

Press Release

23th October 2024

BASF and Elicit Plant Partner to Promote New Bio-Solutions in the Sunflower and Cereal Markets in France

Elicit Plant, a pioneer in agricultural bio-solutions, and BASF France – Agro Division, a major player in innovative agricultural solutions, are proud to announce their partnership for the 2024-2025 campaign. They will combine their strengths to accelerate the development of the biostimulants EliSun-a® and EliGrain-a®, specifically designed for the sunflower and cereal markets in France. This partnership is part of a joint effort to address the growing challenges of modern agriculture while preserving the environment.

Climate change and its extreme episodes, combined with the decline of crop protection solutions, are making agricultural production increasingly complex and uncertain. It is essential to integrate new solutions into technical pathways to anticipate uncertainties and secure production levers, yields, and farmers' incomes.

Innovative Bio-Solutions to Address Climate Challenges

The deployment of Elicit Plant's two products responds to farmers' demands and will be jointly supported by the commercial teams of BASF France – Agro Division and Elicit Plant starting November 1, 2024.

"Our sales & technical teams will be fully complementary from tomorrow; this alliance allows us to pool our expertise to address the entire distribution network," celebrate **Antoine Wattel**, Sales Director France at Elicit Plant, and **Sébastien Ricard**, Sales Director at BASF France.

EliGrain-a®, specially formulated for cereals, and EliSun-a®, designed for sunflower cultivation, are bio-solutions based on patented innovative technology that utilizes the natural properties of phytosterols. These innovations enable *water management optimization in planta*, thereby enhancing their resilience to abiotic stress while maintaining high yield levels.

Sunflower, a substantial crop in our French cropping systems, is currently facing yield declines due to prolonged periods of drought stress in their various growing areas. The bio-solution

EliSun-a®, by limiting evapotranspiration and stimulating root growth, places the plant in a more favorable position to withstand drought, resulting in an average gain of +3.2 quintals per hectare.

A Partnership for Concrete Results and Optimized Yields

Following a first launch on spring barley for the 2023-2024 campaign, the effectiveness of phytosterols on straw cereal crops is now applicable to soft winter wheat. When EliGrain-a® is integrated into a conventional fungicide treatment program for cereals, it provides an additional advantage in terms of resilience to abiotic stress and productivity improvement, with an average yield increase of +3.8 quintals per hectare.

With solid expertise and strong commitments to finding innovative solutions, BASF France – Agro Division supports producers by offering a comprehensive range of products designed to enhance the resilience of cereals and sunflowers while optimizing sustainable agricultural practices.

" This partnership with Elicit Plant allows us to reaffirm our commitment to agroecology and provide farmers with new concrete and profitable solutions. Our partnership fully aligns with BASF's strategy to remain a major player in bio-solutions by 2030," states Pauline de Viry, Bio-Solutions Manager at BASF within the Innovation, Sustainability, and Reputation Department.

" This partnership with BASF aligns with our vision of transforming agriculture by deploying cutting-edge bio-solutions that ensure both farmers' competitiveness and sustainable practices. Together, we will accelerate the integration of innovative bio-solutions that not only improve crop resilience in the face of climate change but also pave the way for sustainable agroecological transition," emphasizes Jean-Paul Genay, Director of the Agronomy Division at Elicit Plant.

Thus, the combination of various levers, including bio-solutions and conventional products, will help secure productivity and profitability for farmers while supporting them in their agroecological transition.

About ELICIT PLANT

ELICIT PLANT is an AgTech company addressing the challenges posed by climate change on major crops globally, reducing plant water consumption by 20%. Its unique technology, EliTerra®, based on the exogenous application of phytosterols—plant-derived molecules—enhances plants' stress resistance by eliciting their natural defenses. Hundreds of field trials, combined with rapid adoption by farmers across three continents (Brazil, Europe, and the United States) for its first product aimed at maize, demonstrate that its bio-solutions are the only ones that secure yields and provide farmers with a significant return on investment during water shortages. ELICIT PLANT successfully operates in Brazil, Europe, and Ukraine, experiencing triple-digit growth over the past two years. For more information, visit: www.elicit-plant.com.

About BASF Agricultural Solutions

Everything we do, we do out of passion for agriculture. Agriculture is essential for providing enough healthy and affordable food to a rapidly growing population while reducing environmental impacts. That's why we work with partners and experts to integrate sustainability criteria into all aspects of our business decisions. In 2023, we invested €944 million in a significant research and development program, combining innovative thinking with practical action in the field. Our solutions are designed for various cropping systems, linking seeds and traits,

crop protection products, digital tools, and sustainability approaches to achieve the best possible outcomes for farmers, producers, and other stakeholders throughout the value chain. With teams in laboratories, in the field, at offices, and in production, we do everything in our power to build a sustainable future for agriculture. In 2023, our division generated revenue of €10.1 billion. For more information, visit <https://agriculture.basf.com/global/en.html> or follow us on social media.

About the BASF Group

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success, environmental protection, and social responsibility. Approximately 112,000 employees of the BASF Group contribute to the success of our customers in almost every sector and nearly every country worldwide. Our portfolio comprises six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care, and Agricultural Solutions. BASF achieved revenues of €68.9 billion in 2023. BASF shares are traded on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the United States. For more information, visit www.basf.com or www.basf.fr. For information on BASF's data protection policies, please contact Data protection @BASF.

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phytopharmaceutiques à des utilisateurs professionnels