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Alico Announces Hiring of Director of Plant Breeding & Research

FORT MYERS, Fla., Oct. 25, 2012 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Alico, Inc. (Nasdaq:ALCO), an agriculture and rural land management company, announced the hiring of Marta Francis, Ph.D. as Director of Plant Breeding & Research effective October 18, 2012. Dr. Francis will be responsible for managing greenhouse, plant breeding and research operations.

Prior to joining Alico, Dr. Francis was a Research Associate at University of Florida, Citrus Research and Education Center and also at the University of California, Davis USDA/ARS. She holds a Bachelors of Science in Agronomy, Universidad de la Republica, Uruguay, a Masters of Science, University of California, Riverside and a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology, University of California, Riverside. She has published numerous articles in scientific publications internationally and has participated in numerous research projects granted by international agencies. Dr. Francis is originally from Uruguay. She is fluent in Spanish, English and Portuguese.

JD Alexander, President and CEO of Alico stated, "We are excited to have Dr. Francis join our team. With her experiences in Uruguay and Argentina and her extensive plant and research background, she will lead our efforts in assuring Alico has the highest quality and safest citrus plants.

About Alico

Alico, headquartered in Fort Myers, FL, is an agriculture and rural land management company operating in Central and Southwest Florida. Alico owns approximately 130,300 acres of land located in Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Polk counties, FL. Alico is involved in citrus, sugarcane, cattle and other agricultural operations and real estate activities. Alico's mission is to grow its asset values through its agricultural and real estate activities to produce superior long-term returns for its shareholders. For more about Alico, Inc. visit www.alicoinc.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These forward-looking statements are based on Alico's current expectations about future events and can be identified by terms such as "expect," "may," "anticipate," "intend," "should be," "will be," "is likely to," "strive to," and similar expressions referring to future periods.

Alico believes the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable but cannot guarantee future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. Therefore, Alico cautions you against relying on any of these forward-looking statements. Factors which may cause future outcomes to differ materially from those foreseen in forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to: changes in laws, regulation and rules; weather conditions that affect production, transportation, storage, import and export of fresh product; increased pressure from disease, insects and other pests; disruption of water supplies or changes in water allocations; pricing and supply of raw materials and products; market responses to industry volume pressures; pricing and supply of energy; changes in interest rates; availability of financing for land development activities; political changes and economic crises; international conflict; acts of terrorism; labor disruptions; inability to pay debt obligations; inability to engage in certain transactions due to restrictive covenants in debt instruments; government restrictions on land use; market and pricing risks due to concentrated ownership of stock. Other risks and uncertainties include those that are described in Alico's SEC filings, which are available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Alico under takes no obligation to subsequently update or revise the forward-looking statements made in this press release, except as required by law.

Source: Alico, Inc.