

Intellectual property is the cornerstone of innovation. As global population grows, developing new technologies that can feed our world becomes more challenging. Intellectual property ensures that innovators can invest the resources necessary to create the next generation of farm technologies.

RAPESEED

Rapeseed, also known as canola, has been cultivated around the world for four thousand years. It not only provides healthy cooking oil for consumers, it is one of the most effective 'break crops' for farmers. Using rapeseed in a crop rotation can provide enhanced weed, pest and disease control, making it an essential crop for improving productivity.

"Rapeseed, which is used to produce canola oil, has a lower fatty acid profile, which can promote heart health."

- Canolainfo.org

Top Producers



Top Consumers



CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

CHALLENGE

Developing heart healthy oils

SOLUTION

Canola oil

Canola oil, which is made from rapeseed, has long been touted as a low cholesterol cooking oil; however, it wasn't always an edible commodity. The first edible varieties of canola were developed by researchers in the 1970s. These paved the way for a new oil, canola, with lots of essential omega-3 fatty acids and the lowest in saturated fat of any vegetable oil at just seven percent. Intellectual property protections have allowed the researchers to protect the time, hard work and financial resources they have invested in developing this revolutionary cooking oil.

CHALLENGE

Reducing pest pressures

SOLUTION

Herbicide-resistant canola

Weeds are a major problem for growers of canola, as they compete for the sunlight, water and soil needed to produce plants. Researchers around the world are developing varieties of canola that resist herbicides and boost canola productivity. These varieties provide farmers with a tool for better weed control, less tillage, earlier seeding, higher yields and a cleaner crop at harvest. By using intellectual property protections, researchers have been able to protect their innovation, which has had a huge impact on the profitability of the canola industry globally. This has led to substantial benefits for farmers, the environment and the world economy as a whole.

CHALLENGE

Reducing canola crop losses

SOLUTION

Disease-resistant canola

Canola is particularly susceptible to sclerotinia stem rot, which is also known as white mold. Finding ways to combat heavy losses from this aggressive disease is critical. Sclerotinia-resistant canola is a convenient, economical and environmentally friendly method for controlling the disease. Several innovators hold patents on different varieties of sclerotinia-resistant canola, which ensures they can protect the valuable time and effort they have put into creating this important invention.

Intellectual Property Makes Agricultural Solutions Possible