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Yorktown Technologies Announces Early Availability of GloFish™ Fluorescent Fish

Austin, Texas, December 11, 2003 – Yorktown Technologies, L.P. announced today that in response to overwhelming consumer demand, the distributors of GloFish™ fluorescent fish, 5-D Tropical and Segrest Farms, will immediately begin shipping limited numbers of the fish to select locations. As previously announced, GloFish™ fluorescent fish will be available nationwide on January 5, 2004.

“Public demand for GloFish™ fluorescent fish has been extraordinary, even greater than we had anticipated,” said Alan Blake, co-founder and CEO of Yorktown Technologies, L.P. “In response, our distributors have decided to make these fish available immediately to as many consumers as possible.”

5-D Tropical and Segrest Farms, which distribute the fish, report that they have received unprecedented market demand.

“We have been in the ornamental fish business for forty-three years, and we’ve never seen interest like this,” said Joe Diaz, President of 5-D Tropical.

“It’s truly amazing,” said Elwyn Segrest, President of Segrest Farms. “We’re hoping to get the fish to stores so that as many consumers as possible can purchase them in time for the holidays.”

The GloFish™ Red Zebra Danio is the first biotech aquarium fish available in the United States. Fluorescent zebra fish, such as these, have been relied upon by scientists worldwide for more than a decade to better understand genetics, molecular biology, and vertebrate development. The fluorescence is caused by adding a naturally occurring gene from sea coral to the fish eggs before they hatch. The fish is born with its unique color, maintains the color throughout its life, and even passes it on to its offspring.

The GloFish™ fluorescent fish were originally bred to help fight environmental pollution at the National University of Singapore by Dr. Zhiyuan Gong. To help further this research, a portion of all proceeds from GloFish™ fluorescent fish sales will go directly to Dr. Gong's facility.

Leading scientific experts and state regulatory agencies have reached a broad consensus that GloFish™ fluorescent fish are safe for the environment. According to the United States Geological Survey, there is not one wild zebra fish population in the United States, despite having been sold by the millions each year for nearly five decades. The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently stated that they would not regulate GloFish™ fluorescent fish.

About GloFish™ fluorescent fish

GloFish™ fluorescent fish create an original and vibrant splash of color inside freshwater aquariums. They are born with their unique color and display these beautiful hues for life. Originally bred to help detect environmental pollutants in waterways, it was only recently that scientists realized the public's interest in sharing the benefits of this research. They are safe for the environment and make wonderful pets for new hobbyists and experienced enthusiasts alike. A portion of the proceeds from sales will go directly to the lab where these fish were created in order to further scientific research. For more information, visit www.glofish.com.

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