

# Media Release

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## **NUFARM MAINTAINS BUSINESS AS USUAL APPROACH TO TAKEOVER BID**

Nufarm Australia's General Manager Lachlan McKinnon said it will be "business as usual" while the company deals with a proposed takeover bid by a consortium including China's largest crop protection producer.

It was announced on Monday, November 5, that Nufarm has received a conditional offer of \$17.25 a share plus up to \$0.30 dividend from China National Chemical Corporation ('ChemChina') and its investment partners - The Blackstone Group and Fox Paine Management III.

"At this point, the acquisition proposal is still conditional, and a number of matters need to be progressed before it can be placed before the Nufarm Board and then shareholders for approval," Mr McKinnon said.

"In the meantime, the Nufarm Australian business will remain focused on delivering the usual high standards of product and service that our distribution customers and growers have come to expect."

Nufarm is Australia's leading crop protection company with global sales of about \$2 billion. Nufarm has invested more than \$500 million in Australian agriculture, including manufacturing facilities in three states, national research and development programs, and 10 service centres throughout Australia. Nufarm employs some 700 people across its business and regional centres throughout Australia.

Mr McKinnon said he was very pleased to see that the consortium proposing to buy the company has indicated its intention to leave the Nufarm name, company management and existing operations in place should the bid be successful.

"The Nufarm 'culture' and way of doing business is a large part of the value in Nufarm. It is a credit to Nufarm employees that the consortium recognises the importance of preserving these things."

ChemChina has annual turnover of approximately US\$10 billion and is involved in a range of chemical industries. It is China's largest manufacturer and supplier of agricultural chemicals.

Other members of the consortium include the US-based Blackstone Group, the world's largest private equity fund, which has invested previously in chemical companies, and Fox Paine Management III, a US-based private equity firm focused on the agribusiness industry, which has strong relationships in the crop protection industry.

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***Further information:***

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