Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for standing by. Welcome to Evogene's fourth quarter and full year 2022 results conference call.

All participants are at present in listen-only mode. Following management's formal presentation, instructions will be given for the question-and-answer session. For operator assistance, during the conference, please press \*0. As a reminder, this conference is being recorded.

Before we begin, I would like to caution that certain statements made during this earnings conference call by Evogene's management, will constitute forward looking statements that relate to future events, risks and uncertainties regarding business strategy, operations and future performance and results of Evogene. I encourage you to review Evogene's filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission and read the note regarding forward-looking statements in today's earnings release, which states that statements made in the earnings

release (and, in a similar way, on this earnings conference call) that are not historical facts, may be deemed forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

For example, Evogene is using forward-looking statement in this call when it discusses its expected paths to value creation, including potential fundraisings at the subsidiary level, its and its' subsidiaries expected trials and their expected results, studies, product advancements, commercializations, launches, pipelines, milestones, potential collaborations and other plans for 2023 and beyond, expected burn rate, the potential advantages of its technology and its anticipated entry into new fields of activity.

All forward-looking statements made herein, speak only as of the date of the announcement of results. Many of the factors that impact whether forward-looking statements will come true are beyond the control of Evogene, and may cause actual results to differ materially from anticipated results.

Evogene is under no obligation to update publicly or alter our forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as otherwise required by law. We expressly disclaim any obligation to do so. More detailed information about the risk factors potentially adversely impacting our performance can be found in our reports filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

That said I would now like to turn over the call to Ofer Haviv, Evogene's CEO.

Ofer, please go ahead.

#### **OFER HAVIV**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Thank you for joining Evogene's fourth quarter earnings call and full year 2022 results. I would like to welcome all of you.

I want to review Evogene's achievements in 2022 and provide you with an update on our activities as well as potential catalysts during the next 12 months.

Following my review, Evogene's Executive Vice President of Business Development, Eyal Ronen, who also serves as CEO of our subsidiary Casterra, will give an update on Casterra's activity.

Evogene's CFO, Yaron Eldad, will provide a financial summary and update.

After that we will open the Q&A session.

# OUR AI TECH ENGINES IN TODAY'S AI WORLD

Evogene has been using its AI driven computational predictive biology platform to direct and accelerate the discovery and development of life-science based products, ranging from microbiome therapeutics in humans, to a wide range of agricultural applications, to medical cannabis.

Our AI driven computational biology tech-engines support product development in our five main subsidiaries.

In addition, Evogene has an internal seed traits division and recently, on December 8, we announced that we would receive a \$3.5 million dollars payment from Bayer relating to Evogene's patent portfolio under its seed traits collaboration with Bayer.

Evogene is focusing on developing three AI driven tech engines:

- MicroBoost AI supporting Microbe-based products.
- ChemPass AI supporting small-molecule based products; and
- GeneRator AI supporting products based on modifying genetic elements.

The goal of our tech-engines is to identify the most promising candidate, or mix of candidates, that meet a specifically desired life-sciences' product criteria, and to support the candidate's development process leading to a commercial product. By doing so, we are solving an urgent biological or chemical problem, providing a solution that will address a substantial need and hopefully create significant commercial value.

I would like to emphasize that whenever we are identifying a specific microbe, gene or small molecule, there is always a huge multitude of potential candidates.

Our AI and big data driven computational biology platform helps find that needle in a haystack in a way and in a time frame that our competitors or partners may not be able to accomplish.

This enables reduced development time, saving of significant costs and most importantly – increased probability of success in developing a commercial lifescience based product.

Each of our 3 AI driven tech-engines has helped Evogene establish a business ecosystem that includes either independent subsidiaries or strategic collaborations, focused on developing products for a specific life science market segment or product type.

In a few moments, I will review the impressive recent accomplishments of our five subsidiaries which demonstrate the power and the value of our AI driven tech-engines underlying their product development process.

Looking ahead, we intend to continue to invest and improve our AI tech-engines, addressing more potential life science discoveries, and provide better and novel solutions to development challenges.

It's important for me to emphasize that Evogene is actively looking to increase shareholder value by:

- Entering into various business relationships with leading multi-national companies for product development using our engines,
- Generating revenues by commercializing and selling products,
- Meeting all its milestones including those under various collaboration agreements,
- Raising external funds at the subsidiary level that demonstrate their value, and;
- Working hard to provide shareholders with a greater understanding of our business and subsidiaries' achievements.

