

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Floridienne announces a majority holding through its subsidiary Biobest Group SA in the Australian company Biological Services and the conclusion of a partnership between Biobest Group SA and the Canadian company Ecoation Innovative Solutions Inc. in the field of artificial intelligence**

The Floridienne Group announces that on 15 April 2021, its subsidiary, BIOBEST GROUP, one of the world leaders in pollination and integrated pest management, finalised an agreement to take a 51% holding in Manchil Altmann Pty.Ltd., a company that operates under the name BIOLOGICAL SERVICES.

BIOLOGICAL SERVICES is located in Loxton (South Australia) and in Muchea (Western Australia) and holds a leading position in Australia in integrated pest management for greenhouse crops. In 2020, this company generated a turnover of AUD 7.2 million and recorded an operating result of AUD 2.3 million. In 2019, BIOBEST had already acquired the company BUGS FOR BUGS in Australia, which specialises in integrated pest management for outdoor crops, known as open-field crops.

The combination of the know-how and complementary geographic locations of these two companies now gives BIOBEST GROUP a unique position in Australia, able to offer growers varied solutions to promote more sustainable cultivation and meet the wishes of Australian consumers in search of healthier products.

In the first part of this year, BIOBEST also concluded a partnership agreement with Ecoation Innovative Solutions Inc. (ECOATION), a Canadian developer of automated management technologies for greenhouse crops. Thanks to this partnership, BIOBEST can offer its network of European customers ECOATION's innovative solutions based on greenhouse management through artificial intelligence.

The ability to supplement BIOBEST's expertise in integrated pest management with the data available digitally via the ECOATION service will further enhance the effectiveness of biocontrol programmes.

“Our subsidiary BIOBEST is present in over 70 countries around the world, offering integrated pest management and pollination solutions that are ecologically and economically sustainable. The Floridienne Group would like to see BIOBEST intensifying its research and development programmes to ensure substantial organic growth and continuing its targeted acquisitions to be able to offer its biological solutions in as many countries as possible.” said Gaëtan Waucquez, CEO of the Floridienne Group.

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**FLORIDIENNE** is a Belgian industrial group listed on the Euronext Brussels stock market that ranks among the European or world leaders in market niches or niche markets. Its activities focus on three sectors: Gourmet Food, Life Sciences and Chemicals.