



## UPL Japan strengthens NPP Biosolutions Platform with PhytoChrome investment

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**PhytoChrome will continue operating independently as the companies combine biosolutions expertise to advance crop resilience and sustainable agriculture**



UPL Corp Japan has acquired a stake in PhytoChrome Co., Ltd., a Japanese developer of biostimulants and fertilisers, deepening a strategic partnership that began in 2023 and strengthening UPL's push into nature-based agricultural solutions.

The investment brings PhytoChrome further into UPL's NPP Biosolutions portfolio and is aimed at combining the two companies' complementary capabilities to develop products designed to help farmers manage increasingly complex crop and environmental stresses.

UPL Corp Japan and PhytoChrome have been strategic alliance partners since October 2023. Under the expanded relationship, the companies will work on solutions intended to improve crop performance and resilience while supporting more sustainable agricultural production. PhytoChrome will continue to operate independently.

The partnership builds on the Impact Series, a portfolio developed by combining NPP's GA142 technology, Ajinomoto's amino acids and PhytoChrome's innovations. The solutions are designed to address a range of environmental and soil-related challenges affecting crop productivity, including heat stress, drought, salinity, cold conditions and soil acidity.

The investment reflects UPL's broader strategy of expanding its biosolutions offering beyond conventional crop protection and increasing access to naturally derived technologies. Through NPP Biosolutions, UPL is developing solutions aimed at helping growers maintain crop productivity while addressing environmental, economic and social sustainability objectives.

By bringing together PhytoChrome's expertise in biostimulants and fertilisers with UPL's broader biosolutions platform, the companies intend to accelerate the development and deployment of nature-based technologies for growers. The collaboration is expected to focus on solutions that can improve crop resilience under challenging growing conditions while creating value across the agricultural ecosystem.

The transaction also extends UPL's presence in Japan's agricultural technology landscape, where demand for innovative inputs and solutions that support sustainable crop production is creating opportunities for collaboration between established agricultural companies and specialised technology developers.