

ASX and MEDIA RELEASE

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Roots showcases Irrigation by Condensation and Root Zone Temperature Optimisation technologies to South Australia government and business delegation

- **Ministerial and high-level delegation from South Australia Primary Industries and Regional Development, Office of South Australian Chief Entrepreneur and Elders Limited**
- **Seeking new technologies that will help ameliorate the impact of drought on agriculture.**
- **Examination of Roots' patented Root Zone Temperature Optimisation (RZTO) and Irrigation by Condensation (IBC) technologies**

Roots Sustainable Agricultural Technologies Limited (ASX: ROO, Roots or Company) has hosted a government, departmental and business delegation headed by the South Australia Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, The Hon Tim Whetstone MP, at its research and development hub in Beit Halevy, Israel.

The delegation also comprised senior representatives from the Australian agriculture sector including the Chief Operating Officer of the Office of South Australian Chief Entrepreneur, Dr Andrew Dunbar, Chief Executive of the Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia, Scott Ashby, and Mark Allison, CEO and Managing Director of Elders Limited (ASX:ELD).

The delegation organised by the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce learned about Roots' agri-tech solutions – including its patented Root Zone Temperature Optimisation (RZTO) and Irrigation by Condensation (IBC) technologies - and how they might be applied in Australia to help ameliorate the impact of drought on agriculture.

The Australian agricultural sector at the farm-gate is valued at US\$45 billion annually with nearly 80% of produce exported to global markets. However, water scarcity for agriculture use is becoming an acute challenge, especially in South Australia.

Roots' RZTO technology utilises ground source heat exchange to heat or cool crop roots, stabilising the root temperature and reducing the impact of external weather conditions to shorten growth cycles, increase yields and profits for farmers. It's being successfully used on crops as diverse as tomatoes, strawberries, lettuce, basil, chives, cannabis and various flowers.

The research and development hub also highlights the capability of Roots' world-first off-grid Irrigation by Condensation technology to grow staple crops. The IBC off-grid system utilises humidity in the air and energy sourced from the sun or wind to irrigate crops and operates without access to electricity or a normal water supply. IBC technology (solar and or/electric versions) have already achieved Agronomical Proof of concept, completing the full growth cycle of nine different crops including tomatoes, peas, spinach and sorghum.

South Australia Minister for Primary Industries & Regional Development, the Hon Tim Whetstone MP said, "We were very impressed by Roots' technologies, including the Irrigation by Condensation (IBC) and Root Zone Temperature Optimisation (RZTO) products. They are very relevant to the challenges faced by both the South Australian and national agricultural industries. IBC technology

has the potential to support food production in the most remote communities who have limited access to water, including Indigenous communities. We welcome further collaboration with Roots to explore the possible use of these technologies and the impact it could have on South Australian agriculture.”

Mark Allison, CEO and Managing Director of Elders Limited, said after inspecting the facility, “It was great to have the opportunity to review the Roots technology. We see this as a helpful tool on a number of key market segments in Australia.”



Boaz Wachtel, co-founder and executive director of Roots Sustainable Agricultural Technologies Limited, invites members of the high-level delegation from South Australia Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Office of South Australian Chief Entrepreneur to the Roots research and development hub in Beit Halevy, Israel.

Roots CEO, Dr. Sharon Devir said, “We are very excited to be able to show how our technology can add value to farmers of many crops across Australia. Like Israelis, Australians have always lived with drought and its consequences. However, it is likely that climate change is making drought worse in the southeast and southwest of Australia. Our innovations are allowing farmers to better manage cycles and increase yields on a variety of crops and we believe they can have a similar impact in Australia.

“Even in remote areas the solar-based IBC system could be an important avenue for indigenous aboriginal communities to produce agricultural crops just from humidity in the air. Securing self sufficient food supplies on a remote community level is an important part of the vision of the use of IBC in Australia.”

-ENDS-



About Roots Sustainable Agricultural Technologies Ltd:

Israeli-based, Roots Sustainable Agricultural Technologies Ltd. is developing and commercialising disruptive, modular, cutting-edge technologies to address critical problems being faced by agriculture today, including plant climate management and the shortage of water for irrigation.

Roots has developed proprietary know-how and patents to optimise performance, lower installation costs, and reduce energy consumption to bring maximum benefit to farmers through their two-in-one root zone heating and cooling technology and off the grid irrigation by condensation technology.

Roots is a graduate company of the Office of the Israeli Chief Scientist Technological Incubator program.

More information www.Rootssat.com

About Root Zone Temperature Optimization (RZTO):

Root Zone Temperature Optimisation (RZTO) optimises plant physiology for increased growth, productivity and quality by stabilising the plant's root zone temperature. Leveraging the principle of Ground Source Heat Exchange (GSHE), Roots installs a closed-loop system of pipes. The lower part is installed at a depth where soil temperature is stable and not affected by weather extremes, and the upper part in the target crop's root zone just below the soil surface. Water flowing through the lower pipes is charged by the soil's stable temperature. The heated (or cooled) water is pumped through the pipes installed in the root zone, where the heat (or cold) is discharged.

This significantly increases yields, increases growing cycle planting options, improves quality, mitigates extreme heat and cold stress while significantly reducing energy consumption by stabilising and optimising the roots zone temperature.

About 'Irrigation by Condensation' (IBC) technology:

Roots' Irrigation by Condensation (IBC) system allows a farmer to produce food crops using irrigation sourced only from humidity in the air.

First water is cooled in a well-insulated water tank to below dew point temperatures. Cold water is circulated, with a small flow pump, in pipes laid in the field or greenhouse to condense humidity in the air on the external surface of pipes. Pipes are placed near plants in various configurations – generally horizontally at ground level.

For many crops no additional irrigation is required to maintain plant survival and food production and initiate a year-round, sustainable food chain for humans and animals. The amount of water produced and required energy depend on relative humidity, air temperature, pipe numbers and surface area, and water temperature circulating in the pipes.

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