



NEWS RELEASE

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Key paper validates PlantForm trastuzumab proof-of-concept *in vitro*

GUELPH—The *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* today published a paper by a joint University of Guelph-McMaster University research team that shows PlantForm Corporation's plant-produced trastuzumab is effective at inhibiting the growth of HER2-positive cancer cells.

The paper shows that PlantForm's trastuzumab has the same activity as the commercial antibody (Herceptin), established by two different assays: it binds to the same targets as the commercial antibody and it is equally effective at stopping the growth of the target cancer cells.

"Results confirm that plants may be developed as an alternative to traditional antibody expression systems for the production of therapeutic mAbs," the [journal abstract](#) states.

"This journal article is proof-of-concept that PlantForm's trastuzumab works as well *in vitro* as Herceptin," says Don Stewart, PlantForm President and CEO. "Our next step is to establish proof-of-concept *in vivo*, in a mouse model, early next year."

PlantForm Corporation's mission is to provide low-cost biosimilar antibody drugs to help people fight cancer and other critical illnesses. A biosimilar version of the breast cancer drug Herceptin will be the company's first product.

PlantForm licenses its proprietary, plant-based technology platform from the University of Guelph, where it was developed by Dr. Chris Hall, the Canada Research Chair in Recombinant Antibody Technology. All relevant intellectual property is protected by patent filings. Projected revenue is more than \$50 million by 2016.

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See the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* abstract: [Plant-Produced Trastuzumab Inhibits the Growth of HER2 Positive Cancer Cells](#).