

# **Arcadia Biosciences**

## Nitrogen Use Efficiency Technology Good for the Grower, Good for the Environment

Fertilizer Outlook and Technology Conference - Annapolis, MD October 27, 2004





## Arcadia develops plants that improve the environment and human health

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- Identify technologies that have achieved Proof of Concept and fit our mission
- **Develop** technologies by investing in optimization and validating performance in the field
- <u>Commercialize</u> through strategic partnerships with seed companies or selling directly into the target market



#### **Current Programs**

#### Environmental Benefit

- Nitrogen Use Efficient (NUE) Plants
- Salt-Tolerant Plants

#### Human Health Benefit

- Specialty PUFA oils
- Non-toxic Castor

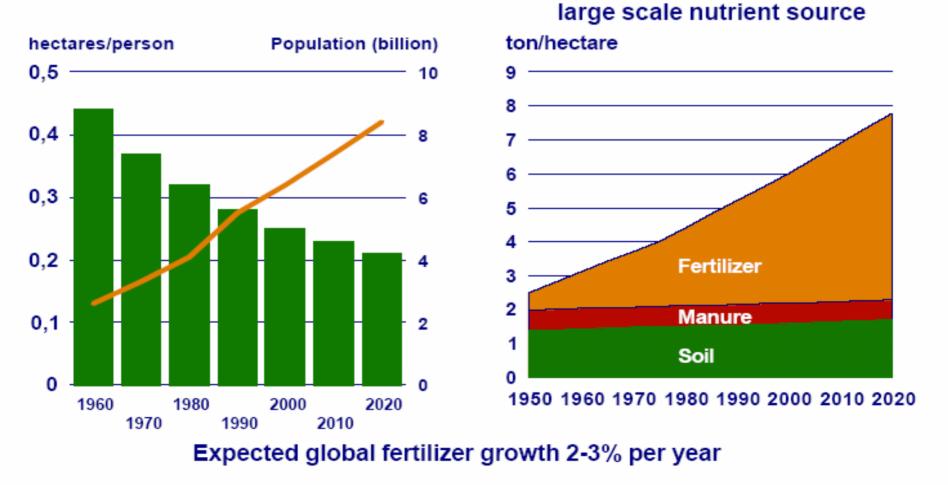


# **Nitrogen Use Efficiency Program**



# Pressure on Land Drives Nutrient Demand

#### Hectares per person decreasing...

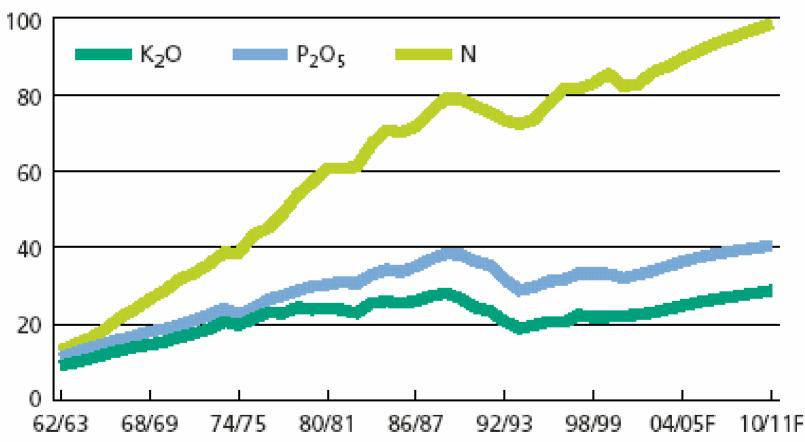


... and mineral fertilizer only sustainable



