



**John Hamer, Managing Director, Monsanto Growth Ventures**

Mr. Hamer is managing director for Monsanto Growth Ventures, with offices in San Francisco and St. Louis. His career spans more than three decades of research, senior management and investment experience in the life sciences. Prior to joining Monsanto, he was entrepreneur-in-residence and later managing director and general partner at Burrill & Co., a life sciences merchant bank. Prior to joining Burrill, he was chief executive officer at Paradigm Genetics/Icoria, a genomics and ag-biotechnology company.

Previously, Mr. Hamer has been a visiting scientist in Dupont's Central Research and Development group and a professor at Purdue University, where his research focused on crop diseases. Mr. Hamer lectures widely on innovation, agriculture and venture capital and is a member of the board of trustees for the International Center for Tropical Agriculture and the board of directors for Golden Pine Ventures, a micro venture capital fund.