## **OUR SUBSIDIARIES**

As I mention, Evogene's 5 subsidiaries have reached multiple achievements this past year and have multiple upcoming milestones in the year ahead which we believe will create value for each of the subsidiaries and for Evogene's shareholders.

#### LAVIE BIO

I would like now to review them separately and I will start with Evogene's subsidiary Lavie Bio, leveraging Evogene's *MicroBoost AI* tech-engine, as part of its Biology Driven Design platform, to develop next generation, agbiological products.

In addition our majority ownership, Lavie Bio is partially owned by multi-national ag-tech giant Corteva listed on the NYSE, with a \$45 billion market cap.

On August 17, 2022, Lavie Bio announced that ICL, a leading multi-billion-dollar New York listed, global minerals & ag-tech company, was making a \$10 million investment into Lavie Bio under a SAFE agreement.

ICL's investment and collaboration agreement with Lavie Bio will strongly broaden Lavie Bio's product pipeline. Combining Lavie Bio's ag biologicals experience and cutting-edge technology with ICL's knowledge of fertilizer and farmers' needs, will help facilitate the development of new and innovative products for Lavie Bio and the agriculture industry.

Lavie Bio's product pipeline now includes its first commercially launched product, Thrivus, a microbiomebased bio-inoculant for spring wheat. Lavie Bio won regulatory approval in the USA, and commercially launched the product initially in North Dakota in Q2 2022 as a seed treatment to improve yield of spring wheat.

In the second quarter of 2022, Lavie Bio fully sold out of Thrivus in its initial sales in North Dakota, U.S.A. Now in the second quarter of 2023, Lavie Bio is targeting the 10-million-acre spring wheat market in the USA and expecting significantly increased sales.

Our product Thrivus potentially contributes an additional 3-4 bushels per acre via yield improvements, compared with industry benchmarks.

Looking ahead, we are aiming to broaden sales of Thrivus beyond USA and into Canada & European markets. We are also working to expand our label for Thrivus to include additional crops, such as small grains and oil seed with potential increased target market covering approximately 500 million acres.

Lavie Bio is continuing to advance its bio-pesticides program including bio-fungicides and bio-insecticides. In October, Lavie Bio submitted the registration package to the United States **Environmental Protection Agency**, for LAV.311, its novel bio-fungicide product targeting fruit rots and powdery mildews, a final step prior to commercialization which is targeted for a commercial launch in 2024 assuming all goes well.

The initial target market size for LAV311 is over \$200 million dollars in the treatment of grapes, and there is potential room to expand the target market to over \$800 million dollars once it includes targeting additional fruits and vegetables.

In the coming year, we plan to expand the potential addressable markets for LAV311, by broadening its application to additional crops while optimizing the product and manufacturing costs.

Lavie Bio's second bio-fungicide product, LAV321, which also advanced last year, in 2022, has the potential to solve what is becoming an expanding challenge for growers, as the traditional chemicals used in agriculture against downy mildew are increasingly being banned globally.

In the coming year, we are planning additional field trials that will also include additional diseases for this product.

Lavie Bio's achievements to date demonstrate the power of Evogene's technology and its tech-engine: *Microboost AI*. It is very much proof to the validity of the Evogene business model.

#### BIOMICA

Evogene's second subsidiary is Biomica, focusing on developing microbiome-based therapeutics targeting human health, leveraging Evogene's *MicroBoost AI*.

Biomica, also, had a very successful and active year in 2022.

Most recently, on December 21, Biomica announced a \$20 million financing round led by a \$10 million investment from Shanghai Healthcare Capital, SHC, (and still subject to Chinese regulatory approval, anticipated later this month), and \$10 million from Evogene. The deal was done at a post money valuation of \$50 million.

Following the expected close, Evogene will own 67% of Biomica and SHC will hold 20%.

This external and independent endorsement of Biomica validates our belief in Biomica's long-term potential.

Biomica is currently focused on its 3 proprietary therapeutic product programs.

The most advanced program is in immuno-oncology.

Using our computational analysis and predictive capabilities Biomica identified **BMC128**, rationally designed live biotherapeutic products consortia.

