnova, the Swedish innovation agency, for an innovation project entitled "*LED Lighting to Enhance the Quality of Plants*".

Vinnova promotes sustainable growth by improving the conditions for innovation and social benefits. Over \$10 Million will be handed out to a total of [96 different innovation projects](#) around the country.

Heliospectra will test LED grow lighting to stimulate aroma and nutrients in plants, and increase product quality for growers and consumers. Partners will include SP, the Technical Research Institute of Sweden, SLU, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, and Chalmers University,

"Previous studies have shown that the light quality is very important for the plants' inner qualities, and we have great hopes to use light to produce the quality we desire in greenhouse-grown herbs" – says Dr. Karl-Johan Bergstrand, researcher at SLU

The project is a continuation of the feasibility study "*Lighting's Importance to the Aroma of Herbs*" conducted during the autumn, where basil was grown under carefully controlled conditions under four different lighting regimes, one based on HPS lights and three based on LED light. Mature plants were harvested and analyzed with respect to a number of quality factors such as growth, the presence of volatile compounds and sensory properties. The study was conducted with financial support from Partnership Horticulture, a national collaboration between academia and the horticultural industry with the aim to create growth and sustainable development in the horticultural sector.

"The results of the preliminary study clearly shows that the nature of light can affect plant development and lay a good foundation for further research on the topic. We want to learn more about how light of different wavelengths affect the aroma production in the plant. The goal is to be able to control and optimize product quality with the aid of light."- Tim Nielsen, Project Manager SP



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Staffan Hillberg, CEO of Heliospectra AB, commented, “This grant, and Heliospectra’s participation in this important study, is testament to the agricultural lighting technology that has been developed and patented by our company.”

About Heliospectra AB

Heliospectra AB (OTCQB: HLSPY, FIRSTNORTH: HELIO) (www.heliospectra.com) specializes in intelligent lighting technology for plant research and greenhouse cultivation. The Company’s lighting system provides an effective and durable technology for cultivating greenhouse and indoor plants by combining several different groups of versatile light emitting diodes (LEDs) with optics, remote sensing techniques, and a robust heat dissipation solution. This proprietary setup gives growers the ability to control the intensity and wavelengths of the light emitted, creating a spectrum specifically adjusted to different plant species and growth stages to better facilitate photosynthesis. The complete, highly-engineered lamp produces crops that look better, taste better, and have a longer shelf-life than those grown under HID lamps. The technology not only reduces energy consumption by up to 50%, but also helps stimulate growth characteristics and improve plant quality. Other benefits include reduced light pollution, lower mercury use due to the avoidance of traditional HID/HPS bulbs, and less HVAC investment and monthly expense requirements.

Heliospectra products are based on in-depth knowledge in plant physiology and photosynthesis along with a unique way to utilize modern LED technology. After six years of development in Sweden, the company has now begun to expand into the international market. The company has raised more than \$21 million in capital and has received more than \$2.6 million through academic scholarships and grants. It has also received numerous awards for its forward thinking technology. Principal owners: Weland Steel www.welandstal.se, Swedish Industrial Fund www.industrifonden.se, Midroc www.midroc.se, Avanza Pension www.avanza.se.

Forward-Looking Statements

The statements in this press release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of federal securities laws. Such statements are based on our current beliefs and expectations and are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which are beyond our control. In addition, such forward-looking statements are subject to



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assumptions with respect to future business strategies and decisions that are subject to change. Potential risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, technical advances in the industry as well as political and economic conditions present within the industry. We do not take any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or developments after a forward-looking statement was made.

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