AptaCrops LLC

AptaCrops LLC is based on technology developed by Professor Om Parkash Dhankher, who currently serves as the company’s interim CEO. This technology allows crops to be adapted to relatively hostile environments, such as those with little water and high salt concentrations.

AptaCrop’s goal is to provide solutions for challenges to our food supply that are likely to occur due to populations growth and the advance of global warming. By 2050, food crop yield is expected to decline by 30% due to environmental factors, while at the same time farmers will need to nearly double food production to meet the needs of our growing population. Current estimates are that for these reasons food prices will double by 2050.

**Products**

To address these challenges, AptaCrops aims to design ‘climate smart crops’ that can grow and produce high yields in spite of these environmental and population challenges.

Today agriculture uses 70% of our fresh water supply, and the coming challenges mean that more water will be needed to grow more of today’s crops, and there will be more farming areas subject to drought, meaning even more water will be needed. Since making more water (e.g., by desalination) is prohibitively expensive, AptaCrops believes the answer lies in adapting food crops to better tolerate drought conditions, and to make them thrive on brackish water, which has a salt concentration that today’s crops can’t tolerate. As importantly, these improved crops will be able to grow on land that today can’t be used for farming, allowing for the needed expansion of our food supply.

Aptacrop’s products will be crop seeds and seedlings that can deliver the benefits of the company’s extensive genetic research and field testing to farmers everywhere.

In addition to food crops, AptaCrops will extend its technology to improve crops used for animal feed, fibers such as cotton and linen, and for bioenergy crops.