

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date: 15.10.08****Photograph attached****-Copy Starts-****Dymension 2D Gel Analysis Software used at Prestigious
Veterinary Institute to detect proteins associated with immunity to
parasitic gastroenteritis in sheep**

Cambridge, UK: Syngene, a world-leading manufacturer of image analysis solutions, is delighted to announce, Dymension, its unrivalled software for the analysis of 2D protein gels, is being used at one of Europe's foremost veterinary schools, the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Scotland, to rapidly and accurately identify global changes in protein expression associated with immunity to parasitic gastroenteritis, the most commonly diagnosed systemic disease of sheep in the UK.

BBSRC funded (BB/E01867X/1) researchers at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies are using Dymension software to analyse 2D gels of protein extracts from the gastrointestinal mucosa of sheep, infected with the parasitic nematode *Teladorsagia circumcincta*, to identify key proteins involved in the immune exclusion of this, and related parasites. The research could lead to a better understanding of how natural immunity to these parasites occurs and could provide information to help design better vaccines and therapies to prevent this disease.

Dr Jeremy Brown, a Research Fellow at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies commented: "We need to align gels and actively cluster data sets from large groups of animals to look at all the proteins associated with immunity. We have previously used a variety of proteomics software but found these tasks difficult and time consuming to perform. The latest version of Dymension has taken these complicated activities and has nicely simplified them into a workflow method, allowing us to generate our data in a very straightforward and rigorous way."

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Dr Brown added: "Using Dymension, we've analysed 2D gel images to compare the mucosal proteome from 24 different sheep and have detected 951 different spots, with results across gels being surprisingly consistent. We're in the process of analysing selected spots by MALDI-TOF to identify which proteins are involved in immunity."

Laura Sullivan, Syngene's Divisional Manager stated: "We have spent many hours developing rapid gel alignment methods and spot significance tools. It is therefore very exciting to find researchers at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies can perform these tasks with ease and highlights the time saving benefits Dymension can provide any proteomics project."

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Note to Editors

About Syngene

Syngene is a world-leading supplier of integrated imaging solutions for analysis and documentation of gel-based information. Syngene's systems are used by more than 10,000 research organisations and over 50,000 individual scientists world-wide and include many of the world's top pharmaceutical companies and major research institutes.

Syngene, founded in 1997 is a division of the Synoptics Group based in Cambridge, UK. The Group's other divisions, Syncroscopy and Synbiosis, specialise in digital imaging solutions for microscopy and microbial applications respectively. Synoptics currently employs 40 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.

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Dymension 2D Gel Analysis Software press release continued.....

About the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

Founded by William Dick in 1823, the Edinburgh School is one of the oldest and largest in the United Kingdom. It was incorporated in the University of Edinburgh in 1951. The reputation of the School stands high throughout the world and students from many countries have attended its undergraduate and post-graduate courses.

In the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council Teaching Quality Assessment, the School was awarded the highest possible rating of "excellent". The School is also accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association, which means that students who graduated in July 2001 or afterwards enjoy the same status as someone who graduated from a similarly AVMA accredited establishment in the USA and Canada.