# More Fertilizer Means More Nitrogen

#### Million Tonnes Nutrients



Source: IFA, Fertecon

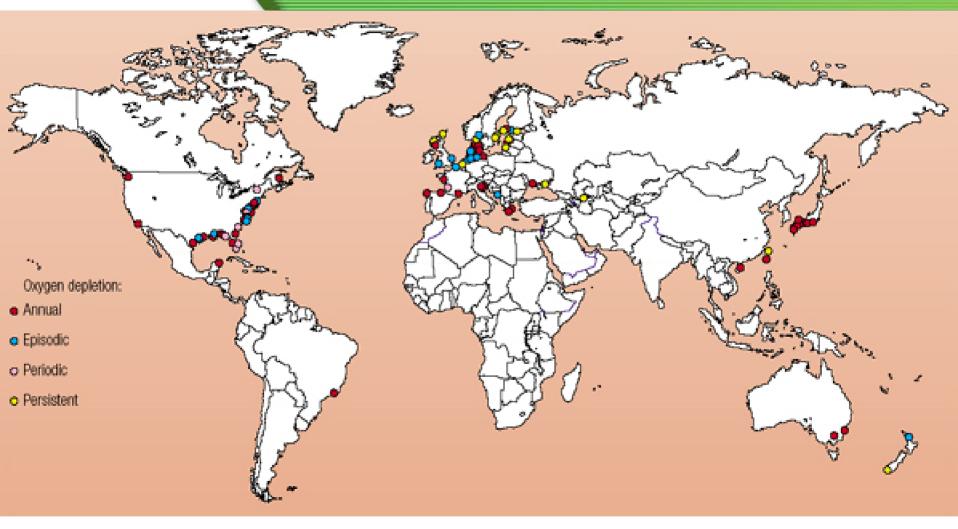


# Nitrogen, Agriculture and the Environment

- Nitrogen is a key input to modern agriculture
- Less than 50% of applied nitrogen is absorbed by plants, resulting in economic losses for farmers
- Unabsorbed nitrogen leads to environmental problems
  - Eutrophication of marine environments
  - Ground water pollution
  - Air pollution



# Ocean "Eutrophic Zones" are a Global Issue



Source: United Nations Environment Programme, **GEO Yearbook 2003** (Nairobi: 2004), compiled from Boesch 2002, Caddy 2000, Diaz et al. (in press), Green and Short 2003, Rabalais 2002



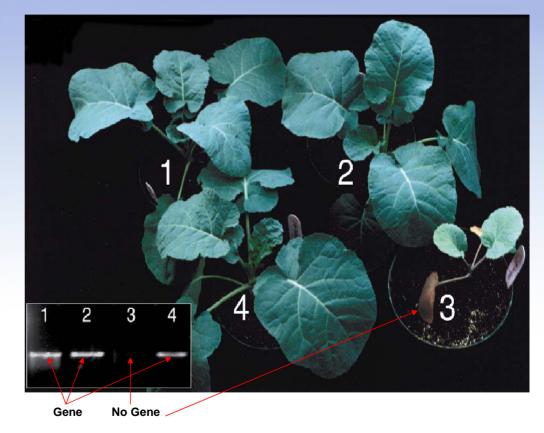
# Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE)

#### **Objective**

Plants that use nitrogen more efficiently

#### <u>Status</u>

- Transgenic Arabidopsis, tobacco, canola and rice
- Four successful canola field trials to date
- Canola that produces yields equivalent to control with up to 66% less nitrogen fertilizer



