



Introducing Vineland's Latest Innovation

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Platform Genetics Inc. (PGI), Vineland Research and Innovation Centre's (Vineland) new spin-off company, offers the industry reverse genetics technology to improve crops.

PGI's proprietary Deep Variant Scanning (DVS) platform utilizes highthroughput genomics and bioinformatics to isolate desired genetic material in large crop populations.

"The technology can be used to develop new varieties with specific traits such as disease resistance and enhanced flavour," said Lana Culley, Vineland's Director, Business Development. PGI mines a plant's genes and provides seeds to develop new traits as part of a client's breeding program.

Vineland launched PGI in 2016 to commercialize its proprietary DVS platform and fulfill its mandate of economic growth and job creation. PGI operates autonomously from Vineland with its own board of directors.

For more information, contact: Lana Culley, Director, Business Development 905-562-0320 x747 Lana.culley@vinelandresearch.com



PGI's technology supports the industry to develop new varieties with specific traits including disease resistance.

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New Tender Fruit Varieties Coming Soon

In partnership with the University of Guelph, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Vineland Research and Innovation Centre (Vineland) is soon bringing to market new varieties of tender fruit preferred by growers and consumers alike.

Since 2014, the Tender Fruit Evaluation Committee (TFEC) – comprised of growers, nurseries, marketers and retailers – planted more than 2,000 trees of 30 selections from peaches and nectarines to pears, plums and apricots at 18 commercial grower sites in Ontario. The trees come from the University of Guelph and the former AAFC breeding programs through license agreements with Vineland.

"TFEC which provides guidance on the release of new tender fruit varieties is evaluating a number of tree and fruit characteristics such as: adaptation to the Canadian climate; disease tolerance/resistance; superior fruit flesh colouring,



University of Guelph peach variety at the Vineland research farm.

texture and flavour; and of course degree of fruit sweetness," said Michael Kauzlaric, Vineland's Technology Scout & Grower Outreach.

Seven varieties of peaches, nectarines and pears from the University of Guelph and AAFC programs are entering their third year of TFEC on-site testing and evaluation in growers' fields.

"These novel varieties will be introduced to retailers with the intent of bringing them to market in the near future," said Professor Jayasankar Subramanian, PhD, researcher at the University of Guelph.

What's next?

"The goal is to add new selections from the University of Guelph, AAFC and international scouting to generate a pipeline," said Kauzlaric.

A number of new initiatives are already under way. AAFC apricots with a better red blush and a harvest window that extends the season will be evaluated this year. A plum/cherry hybrid from Australia planted in Vineland's test block is anticipated to bear fruit this month. And finally, new peach varieties from Europe should be ready for commercial grower testing in 2019.

Funding for this project is provided through the AgriInnovation program, under *Growing Forward 2* (*GF2*), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. Additional contributors include Ontario Tender Fruit Growers and Ontario Fresh Grape Growers.

For more information, please contact: Michael Kauzlaric, Technology Scout & Grower Outreach 905-562-0320 x755 michael.kauzlaric@vinelandresearch.com

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Introducing Chinook Sunrise[™] Outstanding Beauty Exceptional Quality



Introducing the second addition to Vineland's 49th Parallel Collection of roses coming in 2019.

This incredible rose blooms in a flush with a riot of exotic coral colours. It has glossy green foliage to contrast against its fair blooms.

Chinook Sunrise[™] boasts a 1.2-metre spread, black spot tolerance and is winter hardy to -40°C.

The rose has been through rigorous testing for inclusion in the collection.

Chinook Sunrise[™] is undergoing evaluations for winter survival, disease tolerance and plant performance at nine cross-Canadian test sites.

Launched in 2017, Vineland's 49th Parallel Collection is a product of Canada's national rose breeding program established in 2010 at Vineland in partnership with the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association.

This one-of-a-kind Canadian collection offers hardy and low-maintenance landscape roses that continuously bloom with vibrant colours and deep green glossy foliage, traits most admired by consumers.

Visit <u>49throses.com</u> to find out more about Chinook Sunrise[™] and the collection.

For more information, contact: Lana Culley, Director, Business Development 905-562-0320 x747 <u>lana.culley@vinelandresearch.com</u>





Exciting Community Events at Vineland

What's Growin' On Research Farm Open House 2017

The event was a success welcoming 150 people. Attendees toured the farm and learned more about three of Vineland's research programs - sweet potato breeding and slip production, world crops including okra and Asian eggplant and new varieties of tender fruit.

Stay up-to-date on Vineland's events by joining our mailing list at vinelandresearch.com

For more information on events, please contact Shelby VanderEnde at <u>shelby.vanderende@vinelandresearch.com</u>



Viliam Zvalo, PhD, Vineland's Research Scientist, Vegetable Production discusses research on world crops.

Colours of the Summer 2017

Flowers lovers of all ages attended the event. The University of Guelph showcased bedding plant container trials for the 2017 growing season. More than 200 unique vegetative and seed flower cultivators were exhibited.

For more information on container trials, contact: Rodger Tschanz, Trial Garden Manager University of Guelph <u>rtschanz@uofguelph.ca</u> 519-824-4120 x52788



The event showcased over 200 unique cultivars.







