

SaskOrganics, together with its Organic Agriculture Protection Fund Committee, considers BASF's InVigor Gold mustard to pose a significant risk to the organic sector and to the condiment mustard industry as a whole, and therefore opposes its approval and release.

Key domestic and international mustard markets have made it clear that they do not accept genetically modified (GM) mustard varieties, and GM organisms are strictly prohibited under organic production standards.

Experience in the Canadian Prairies demonstrates that effective co-existence between certain GM and non-GM crops is not achievable. The widespread contamination of canola through pollen drift and seed escape following the introduction of GM canola severely compromised seed purity. Within seven years of commercialization, seed could no longer be guaranteed as GM-free, and organic grain producers across the Prairies largely ceased growing canola due to unacceptable levels of contamination.

The Triffid flax contamination incident—occurring years after the variety was deregistered due to market concerns—further illustrates the long-term market, reputational, and economic damage that can result from the release of living modified organisms, as well as the challenges of containing them once introduced.

Taken together, these concerns demonstrate that the release of BASF's InVigor Gold mustard would introduce significant and irreversible risks to market access, seed integrity, and the viability of organic and non-GM mustard production in Canada. Given clear market rejection of GM mustard, the prohibition of GMOs in organic systems, and well-documented failures to prevent contamination in past GM crop introductions, SaskOrganics maintains that approval of InVigor Gold would undermine producer choice, damage established markets and erode confidence in Canada's mustard sector.

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