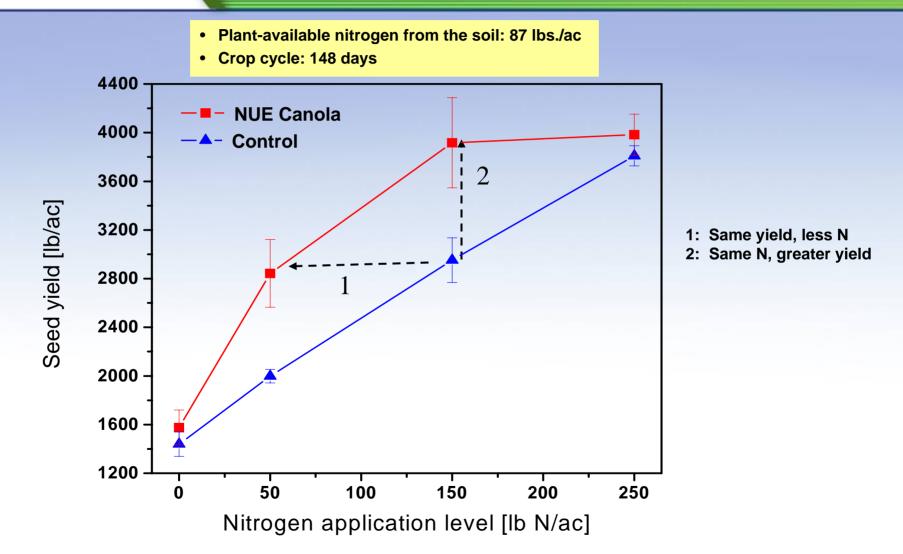


## **NUE Canola Field Trials**

#### NUE Canola Plants Achieve Higher Yields at the Same Rates or Equal Yields Using Less Nitrogen Fertilizer

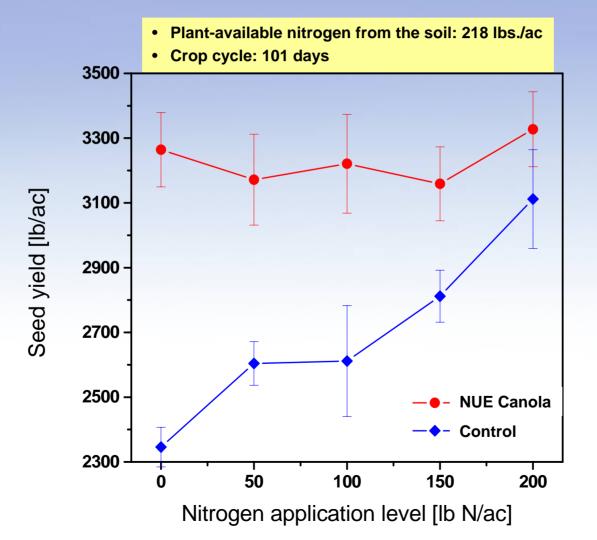


# Field Trial #1: 02-03 CA Canola Seed Yield Comparison



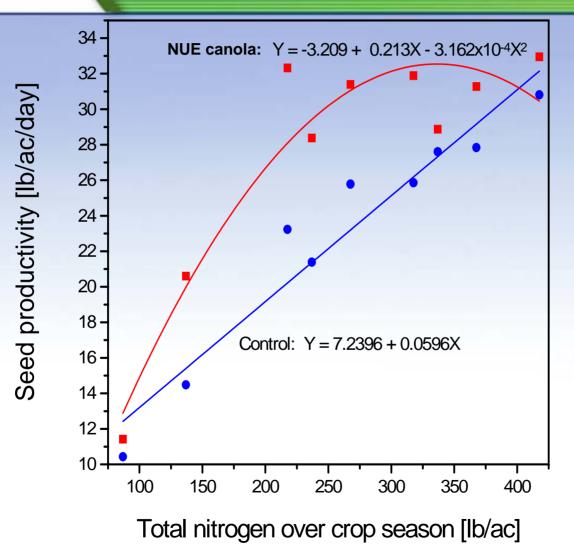


# Field Trial #2: 2003 MN Canola Seed Yield Comparison





# Field Trials #1 & #2 Integrated Yield Data



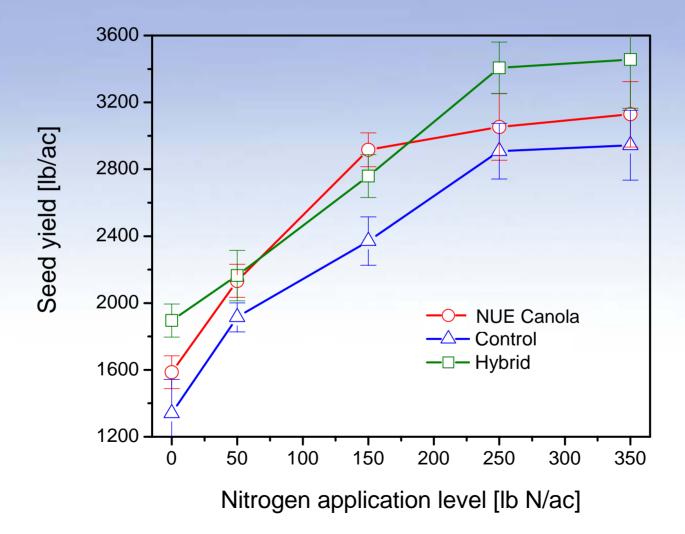


# Field Trial #3: 03-04 CA Canola Objectives

- Validation of 2002-2003 field data
- Investigate the interaction of the NUE gene with slowrelease N fertilizers
- Investigate the potential of improving the NUE of commercial OP and hybrid cultivars

