DuPont Puts Focus on Herbicide-Tolerant Sunflowers

A new sunflower hybrid line has been introduced in Europe to help growers increase their yields. This is important because the demand for sunflower oilseed products &#151 whether for biofuels or cooking oils &#151 is growing. The new sunflower seeds are sulfonylurea-tolerant hybrids marketed under the Pioneer brand as a joint effort between DuPont Crop Protection and DuPont subsidiary Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. They have the Express SX herbicide-tolerant trait and promise to provide growers with an unsurpassed post-emergent control option for annual broadleaf weeds. Unlike other herbicide-tolerant crops on the market, this herbicide-tolerant sunflower seed is derived through traditional plant-breeding methods. Already available to growers in Eastern Europe, the new seeds will be introduced in select regions of the U.S. for the 2007 planting season. DuPont's herbicide-tolerant sunflower program is one example of the research-related advances currently underway for oilseeds. DuPont is using an integrated product development approach, combining the benefits from both traditional and modern breeding techniques, extensive field testing and leading-edge genetic technologies to produce hybrids with superior production and food processing characteristics.e, and I was able to improve the safety record and stayed on task until I retired. Now Kletz is a lecturer on safety at universities throughout the U.S. and England as well as the author of 11 books. He will share his expertise at ISA Expo 2006 in Houston in October, where he will discuss how proper equipment and process design can prevent accidents.

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