Last June Biomica began its Phase 1 clinical trials in Israel for BMC128 in the treatment of various types of solid tumors in humans and dosed its first patient in July. The Phase 1 trial is expected to enroll 12 patients. The Phase 1 trial is designed mainly to evaluate the safety and tolerability of Biomica's BMC-128 in combination with an anti PD-1 checkpoint inhibitor, Opdivo, in those cancer patients.

Biomica's goal is to successfully complete the Phase 1 BMC128 trial in Israel this year.

In parallel, Biomica plans to file an IND with the FDA in late 2023 or early 2024, with a view to beginning a Phase 1b/2 trial for BMC128 in the U.S. in first half of 2024.

Biomica's second microbiome therapeutic program is focusing on inflammatory bowel disease or IBD where the lead candidate is BMC333, a rationally designed optimized consortia of 4 live bacterial strains.

In several pre-clinical animal studies BMC333 was shown to significantly reduce inflammation and tissue damage in targeting GI related disorders.

Biomica intends to start producing the microbes in a quantity that will allow for a phase-one clinical trial in the US in 2024.

Biomica's third program is focusing on irritable bowel syndrome or IBS where the lead candidate microbiome therapeutic consortia, is BMC426.

Biomica has completed the discovery-phase of BMC426 and is now into a pre-clinical phase. The results Biomica has received from BMC426 in experimental models of IBS are encouraging and we look forward to updating you as this program advances.

I want to highlight that Biomica's strong progress is a testament to the technological capabilities of Evogene's *MicroBoost AI* tech-engine.

## **AGPLENUS**

**Evogene's third subsidiary is AgPlenus** which is developing next generation, sustainable, crop protection products by leveraging computational algorithms and a target-based approach.

AgPlenus' goal is to discover and bring to commercial stage new mode-of-action crop protection products including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides leveraging Evogene's *ChemPass AI* tech-engine.

Worldwide in agriculture there is a major problem with herbicide resistant weeds flourishing. There has not been a new commercial herbicide with a novel mode of action for over 30 years.

AgPlenus is addressing that need and developing new herbicides with novel modes of action which are much more environmentally friendly than existing products.

The crop protection industry is dominated by a few major ag-chemical companies including Bayer, BASF, Corteva and Syngenta.

These large multi-national ag-tech players often look to smaller ag-tech companies, like AgPlenus, to develop new small molecule candidates.

That is precisely what is happening with AgPlenus now.

AgPlenus' product pipeline includes its most advanced candidate APH1, a herbicide with a novel mode of action which provides a broad spectrum weed control at commercial dosage rates.

During the past year, AgPlenus successfully worked on expanding the data package for APH 1.

As a result, AgPlenus is seeing a lot of interest in APH 1 from major ag-tech companies as well as other products in AgPlenus' pipeline, in addition to great interest in AgPlenus AI driven computational tools and technological capabilities.

AgPlenus already works closely with Corteva to develop new Mode of action herbicides to target resistant weeds.

Under its agreement, AgPlenus discovers and optimizes the herbicide candidates and Corteva conducts testing and product development. Corteva receives a license to these products subject to AgPlenus being paid research fees, milestones and royalties upon commercialization. The AgPlenus/ Corteva collaboration has been ongoing since March 2020.

From a technological standpoint, in the past year Evogene and AgPlenus have completed two proofs of concepts for two of its major AI computational tools: PointHit and ActiveSearch.

PointHit allows the screening of a mega database of over 30 billion small molecules, to identify the most promising that bind to the new mode-of-action target protein.

ActiveSearch – is an important optimization tool, to identify promising purchasable similar molecules to the lead candidate, aiming to increase probability of meeting product criteria.

These proofs of concepts were completed with good results, which we believe will improve AgPlenus' workflow and ongoing pipeline going forward.

In the past year, AgPlenus have further leveraged our computational platform to expand our pipeline to include fungicide candidates. AgPlenus have now completed the first stage of computational work for fungicide target selection and are now entering the proof of concept stage for these potential targets.

We hope in the coming year to further advance the fungicide pipeline and initiate new collaborations with leading global ag companies in this new potential field.

## **CANONIC**

Moving on to Evogene's fourth subsidiary, Canonic. It is focused on developing best in class medical cannabis products, leveraging Evogene's *GeneRator AI* techengine.