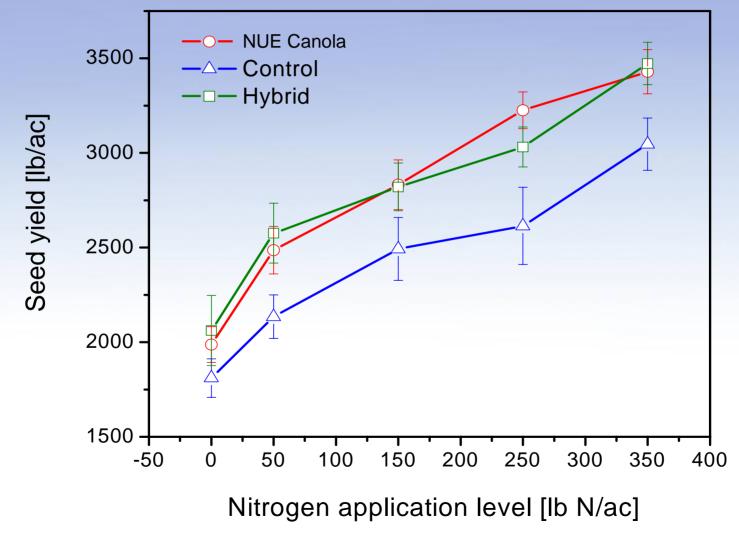


# Field Trial #3: 03-04 CA Canola Seed Yield - Urea Fertilizer





# Field Trial #3: 03-04 CA Canola Seed Yield - Slow Release N



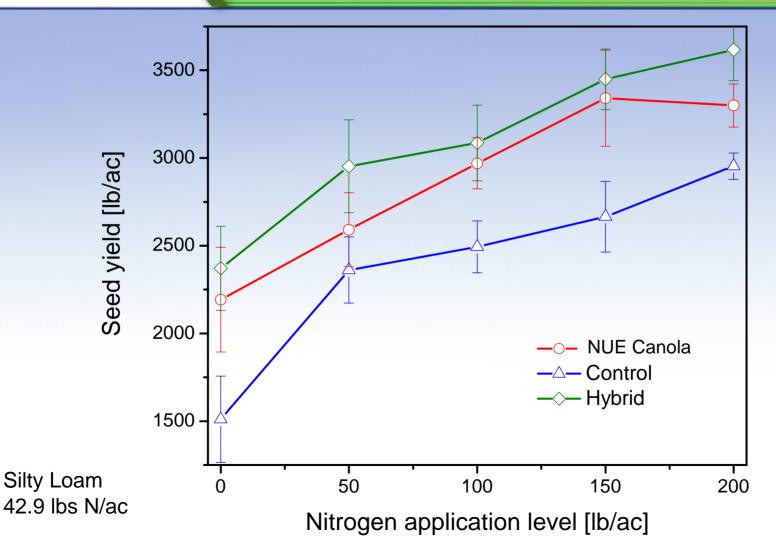


# Field Trial #4: 2004 ND Canola Objectives

- Validation of 2003 field data
- Evaluate F1 hybrids from crosses between transgenic lines and OPs and inbred lines
- Evaluate new events



