



# PRESS RELEASE

## LIVESTOCK WATER RECYCLING IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF THE MOST AMBITIOUS AGTECH INNOVATORS IN THE COUNTRY

*Modern manure treatment and a big vision of lagoon-free food production stands out at the Nutrien-Radicle Challenge*



**CALGARY, AB.** (Oct 8, 2019) — [Nutrien](#), the world’s largest provider of crop inputs, services and solutions, and [Radicle Growth](#), an acceleration platform for early-stage ag and food technologies, crowned Livestock Water Recycling the Early Stage winner of the first-ever Nutrien-Radicle Challenge Pitch Day Competition held in Saskatoon, SK on October 1-2. Canada’s most ambitious ag and food technology innovators submitted proposals, with four companies selected as growth-stage finalists and four earning a spot in the early-stage competition.

LWR is modernizing manure management with an automated treatment platform that employs technology never before considered in manure handling. The LWR System separates and concentrates manure into a dry solid fertilizer rich in phosphorus and organic nitrogen, a stable ammonium and potassium liquid micronutrient fertilizer, and clean potable water. The nutrient and water recovery capacity of the LWR System has been recognized as the highest on the market. With the LWR System, farms reduce expenses while increasing productivity and crop yields through precision application of nutrients. Not only do they reduce both their greenhouse gas emissions and freshwater withdrawals, they can also introduce new revenue by participating in the circular economy.

LWR Co-Founder and CEO Karen Schuett is enthusiastic about what this partnership will mean for livestock farmers and the future of the manure economy. “We are looking for pathways to distribute farm created fertilizers, while gaining access to fertilizer buyers and sales partners” she says. “We believe that LWR’s vision of sustainability in the fertilizer industry aligns perfectly with the sustainability vision of the Nutrien-Radicle Challenge and their mission to advance agtech.” She is also enthusiastic about what this investment means for female founded companies in the agtech sector.



According to a recent report, only 7% of agri-foodtech deals and 3% of the dollars invested in the sector 2018 went to female-founded teams, and only 16% of deals and 5% of investment dollars supported startups with at least one female co-founder.

“We are very grateful to be recognized alongside some incredible technology companies and I want to personally acknowledge Nutrien and Radicle Growth for their commitment to investing in female founders” adds Schuett. “Thank you for putting on a first class, inspiring event!”

[Terramera®](#), a sustainable agtech leader from Vancouver, BC, took home the prize in the growth-stage category. The company recently closed their Series B round, announcing it had raised US\$45 million in equity funding to advance its [Actigate™ Targeted Performance technology](#).



*Karen Schuett accepts her award from Nutrien President and CEO Chuck Magro. Also pictured: Kirk Haney (far left) Managing Partner, Radicle Growth, and Mark Thompson, EVP & Chief Corporate Development and Strategy Officer at Nutrien.*

"We were impressed with the vision, commitment, and enthusiasm we saw in the pitches of the finalists," said Chuck Magro President and CEO at Nutrien. "We congratulate Terramera and Livestock Water Recycling on their success. We're excited to continue supporting and exploring big visions, growth, and technology that supports farmers around the world."

"When we partnered with Nutrien to bring the Radicle Challenge to Canada, we hoped to discover and bring profile to agriculture and food technology entrepreneurs in this country," said Kirk Haney, Managing Partner, Radicle Growth based in San Diego. "We've been rewarded with more than 100 entries, including the truly outstanding enterprises that made our final eight. We were tasked with choosing the "cream of the cream" from the final pitches, and we congratulate Terramera and Livestock Water Recycling who rose to the top. All of our finalists are eminently investment-worthy, and we look forward to their future success."

“We are very pleased with the outstanding response that the Nutrien-Radicle Challenge Canada has received from leading entrepreneurs and start-ups developing groundbreaking agricultural technologies all across the country,” said Mark Thompson, EVP & Chief Corporate Development and Strategy Officer at Nutrien. “By providing funding and strategic support to the winners of the Challenge, Nutrien and Radicle are accelerating the pace of innovation in Canada and enabling new agricultural solutions that can help make growers around the world more sustainable, efficient and profitable. As a global leader in agriculture, Nutrien is excited to bring this unique and innovative Challenge to Canada for the first time.”

Companies participating in the pitch competition were evaluated by a panel of esteemed judges that included Nutrien’s President and CEO Chuck Magro and Chief Corporate Development and Strategy Officer Mark Thompson. [Corteva’s](#) Chief Technology Officer Neal Gutterson, [Microsoft’s](#) Director of Agriculture Claudia Rössler, [Raymond James’](#) Managing Director and Equity Research Analyst Steve Hansen, and Kirk Haney, Managing Partner at Radicle Growth, were also on the judging panel.



“There is a shortage of funding and company building expertise to carry ag and food tech entrepreneurs forward to sufficiently develop their technology before trying to raise their next round of funding,” said Kirk Haney, Managing Partner, Radicle Growth. “Through investing the amount that entrepreneurs need to be successful at various stages of development, preparing them for their next round of funding, and providing them access to Radicle and Nutrien’s platforms, the Nutrien-Radicle Challenge Canada will ensure the success of rising stars in the ag and food tech landscape.”

Along with funding, both Terramera and LWR will receive access to the Radicle and Nutrien platforms to accelerate the development of their technology.

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#### **About Radicle Growth:**

[Radicle Growth](#) selects innovative, early-stage companies for investment, ensuring that disruptive ag & food tech companies reach their full potential. In addition to providing venture capital, Radicle Growth provides a fertile environment for visionaries in the ag and food space to flourish. Their proprietary platform is one of a kind in the ag and food industry, filling a huge void in the market by identifying the most innovative technologies and accelerating them with a range of value-creation initiatives. To connect and learn more about Radicle Growth follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

#### **About Nutrien:**

[Nutrien](#) is the world's largest provider of crop inputs and services, playing a critical role in helping growers increase food production in a sustainable manner. We produce and distribute 27 million tonnes of potash, nitrogen and phosphate products worldwide. With this capability and our leading agriculture retail network, we are well positioned to supply the needs of our customers. We operate with a long-term view and are committed to working with our stakeholders as we address our economic, environmental and social priorities. The scale and diversity of our integrated portfolio provide a stable earnings base, multiple avenues for growth and the opportunity to return capital to shareholders.

#### **About Livestock Water Recycling, Inc.**

[LWR](#) is a global manufacturer of manure treatment systems that provide hog, dairy and anaerobic digester operations with patented manure treatment technology to recycle clean water and fertilizer nutrients from livestock manure for reuse at the farm. North America’s leading provider manure treatment systems, the LWR system saves farmers time and money by providing them with a cost-effective solution to manage manure in a sustainable manner. LWR has systems operating throughout North America and the Middle East.

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