Despite 2022 being a challenging year for the medical cannabis industry in Israel and worldwide, Canonic's main achievement was the recent successful launch of six new second-generation products in Israel. These new products all contain high levels of THC above 23% while the maximum percentage of THC legally allowed in Israel is 24.4%.

Since its launch we have already seen positive traction for these second-generation products in the Israeli market. These second-generation cannabis products were developed using genetic markers which Evogene's *GeneRator AI* tech-engine identified.

In the meantime, Canonic's main goals for 2023 are to grow second generation cannabis sales while reducing company expenses.

At the same time, as I mentioned the global cannabis market has become increasingly competitive during the past year and we don't expect that situation to change in the near term. While we are continuing to support Canonic's growth, we have made some recent structural changes to lower expenses and we are considering various longer-term options.

#### CASTERRA

Evogene's fifth subsidiary, Casterra, focuses on developing a complete solution to growing castor plants used for the production of castor oil on a commercial scale. It utilizes Evogene's *GeneRator AI* tech-engine to develop its unique castor varieties.

In previous analyst calls, we have not emphasized Casterra's activity, but in recent months we have seen an increase in interest in castor oil as a source for bio-diesel in Europe.

On January 19, Casterra announced signing an agreement to sell a large quantity of castor seeds and provide technical support to a world leading European energy company, to launch its cultivation of castor plants in various countries in Africa.

This followed our announcement of Casterra's November 15th signing of a production and distribution agreement with Titan Castor Farms, a Zambian cultivator and distributor of castor oil.

Casterra is now gaining strong momentum and attention from others wanting to benefit from growing castor oil for biodiesel. We believe it has the potential to serve as a major value creator for Evogene's shareholders.

Additional information about Casterra will be provided by Eyal Ronen, our VP of business development, shortly.

#### **SUMMARY**

In summary, the activities of Evogene and its subsidiaries are advancing nicely.

During 2022 the external investments in Lavie Bio and Biomica, provided independent validation of the significant value inherent within our subsidiaries - each one by itself - and testifies to the value originally created by Evogene's AI tech-engines.

With respect to additional fundraising for the subsidiaries, we continue to work hard to identify and bring value-adding partners and investors.

In parallel, we are pursuing collaborations for both Evogene and its subsidiaries, that will inject additional funds for our activities.

Our business success in 2022 shows that our hard work in building, investing-in and strengthening our subsidiaries, all of which are leveraging our underlying computational predictive biological tech-engines, is the right strategy and is creating value, which we expect will ultimately be reflected in Evogene's shareholder value.

Our mid-term target is that each subsidiary will have its own financial resources to support its activities until its success. while at Evogene – in addition to being a major shareholder, we will continue to play a major role in maintaining and building our tech-engines, serving as the subsidiaries' competitive advantage.

We hope to announce many many more successes in the coming quarters.

And now I would like to turn over this call to Eyal Ronen, our VP Business Development and CEO of Casterra, after which Evogene's CFO Yaron Eldad will provide the financial review for Evogene.

Eyal?

#### **EYAL RONEN**

Thank you, Ofer.

First I would like to start by saying how excited I am to have joined the Evogene Group, and I'm very pleased to take part in this call.

#### RATIONALE - SOME BACKGROUND....

Prior to my review of Casterra's activity and recent achievements, I would like to emphasize Casterra's offering to our planet's future.

The increased use of fossil fuel with a high carbon footprint in the western world, significantly contributes to long-term global warming, ultimately leading to harsher weather conditions and increasing the risk to human sustainability.

Furthermore, the significant growth in emerging economies leading to increases in demand for energy, will also pose increased challenges.

Biofuels and bio-polymers are a part of the solution, helping to reduce the carbon footprint by reduced greenhouse-gas emissions, and supporting the growing need for sustainable renewable energy and polymers.

## **OUR COMPANY**

Casterra is a subsidiary of Evogene, and as mentioned by Ofer, it focuses on developing a complete solution to growing castor on commercial scale.

The company was established in 2008, initially by the name Evofuel, which later changed to Casterra, to reflect the focus on the promising crop of Castor as a vegi-source for bio-based materials: whether for biofuels or biopolymers.