# Field Trial #4: 2004 ND Canola Seed Yield Comparison



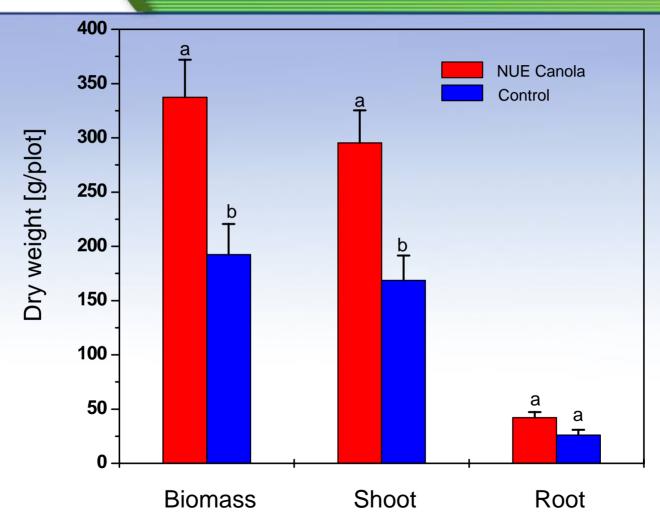


#### **NUE Canola - Biomass**

# Higher seed yields result from increased plant biomass



# Plants With NUE Gene Produce More Biomass

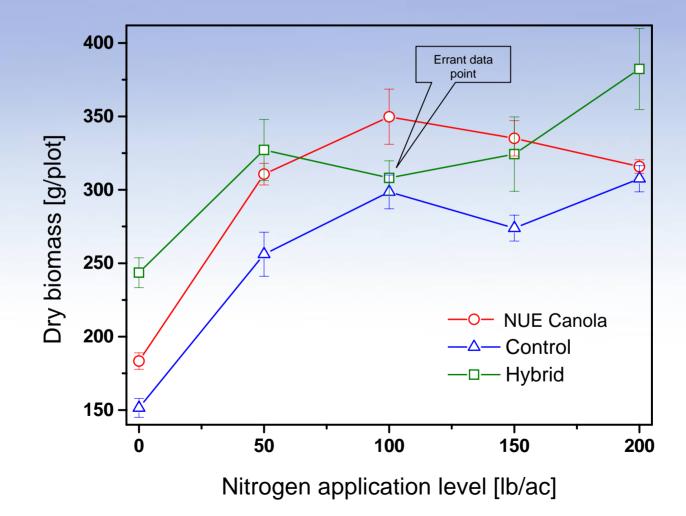


Plants sampled from Block 5, Brawley CA on Jan 22, 2003, just prior to fertilization

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# Field Trial #4: 2004 ND Canola Biomass Comparison





## **Pre-Flowering Biomass**





#### **NUE Canola**

#### Control

Photos taken at 0 lb urea-N/ac from HB6R9A8-10 on June 27, 2003 at TRF, MN



## **NUE Canola - Trait Transfer**

The NUE gene can be readily moved into other canola varieties via conventional plant breeding

The NUE gene should function in the same manner in other crop species



# Trial #4: 2004 ND Canola F1 Hybrids





#### **Commercial Variety x Control**

<u>Biomass Data</u> DW g/plot: 311.47 DW g/plant: 8.75

#### Commercial Variety x NUE Canola <u>Biomass Data</u> DW g/plot: 437.77 +40.5% DW g/plant: 15.10 +72.5%



## **NUE Canola - Composition**

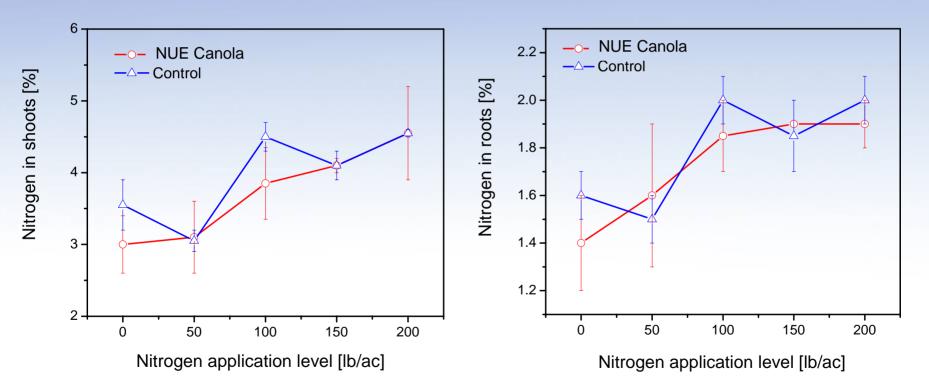
There are no substantial compositional differences between NUE canola and control canola plants



