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**Byo-Gon, Inc. Earns USDA Certified Biobased Product Label**

**Charleston, SC. (July 17, 2018)** — Byo-Gon, Inc. announced today that it has earned the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Certified Biobased Product label. The product, Byo-Gon PX-109®, is now able to display a unique USDA label that highlights its percentage of biobased content.

Third-party verification for a product's biobased content is administered through the USDA BioPreferred Program, an initiative created by the 2002 Farm Bill (and most recently expanded by the 2014 Farm Bill). One of the goals of the BioPreferred Program is to increase the development, purchase and use of biobased products.

The USDA Certified Biobased Product label displays a product's biobased content, which is the portion of a product that comes from a renewable source, such as plant, animal, marine, or forestry feedstocks. Utilizing renewable, biobased materials displaces the need for non-renewable petroleum-based chemicals. Biobased products, through petroleum displacement, have played an increasingly important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions that exacerbate global climate change.

Biobased products are cost-comparative, readily available, and perform as well as or better than their conventional counterparts.

"In addition to our OMRI organic certification, USDA BioPreferred Program approval is another opportunity to showcase our natural products that improve wastewater treatment and soil health with an emphasis on utilizing the existing biological systems to maximize their effectiveness," said Ronald Pote, Byo-Gon, Inc.

"We applaud Byo-Gon, Inc. for earning the USDA Certified Biobased Product label," said Kate Lewis, USDA BioPreferred Program. "Products from Byo-Gon, Inc. are contributing to an ever expanding marketplace that adds value to renewable agriculture commodities, creates jobs in rural communities, and decreases our reliance on petroleum."

According to a report that USDA released in 2016, biobased products contributed \$393 billion to the U.S.

economy in 2014 and support, directly and indirectly, 4.2 million jobs. In this report, the research team estimate petroleum displacement of up to 6.8 million barrels in 2014.

The increased production of renewable chemicals and biobased products contributes to the development and expansion of the U.S. bioeconomy - where society looks to agriculture for sustainable sources of fuel, energy, chemicals, and products.

#### **About Byo-Gon, Inc.:**

Charleston-based Byo-Gon, Inc. manufactures and distributes a patented 100% natural biostimulant that enhances biological activity in wastewater treatment plants, home septic systems, restaurant grease traps, composting and soil amendments. The company operates through a distribution network in the US and internationally on three continents. Its green technology is one of the most sought-after products used to meet today's environmental challenges and it's available at the company's web sites [www.ByoGon.com](http://www.ByoGon.com) and [www.ByoSoil.com](http://www.ByoSoil.com).

#### **About the USDA BioPreferred Program and Certified Biobased Product label**

The BioPreferred Program is a USDA-led initiative that assists the development and expansion of markets for biobased products. The BioPreferred Program is transforming the marketplace for biobased products through two initiatives: mandatory purchasing requirements for Federal Agencies and Federal contractors and voluntary product certification and labeling.

Biobased products span a diverse range of applications, such as lubricants, cleaning products, chemicals and bioplastics. The USDA Certified Biobased Product label communicates a product's biobased content. Expressed as a percentage, biobased content is the ratio of non-fossil organic carbon (new organic carbon) to total organic carbon in a product. New organic carbon is derived from recently-created materials. The total organic carbon in a product consists of new organic carbon and old organic carbon that originates from fossil carbon materials, such as petroleum, coal, or natural gas. More than 3,000 products have earned the USDA Certified Biobased Product label. To learn more about the USDA Certified Biobased Product label please visit [www.biopreferred.gov](http://www.biopreferred.gov), and follow on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/BioPreferred>.

