

BASF partners with Bunge to build processing pathway for InVigor gold canola

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BASF and Bunge are establishing a processing and market-access pathway for InVigor Gold canola, a canola-quality Brassica juncea hybrid that BASF plans to commercialise in the US from 2027



BASF and Bunge are putting in place the processing infrastructure needed to support the commercial launch of InVigor Gold canola, with Bunge set to process the seed as BASF prepares to introduce the crop to US growers in 2027. The partnership marks an important step in moving the technology beyond seed development and field trials into a commercial supply chain. Bunge will process InVigor Gold seed through its oilseed-processing network, beginning with its Warden, Washington, facility.

BASF developed InVigor Gold as a canola-quality hybrid of Brassica juncea, a species that the company says can perform in hotter and drier environments and on soils with lower organic matter. The commercial proposition is aimed at expanding canola production into growing environments where traditional canola may face greater agronomic constraints.

Building a market beyond traditional canola acres

The development of InVigor Gold reflects a broader effort to expand the geographic footprint of canola production in North America. Traditional black-seed canola is primarily based on Brassica napus, while InVigor Gold uses canola-quality Brassica juncea genetics. According to BASF, the grain meets canola-quality standards as affirmed by the Federal Grain Inspection Service, allowing it to be delivered directly for processing or co-mingled with traditional black-seed canola for processing.

That compatibility is commercially significant because new crop genetics require more than farmer adoption. Growers also need confidence that harvested grain can enter established handling, processing and marketing channels.

Bunge's involvement addresses part of that equation. "Working with an industry leader like Bunge is an important step as we prepare to bring InVigor Gold to farmers doing the Biggest Job on Earth," said Hugo Borsari, Vice President of Business Management for Seeds North America, BASF Agricultural Solutions. "InVigor Gold canola is designed to unlock new canola acres in more challenging growing environments, giving farmers another option to consider in their rotations," he added.

Bunge provides the missing link from farm to market

For a new crop platform, processing capacity can be as important as genetics. Bunge's oilseed-processing infrastructure provides a route for growers to move InVigor Gold from the farm into established commercial channels. The companies said processing will initially begin at Bunge's Warden, Washington, facility. "As canola production expands, establishing reliable processing and market access is essential for grower confidence and long-term success," said Mark Riou, Bunge's Senior Director, Canola Trading – North America.

He said Bunge's processing capabilities can help create a pathway from farm to market while supporting the expansion of the North American canola industry. The arrangement could also reduce one of the barriers facing growers considering new genetics: uncertainty over where and how harvested production will be handled.

First hybrid targets challenging growing environments

BASF first introduced growers to InVigor Gold in 2025, positioning the technology around the potential of canola-quality Brassica juncea. In June 2026, the company announced InVigor Gold L322, the first hybrid in the portfolio, with initial commercial availability planned from 2027.

The first target markets are Montana, North Dakota and Washington. These geographies provide a test of the technology's proposition because BASF is targeting production environments where heat, water availability and soil characteristics can constrain conventional canola production. The company's pitch is therefore not simply higher performance within established canola-growing areas. It is to make additional acres commercially viable for canola.

Commercialisation now moves beyond the seed

The Bunge agreement comes at a critical point in BASF's development timeline. Seed genetics can demonstrate agronomic potential in trials, but commercial success depends on an integrated system involving seed supply, farmer adoption, grain handling, processing capacity and market access.

The partnership with Bunge begins to establish that system ahead of the 2027 launch. It also gives BASF a way to position InVigor Gold within the existing North American oilseed-processing ecosystem rather than requiring an entirely separate downstream infrastructure. For Bunge, the collaboration provides an opportunity to participate in the expansion of canola production as new genetics potentially bring additional acres into the crop. As BASF prepares for the first commercial plantings in 2027, the Bunge partnership is an indication that the company is now building the supply-chain infrastructure alongside the genetics needed to take InVigor Gold from a seed innovation to a commercial crop platform.