# No Significant Differences in N Content in Shoots and Roots

#### Shoots

#### Roots

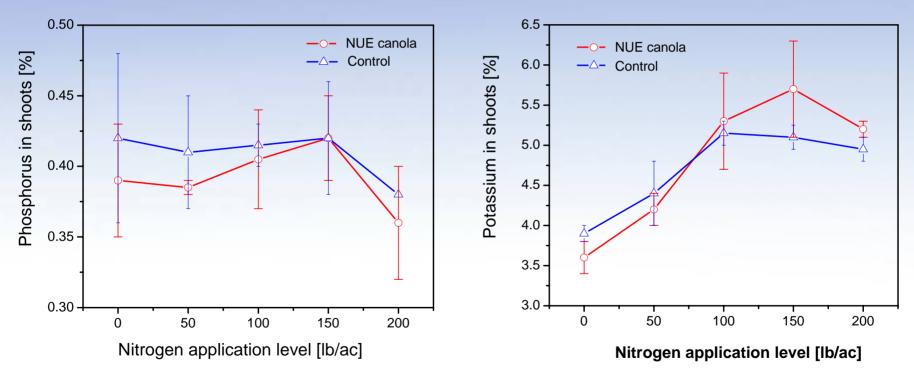




# No Significant Differences in P and K Contents in Shoots

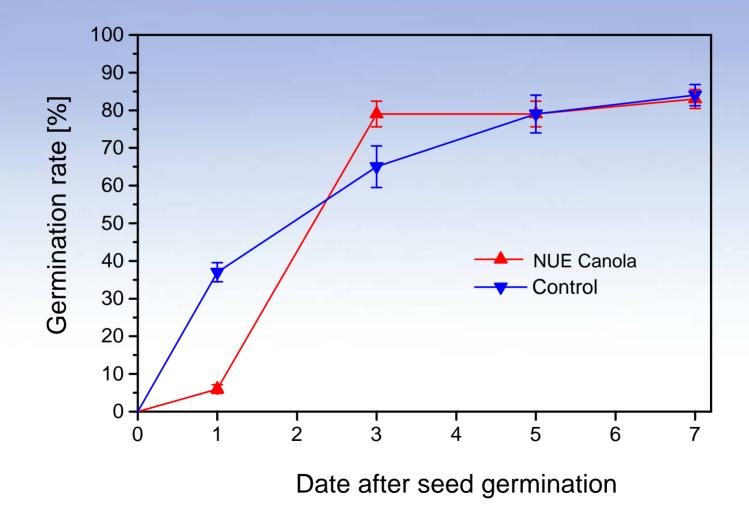
#### Phosphorus

**Potassium** 



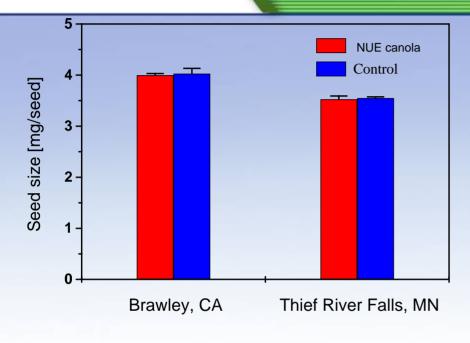


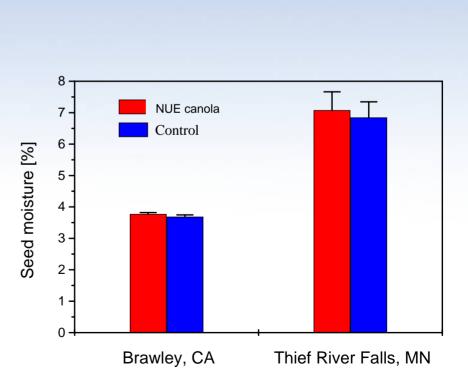
