



## **News Release**

January 3, 2023

BASF's vegetable seeds business closes acquisition of melon breeding company ASL

- Acquisition effective January 1, 2023
- Strengthens BASF's market position in the melon seed market
- Expansion of BASF's breeding and seed production in France

Nunhem, the Netherlands, January 3, 2023 - BASF's vegetable seeds business and ASL, one of the most innovative melon breeding companies in the world, completed the acquisition of ASL by BASF. Before starting to work out the details of the acquisition, the two companies had already been working together successfully for more than three decades.

The transaction with the privately-owned French company based near Avignon, covers all the aspects of ASL's current business, including seed production, intellectual property rights, germplasm, research and development facilities as well as staff.

With this acquisition, BASF will continue to be able to develop new innovative concepts of healthy and tasty melons, which can contribute to consumers' loyalty to our partners in the value chain. "The acquisition of ASL strengthens our market position and creates new opportunities for growth of our hybrid melon seed portfolio marketed under the Nunhems® brand," said Maximilian Becker, Senior Vice President of BASF's vegetable seeds business. "With the expertise and knowledge of the colleagues joining, we will be able to offer a broader and more innovative

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melon pipeline to our value chain partners and consumers."

ASL is specialized in orange flesh type melons, such as the Cantaloup and Charentais types including the successful varieties Magenta, Red Falcon, Torum, Bernini and the Golden Cantaloup, covering the major markets around the world. The seed production and breeding facilities near Avignon will now be integrated into BASF's existing network of 23 breeding stations for vegetable seeds worldwide, creating the first R&D location for breeding and screening in France.

Financial details of the transaction are not disclosed.

## **About BASF's Agricultural Solutions division**

Farming is fundamental to provide enough healthy and affordable food for a rapidly growing population while reducing environmental impacts. Working with partners and agricultural experts and by integrating sustainability criteria into all business decisions, we help farmers to create a positive impact on sustainable agriculture. That's why we invest in a strong R&D pipeline, connecting innovative thinking with practical action in the field. Our portfolio comprises seeds and specifically selected plant traits, chemical and biological crop protection, solutions for soil management, plant health, pest control and digital farming. With expert teams in the lab, field, office and in production, we strive to find the right balance for success – for farmers, agriculture and future generations. In 2021, our division generated sales of €8.2 billion. For more information, please visit www.agriculture.basf.com or any of our social media channels.

## **About BASF**

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. Around 111,000 employees in the BASF Group contribute to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio comprises six segments: Chemicals, Materials, Industrial Solutions, Surface Technologies, Nutrition & Care and Agricultural Solutions. BASF generated sales of €78.6 billion in 2021. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchange in Frankfurt (BAS) and as American Depositary Receipts (BASFY) in the U.S. Further information at www.basf.com.