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BASF Nunhems launches Tyrian red onion variety after 15-year breeding gap

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The new long-day onion variety offers approximately 115-day maturity, uniform bulb characteristics and storage flexibility for US growers.



BASF's vegetable seeds business, Nunhems, has launched Tyrian, its first new long-day red onion variety in approximately 15 years. Previously evaluated under the designation NUN 9011, the variety is initially being introduced to growers in the Pacific Northwest, California and New York.

Developed through more than a decade of breeding and refinement, Tyrian features strong root development, upright plant growth and uniform, large-to-jumbo bulbs. According to BASF, the variety matures in approximately 115 days, with early red colour development and storage characteristics that allow growers to sell their produce at harvest or retain it for later market demand.

Kaitlyn O'Neal, Regional Crop Lead for onions and carrots at BASF | Nunhems, said the introduction marks the beginning of a broader pipeline of long-day red onion varieties. The launch forms part of the company's continued investment in vegetable seed breeding and commercial horticulture.