#### CASTOR PLANT

As the world looks to replace fossil fuels with a biological friendly and sustainable source, we foresee an increase in the markets for Castor oil.

Castor beans represent the highest energy return to growers as they have high oil content at ~50%, can grow on marginal lands - meaning that they pose no competition on land which can support other edible crops - and support environmentally friendly cultivation practices.

From a regulation perspective, the crop aligns with recent EU regulations supporting replacement of palm oil to Low Indirect Land Use Change – or ILUC, crops, such as Castor.

Castor oil and its derivatives are estimated at a \$1.36 billion market worldwide today and expected to reach \$1.61 billion by 2028, based on MarketWatch report from February 2023.

#### **CASTERRA SOLUTION**

Casterra's competitive advantage is that it provides an end-to-end industrialized solution for cultivating high yield castor oil. Casterra's solution is tailored to optimize all parts of the process, from seed to the grains.

The key source of value for Casterra is its ability to develop proprietary and vastly superior castor seed varieties, using Evogene's plant genomic applicative capabilities, broad genetic library, and the *GeneRator AI tech engine*.

Casterra has built its castor genetic library asset, based on a broad collection of over 300 castor lines from 40 different geographic and climatic regions.

In addition to the above, Casterra has many years of unparalleled experience with cultivation practices, given as technical support. To promise high yield with minimal losses, Casterra has developed a castor bean-specific mechanical harvesting machine, in collaboration with Italian specialty machine maker, Fantini. In addition, the company developed a proprietary high-capacity dehulling machine. You are welcomed to visit Casterra's site for additional details.

#### RECENT MARKET UPDATES

In the past few months, Casterra has extended its production capabilities to meet the market demand in different geographies and today produces its seeds in 3 countries: Israel, Brazil, and Zambia.

In the biopolymers space, Casterra works closely with a market leader and explores new territories to support high-quality and stable supply to the growing castor oilderived biopolymers industry.

And finally, the most important development was the recent agreement for sale of a large amount of castor seeds and providing technical support to a European oil major, to launch its cultivation of castor oil in Africa.

As we build a close business relationship with this key customer and others, I expect our business to grow and to receive additional orders, for seeds and equipment. I look forward to sharing more information with you in the coming quarters.

That ends my summary and Yaron Eldad will now provide the financial update. Yaron?

#### YARON ELDAD

Thank you Eyal.

I will now provide the financial summary.

Evogene continues to maintain a solid financial position for its activities with approximately \$35 million in consolidated cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities as of December 31, 2022.

This amount does not include the \$10 million dollars investment in Biomica by SHC that is expected to be closed in the coming weeks.

Approximately \$9.7 million of Evogene's consolidated cash is appropriated to its subsidiary, Lavie Bio.

We do not have any bank debt.

During the fourth quarter of 2022, the consolidated cash usage was approximately \$2.6 million, or approximately \$0.4 million excluding Lavie Bio.

For 2022, our consolidated cash burn usage was \$28.5 million, or approximately \$20.0 million, excluding Lavie Bio.

The consolidated cash usage for 2022 included financing expenses in the amount of \$2.3 million due to the USD/NIS exchange rate differences and a decrease in the market value of marketable securities in the amount of \$0.8 million.

Looking ahead to 2023, excluding any impact from foreign exchange differences and the change in market value from marketable securities, we expect our consolidated cash burn rate to be in the range of \$27 - \$29 million.

I would like now to highlight some specific items on the P&L:

**Revenues** for the fourth quarter were \$660 thousand, in comparison to \$311 thousand in the same period the previous year. Revenues for 2022 were \$1.7 million, in comparison to \$0.9 million in 2021.

The increase in revenues was primarily due to revenues recognized per the collaboration agreement of Evogene's subsidiary AgPlenus with Corteva, as well as revenues from sales of Canonic's medical cannabis products in Israel.

**R&D expenses** for the fourth quarter of 2022, which are reported net of non-refundable grants received, were \$4.8 million, in comparison to \$6.0 million in the same period in the previous year.

For the full year 2022, these expenses were \$20.8 million, in comparison to \$21.1 million in 2021. The main contributors to R&D expenses were Lavie Bio's activities supporting the production and commercialization of its inoculant product, Thrivus, Evogene's ongoing development of its technology engines and Biomica's microbiome-based therapeutics development efforts.

