

16.06.2021 - 10:00 Uhi

ecoRobotix raises USD 14.7 million in latest Series C funding

Yverdon-les-Bains, Switzerland (ots) -

- Provider of Al-based ultra-high precision farming solutions has secured funding for the next corporate development steps
- Compelling eco-balance and cost benefits: technology saves up to 95% of plant protection products
- The latest funding will speed up series production, support R&D efforts and drive European expansion forward

ecoRobotix, a start-up provider of AI-based ultra-high precision farming solutions, announced today that the company has raised USD 14.7 million in its latest Series C funding round. The funding was led by Swisscom Ventures together with Verve Ventures and was strongly supported by existing ecoRobotix investors, including CapAgro, 4FO Ventures and BASF Venture Capital.

With the proceeds of the latest funding round, ecoRobotix will accelerate the high-volume series production of their pulled ARA plant protection spraying machine and drive its European expansion forward. The proceeds will also support the company's intense R&D efforts geared to constantly adding new crops for treatment, developing autonomous spraying solutions as well as new cloud-based services for clients entailing advanced ICT technologies such as 5G. Swisscom and ecoRobotix will be cooperating in the development of these new cloud-based services and solutions for sustainable agriculture.

The deployment of ARA machines by an increasing number of clients, including agricultural contractors covering hundreds of hectares per month, has already confirmed the expected impressive results under live conditions in demanding working environments.

"Swisscom Ventures is proud to support a cutting edge Swiss agri-tech solutionwith venture capital and 5G technology competence. ecoRobotix solutions not only assist producers in reducing their use of plant protection products by up to 95%, but also in lowering their operating costs. This enables the production of high-quality crops and non-contaminated food at affordable prices. Our health matters, from field to fork!" as Dominique Megret, Head of Swisscom Ventures, commented.

Next step of corporate development

"We see a rapidly growing demand for our products in the market", relates Claude Juriens, CBO of ecoRobotix. "We tripled our sales during the last few months and are experiencing enthusiastic feedback from our customers."

"The successful series C funding round clearly underlines the trust and support our investors place in our team and our solutions", states Frank Starrmann, CFO of ecoRobotix. "We're firmly committed to keep on setting new benchmarks for environmentally-friendly and economic agricultural solutions."

Al technology for tomorrow's farming

"ecoRobotix has developed a unique technology combining Artificial Intelligence and ultra-high precision spot spraying for tomorrow's farming, enabling the unprecedent reduction of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides", as Steve Tanner, CTO and Cofounder, stated. The company deploys cameras and advanced machine learning algorithms in its plant protection spraying machine to precisely identify the type and location of weeds in different crops or to identify crops infested with fungus or insects. Spray nozzles then apply a micro-dose of the respective plant protection product - extremely targeted down to an area as small as 3 x 8 cm. The innovative machine construction protects beneficial insects such as bees and prevents spray drifting. By comparison with conventional spraying machines, farmers are able to save up to 95% of plant protection products. Consequently, the solution allows them to effectively eliminate plant protection residues in food and water.

In this way, ecoRobotix is harnessing AI technology in driving the transition towards more sustainable, environmental-friendly farming and allowing farmers to save money at the same time. ARA offers a compelling quick return on investment of less than three years, while reducing total costs of plant protection measures by up to 40% and boosting crop yields by 5-10%.

Strong investor interest

ecoRobotix has met with strong investor interest - profiting from a growing trend towards impact investments, where investors expect that the companies they invest in have not only put a successful business model in place, but will also impact positively on social and/or environmental issues. ecoRobotix is a certified B Corporation (bcorporation.net). B Corps are businesses that balance profit and purpose and help in building a more inclusive and sustainable economy. About ecoRobotixecoRobotix is a provider of Al-based ultra-high precision farming solutions. Founded in 2014 and headquartered in Yverdon-les-Bains, Switzerland, the company harnesses cutting edge Al technology to drive the transition towards more sustainable, eco-friendly and economic farming. The certified B corporation has won several awards for its solutions and is currently employing more than 30 dedicated Al, engineering and agricultural specialists. More information: www.ecorobotix.com

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