

## 1. What is Vercoras® seed treatment?

At BASF, we are always working to provide our customers with innovative products that address some of their most pressing challenges. Vercoras is the first BASF canola seed treatment specifically designed to help Canadian farmers manage blackleg and flea beetles in InVigor® hybrid canola, starting in 2022.

- Vercoras provides broad-spectrum control against key seed- and soil-borne diseases such as blackleg, as well as base protection against flea beetles
- It's the first complete seed treatment designed to control airborne blackleg through the critical early-season infection period, complementing the genetic resistance already found in the seed
- Vercoras includes the insecticide active ingredient clothianidin (Group 4) and four fungicide active ingredients: fluopyram (Group 7), fluxapyroxad (Group 7), metalaxyl (Group 4) and pyraclostrobin (Group 11)

## 2. Why is a seed treatment on canola important?

When it comes to canola, there are many things a seed treatment helps manage, including key diseases such as blackleg, rhizoctonia and fusarium, as well as insect pressure from flea beetles. With tightening rotations, growing concerns with certain pests and a desire to increase yield potential, it's more important than ever that new seed treatment technologies help growers manage these concerns.

## 3. What crops are compatible with Vercoras?

Vercoras seed treatment is registered on canola and will be launched for use in InVigor hybrid canola for the 2022 season.

## Diseases & Blackleg Control

### 4. How is Vercoras different from other seed treatments?

Vercoras is the first complete seed treatment designed to control airborne blackleg through the critical early-season infection period to complement the genetic resistance in the seed for robust blackleg resistance.

### 5. What is airborne blackleg and why is it important?

Airborne blackleg is caused by spores released from infected stubble or residue and deposited on the plant. These spores can enter the plant through any type of infection points, including damage caused by hail or flea beetle feeding. Blackleg infections can restrict moisture and nutrient uptake through the stem, leading to premature plant death, increased lodging and yield losses. Early infection by airborne spores is the main cause of later-season stem infection and yield loss caused by blackleg.

### 6. How do I manage blackleg?

As blackleg prevalence and incidence in Western Canada increases and the disease continues to be an important industry and trade topic for Canada, it's critical to keep on top of blackleg with multiple integrated pest management (IPM) tools to prevent challenges.

- Utilize newest 'R'-rated hybrids, a product of extensive disease breeding
- Scout fields, properly identify and monitor infection
- Where possible, extend canola rotations to a minimum of once every three years to reduce inoculum and canola volunteers

- Manage susceptible weeds and volunteer canola to reduce inoculum sources
- Use a registered fungicide at the proper timing
- Utilize Vercoras to protect cotyledons through the critical infection period and reduce the potential for stem infection

## 7. What is fluopyram and what does it do?

Fluopyram provides early-season protection against multiple blackleg races in canola, providing protection through the critical early-season establishment period. It's taken up by the roots and translocates to the cotyledons and early leaves, protecting the plant from airborne blackleg infection during initial growth stages.

## 8. What does Vercoras do for InVigor canola?

BASF has launched Vercoras to provide even more value with new technology that provides an additional layer of defence against blackleg, complementing genetic resistance already included in every InVigor seed.

## Insect Control

### 9. Why are flea beetles important and how do I manage them?

Flea beetles have been a growing concern among farmers and the industry at large and there are a few factors that have increased the risk: a species shift in flea beetle populations (e.g. striped flea beetle), tighter crop rotations and, ultimately, very few options to help control this pest. Containing the insecticide clothianidin, Vercoras provides base protection against flea beetles. For enhanced crucifer and striped flea beetle protection, as well as control of early-season cutworms, we recommend the addition of Lumiderm™ insecticide seed treatment.

### 10. Is clothianidin a neonicotinoid (neonic) insecticide?

Yes. Neonicotinoids are a class of insecticides that are chemically similar to nicotine. With new insecticide seed treatment entrants coming into the market, it's important to remember that neonic seed treatments, such as the insecticide clothianidin in Vercoras, still play a vital role in protecting canola against flea beetles. Neonics continue to be the base for insecticide seed treatments in canola and provide valuable frontline protection against flea beetles during canola's early growth stages.

### 11. How does the insecticide clothianidin work as a seed treatment in canola?

Clothianidin is a neonicotinoid insecticide that provides base protection against flea beetles in canola. Feeding damage is expected when managing flea beetles with clothianidin as the pest must ingest the treated plant in order to be controlled. Adverse environmental conditions, such as cool and wet weather, can slow the uptake of the insecticide and impact the level of flea beetle control. Under low to moderate flea beetle pressure and good growing conditions, clothianidin will help protect canola through critical early stages.

For more information, visit [agsolutions.ca/vercoras](https://agsolutions.ca/vercoras), talk to your BASF **AgSolutions**® Grower or Retail Representative or call **AgSolutions** Customer Care at 1-877-371-BASF (2273).

## Always read and follow label directions.

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