**Sales and marketing expenses** were approximately \$1.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2022, in comparison to \$0.7 million in the same period the previous year.

For the full year 2022, these expenses were \$3.9 million, in comparison to \$2.7 million in 2021. The increase was mainly due to Lavie Bio's increased business development personnel and commercial trials of its inoculant product Thrivus, performed during 2022 and increased business development personnel in Canonic.

**General and Administrative expenses** were \$1.7 million in the fourth quarter of 2022, in comparison to \$2.0 million in the same period in the previous year.

For the full year 2022, these expenses were \$6.5 million, in comparison to \$7.3 million in 2021. The decrease was mainly attributed to the decrease of the costs of directors' and officers' insurance and to the decrease of the share-based compensation expenses.

Other income was \$3.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2022 and for the full year of 2022. This was received from Bayer under their joint seed traits collaboration agreement with Evogene, as part of a restructuring and release of the patent filing, prosecution, and maintenance obligations under the collaboration.

Operating loss for the fourth quarter of 2022 was \$3.8 million in comparison to an operating loss of \$8.7 million in the same period in the previous year. Operating loss for the full year 2022 was \$26.9 million in comparison to \$31.0 million in 2021. The decrease in operating loss is mainly due to the other income received from Bayer, as described above.

Net loss for the fourth quarter of 2022 was \$3.8 million, in comparison to a net loss of \$8.1 million in the same period in the previous year.

Net loss for the full year 2022 was \$29.8 million in comparison to a loss of \$30.4 million for 2021.

With that, both Ofer and I would now like to open the call for any questions you may have.

Operator?

Operator: Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, at this time, we will begin the question-and-answer session. If you have a question, please press star-one. If you wish to cancel your request, please press star-two. If you are using speaker equipment, kindly lift the handset before pressing the numbers. Your questions will be polled in the order they are received.

Please stand by while we poll for your questions.

# [pause]

The first question is from Kristen Kluska of Cantor Fitzgerald. Please go ahead.

Kristen Kluska: Hi, good morning and good afternoon. Thanks for taking my questions. Two from me. First question is, which subsidiaries do you think there is the greatest potential for external validation through partnerships and collaborations this year? And then for Lavie Bio, you cited in the print your expectation that sales could be significantly expanded in the 2023 spring season. So, what gives you confidence in that statement?

And do said expectations, do you have a range or any color you could provide about how you are thinking, internally, on goals for sales here?

Hi, Kristen. This is Ofer, and thank you for Ofer Haviv: participating in our analyst call. So, I think that – Lavie Bio is probably the company that I would expect that can engage with a significant licensing agreement. They have a nice and very promising product pipeline, which some of it has reached to quite maturity stage. And I can also mention that even with respect to our existing product in the market, there is interest from – big distributors to engage in a long-term relationship with Lavie Bio around this product. So, I think that Lavie Bio is probably the company that I think that — can enter to this type of agreement. The other company is probably AgPlenus, that made quite – a significant jump during last year. So, this is the two company that can engage in long-terms collaboration, but, you know, there is could always positive surprise, and maybe other companies can enter into such a relationship. With respect to Lavie Bio sales, so we didn't disclose numbers, but we are assuming that

last year, the numbers was — it was a soft launch. So, this year we are talking about a number that it's going to be material to Lavie Bio, probably it won't be material to Evogene as a company, but extremely material for Lavie Bio. And still, it will be, it will be probably what I can say, a full commercial scale now, which will put us in a great position for next year that it could be more than — even more than what we are going to see this year. So, to summarize, it will be material for Lavie Bio, maybe not for the whole company. And we are now probably going to initiate the — active sales process in the next few weeks. We are going to initiate it.

Kristen Kluska: Got it. Thanks very much.

**Operator**: If there are any additional questions, please press star-one. If you wish to cancel your request, please press star-two. Please stand by while we poll for more questions. [pause] The next question is from Brett Reiss of Janney Montgomery Scott. Please go ahead.

**Brett Reiss**: Yeah, hi, Ofer and — and the team. Question is on the castor seed. You know, as I understand it, you make the mother line of seed in Israel, and then

you transfer, you know, these embryonic seeds to your, you know, two subsidiaries that actually grow out the seed. Have you actually shipped the mother line of seed to these subsidiaries, and when did you ship them?

