

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

■ Nate Cooling Joins Limagrain Cereal Seeds in Fort Collins Northern Michigan University graduate added to team as research associate

FORT COLLINS, Colo., Dec. 15, 2011 - Limagrain Cereal Seeds announced that Nate Cooling has been hired as a Research Associate, working from the company's North American headquarters in Fort Collins. Limagrain Cereal Seeds is the US subsidiary of Group Limagrain, the largest seed company in the European Union. Cooling will focus on equipment operation and maintenance, data collection, seed handling and shipping, and assisting with laboratory testing.

"Nate's background in biology and equipment operation will allow him to move from field to lab, seamlessly," said Frank Curtis, Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer for Limagrain Cereal Seeds. "His versatility as a technician, his research experience, and his well-developed mechanical skill set will be invaluable to the team."

Cooling graduated from Northern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. As an undergraduate, he conducted research on ectomycorrhizal symbiosis with red pine seedlings, as well as forage and biomass variety trials, and wheat, barley and oat variety trials.

"My time studying mycorrhizae has given me a deeper understanding of the needs of plants below the surface," Cooling said. "My background in biology has prepared me to understand the genetics and processes that come with working in wheat breeding. I'm very excited about learning more of the intricacies of a national breeding program."

Cooling said he also looks forward to meeting and learning from the farmers that share their fields with Limagrain, and to developing relationships with them.

"Limagrain is interested in practical research," Cooling said. "The work done translates directly to problems and goals of both farmers and customers. It is refreshing to work for a company that is using science to solve problems facing the people in the field on a daily/yearly basis."

Cooling grew up in Rockford, Ill., where he played basketball and football; he played two years of NCAA Division II football in Michigan during college. His mother was a public schoolteacher for 25 years and his father operated a sod farm and landscaping company for 30 years. Cooling comes from a family of seven. He enjoys going to see live music and sporting events, as well as hunting, hiking and snowboarding.

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Group Limagrain was founded in France in 1942. The farmer-owned company has 7,000 employees and is the largest seed company in the European Union. Fort Collins, Colorado, serves as the North American headquarters of Limagrain Cereal Seeds, the newest subsidiary of Group Limagrain. LCS has regional research stations in Washington, Indiana, Minnesota and Kansas. Visit www.limagraincerealseeds.com.

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