

PRESS RELEASE

Evolve receives grant from US CDC in the amount of USD 540,000

Reinach, 21 October 2022 – Evolve (SIX:EVE) a pioneer in the field of natural molecules and industrial biotech, has received a grant of USD 540,000 from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the development of NootkaSHIELD™ for new formulations and applications in the area of tick bite prevention. The grant will be distributed in several payments over a period of 18 months, commencing on 30 September 2022.

The grant is an important milestone in bringing NootkaSHIELD™, a next-generation protection against vector-borne diseases spread by insects and ticks, to the US market. This follows initial US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registration of nootkatone as an active ingredient for use in insecticides and insect repellents in August 2020.

In the meantime, Evolve has worked on developing highly effective formulations for consumer, household and animal applications and has successfully commenced test launches in South East Asia. Initial revenues from those pilot sales in Singapore and Hong Kong are expected in 4Q 2022 and to continue in 2023.

The grant now received by Evolve from CDC supports the further development of products based on NootkaSHIELD™. Specifically, Evolve is to develop nature-based and effective products that people can easily use before and after outdoor activities in high-risk tick areas that will kill or repel ticks to reduce the number of tickborne disease cases.

Lyle R. Petersen, MD, Director of CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases, which led the research and development of nootkatone for use against insects and ticks, states: "Additional tools to help prevent tick bites are urgently needed to combat the increasing threat of tickborne diseases. Nootkatone provides a new, naturally-derived ingredient to help protect people and pets from tick bites. CDC supports this effort to accelerate development of products to make this promising new tool available."

Astrid Schäfer, Head of Innovation and R&D at Evolve, explains: "There are several methods to prevent tick bites, including use of personal repellents, wearing clothing to reduce tick access to exposed skin, frequent checking for and removing ticks or showering to wash off unattached ticks. Though helpful, these methods aren't sufficient to reduce tick-borne diseases. New methods must be easy to use and affordable in order to be readily accepted by consumers and integrated into a tick control and prevention routine. With the funding granted by CDC, Evolve is advancing the further development of NootkaSHIELD™ to address these specific consumer needs and applications."

Christian Wichert, CEO of Evolve, commented: "We thank CDC for its financial support and trust in our ability to further advance our novel approach for the prevention of insect- and tick-transmitted diseases with NootkaSHIELD™. The possibility to specifically develop everyday use applications for the US market together with CDC is very exciting. I am very proud of our R&D team that has again proven innovative in developing effective insect and tick protection

based on natural ingredients that address consumer needs in the megatrend areas of wellness, health and sustainability. We at Evolva are convinced that NootkaSHIELD™ will become a new business for Evolva with substantial revenue and profitability potential following initial test sales in South East Asia and expected entry into the US market. With this exciting market opportunity, Evolva further has the potential for disruptive new business model extensions with business-to-business and direct-to-consumer approaches.”

Important dates

09 March 2023	Full-year 2022 results
18 April 2023	Annual General Meeting

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About NootkaSHIELD™

Nootkatone is an ingredient found in minute quantities in the bark of the Alaska yellow cedar (also known as the Nootka cypress) and in the skin of grapefruit. Nootkatone has been tested against a variety of biting pests, including the ticks that are responsible for spreading Lyme disease and the mosquitoes that spread Zika, chikungunya, dengue and West Nile viruses.

About Evolva

Evolva is a Swiss biotech company focused on the research, development and commercialization of ingredients based on nature. We have leading businesses in Flavors and Fragrances, Health Ingredients and Health Protection. Evolva's employees, half of which are women, are dedicated to make the best products that can contribute to health, wellbeing and sensory enjoyment. Find out more at evolva.com and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#).

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