Ofer Haviv: Okay. So, before I will let — Eyal to answer to this question, I will just — will make a small correction. We don't have subsidiaries that are producing for us the seed. It's a seed — seed producer, a company that we are working with them, one in Brazil and one in Africa. So, they produce for us the seed, but they are not subsidiaries of Evogene, or Casterra.

**Brett Reiss**: Okay. Yeah.

**Ofer Haviv**: Eyal, maybe you can take the lead on it.

**Eyal Ronen**: Yes. Hi, Jeff. I would like to refer to your question. As Ofer said correctly, we do the breeding in Israel. And the production is obviously after the proprietary seeds are being sent to those territories, the production is done on site. So, we have a production site in Brazil and another one in Zambia. We do also produce in Israel, but that's in minor quantities. Mainly we have site for breeding. All the other productions are located in

centers where they could distribute it in the surrounding environment. So, that's in Latin America and in Africa.

And the way that we protect ourselves, so Ofer Haviv: in that each territory, we have what is called breeder rights, where we are claiming for – genomics profile of the – of the – our variety in the relevant territories, that people cannot just start to sell the same type of seeds like us. So, this is one protection. The second protection is that the – the farmers that we are selling them the seeds, they also signed on an agreement, they have the right to use those seeds only for one season. And the last is that what we are offering to our partners, to the farmers, and we are working with big farmers, is not just the seed, it's also the full package, which include also technical support in the dehulling machine, the harvester machine. And of course, that we are all the time – focusing on developing new variety that are going to replace the existing one with a better performance with respect to yield or any other traits which are important for the farmers.

**Brett Reiss:** Right. Right. I appreciate that. I just, circling back because I didn't frame the question, you

know, in the best way. The two independent contractors in Brazil and Zambia that you – you have the relationship where, you know, they grow out the seed. Have you in fact shipped some of the mother line of seed to them? And if so, when did you ship it? You know, when has the clock, you know, ticking on the development of these seeds?

Ofer Haviv: So they — each one of those — of those partners already receive the original — the what it's called — I don't know how exactly — how — what is the name of English, but the original seed, in order to start to produce the seed themselves, and both of them already produce during 20— 2022, actually, they've already produced seeds that some of them, or a significant portion from them, we sold to this world lead energy company, as we disclose at the end of 2022.

**Brett Reiss**: Okay. Great. Thank you for taking my questions.

**Operator**: The next question is from Brian Wright of ROTH Capital. Please go ahead.

**Brian Wright**: Thanks. Good afternoon. Just a real quick question, and I apologize if I missed this, but — I was wondering if you could help with, kind of, sizing the — the sequential growth between the payment from Bayer versus Canonic, if you — if you could kind of, you know, give us some — some help with understanding the scale of the drivers?

**Ofer Haviv**: Can you repeat your question, because it wasn't very clear? And then –

**Brian Wright**: Sure. Yeah, sure. So, I wanted to understand, when you look at the sequential growth in revenue, if you want to kind of weight, kind of, what was the bigger driver of that sequential growth? Was it the key mix on Bayer or was it the growth from just – just Canonic?

**Ofer Haviv**: Okay. So, the Bayer, it's 3.5, and it's completely in a separate line. If you look at the — operating expenses, you will see that there is one line that actually it's an income, and this is the 3.5 million dollars. And this is separate from the revenue. The revenue is coming mainly from Canonic activity, and from

AgPlenus licensing agreement. Only a small portion is from Lavie Bio. And this is why I say that next – this year, it will reach our forecast. This year, it will be – a material number for Lavie Bio. So, it was a modest number last year, this year it's going to be much more significant.

**Brian Wright**: Great. Thanks so much for the clarification. Thank you.

**Ofer Haviv**: Thank you.

**Operator**: There are no further questions at this time. Before I ask Mr. Ofer Haviv to go ahead with his closing statement, I would like to remind participants that a replay of this call is scheduled to begin two hours after the conference. In the US, please call 1-888-326-9310. In Israel, please call 03-9255-901. Internationally, please call 972-3-9255-901.

Mr. Haviv, would you like to make your concluding statement?

# **CLOSING STATEMENT**

Thank you all for joining the call today.

I look forward to updating you with our progress in our next call.