



"Monsanto's research affects the quality of the fruits and vegetables that make it to our dinner tables."

monsanto

committed to the future of agriculture

written by **Amy Lorenti** photography courtesy of **Monsanto**

Imagine giant tomatoes, available throughout the year in the corner market or grocery store, juicy red, more delicious than any you have ever tasted, and nutritiously fortified. Every ear of corn tender, sweet and super-sized. Snap peas crisp, tasty and unblemished. You might ask, "How can they DO that?"

The "how" is complicated, but the research needed to uncover the physical properties associated with DNA sequence to bioengineer crops is done right in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park. Monsanto's scientists identify key traits such as altered maturity, yield stability under density and drought stress, stalk strength and morphological changes associated with yield. Monsanto's research affects the quality of the fruits and vegetables that make it to our dinner tables. The company helps farmers grow more crops by applying biotechnology, genomics and molecular breeding technology to herbicides and seeds. In its latest annual report, Monsanto reports it, "use(s) the tools of modern biology to improve how farmers produce food, fiber and feed."

Monsanto's flagship product, Roundup®, is the world's number one herbicide. Hoover's reports the genetically altered seeds Monsanto produces (cotton, corn, soybean and canola) tolerate Roundup® and resist bugs, estimating that more than 70 percent of the world's insect and herbicide-resistant crops bears its stamp. It also produces the

Asgrow®, Hartz® and DEKALB® seed brands.

Monsanto is equally committed to investing in the future of agriculture by supporting the young minds who will be responsible for tomorrow's breakthroughs. The DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award recognizes worthy high school seniors from across the United States for their commitment to agriculture, with 150,000 so honored since 1947. The Commitment to Agriculture Scholarship has awarded nearly \$1 million to more than 650 students in the U.S. interested in pursuing agricultural careers.

Ben Kampelman, a Monsanto spokesperson, says, "Given the strong scientific and R&D environment in the Research Triangle Park area, we view the presence of Monsanto in RTP as a real benefit of the agreement announced earlier this year with Icoria. Our RTP site is an important part of our research and development at Monsanto. It is key in identifying and developing new traits in areas like agronomic traits, enhanced nutritional content and improved yield properties. We want to continue the identification and development to move new traits into our crop development pipeline to provide future products for our customers."

Based in St. Louis, Mo., Monsanto Company (NYSE: MON) is an agricultural company and a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products focused on improving farm productivity and food quality.