## **No Difference in Germination**





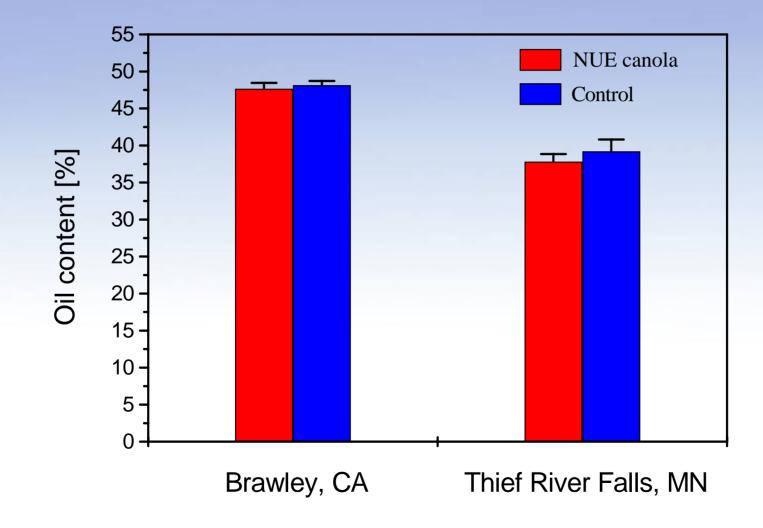
# No Difference in Seed Physical Properties





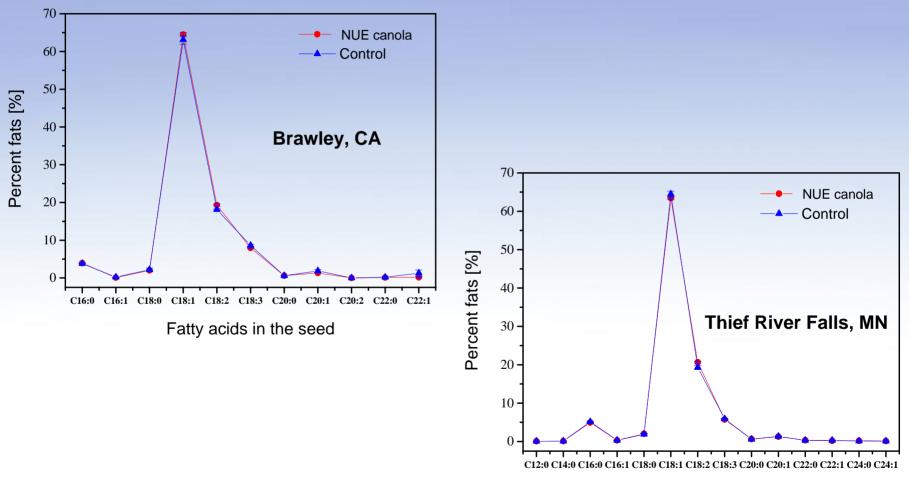


## **No Differences in Seed Oil %**





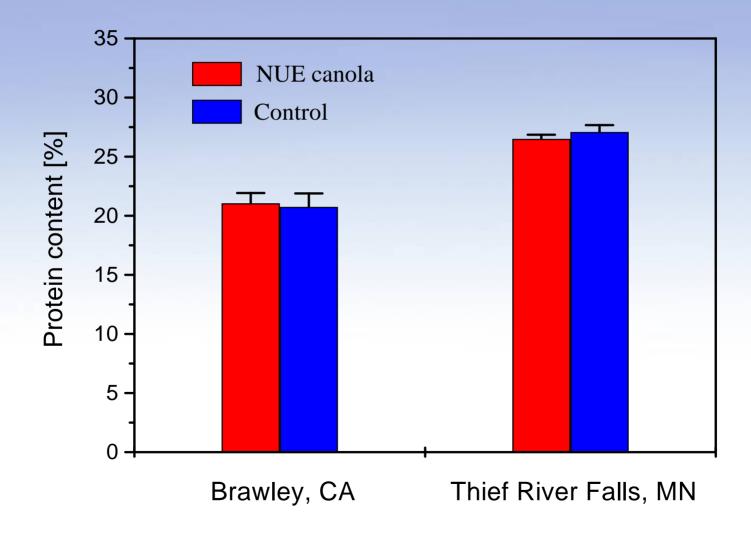
# No Differences in Fatty Acid Composition of Oil



Fatty acids in the seed

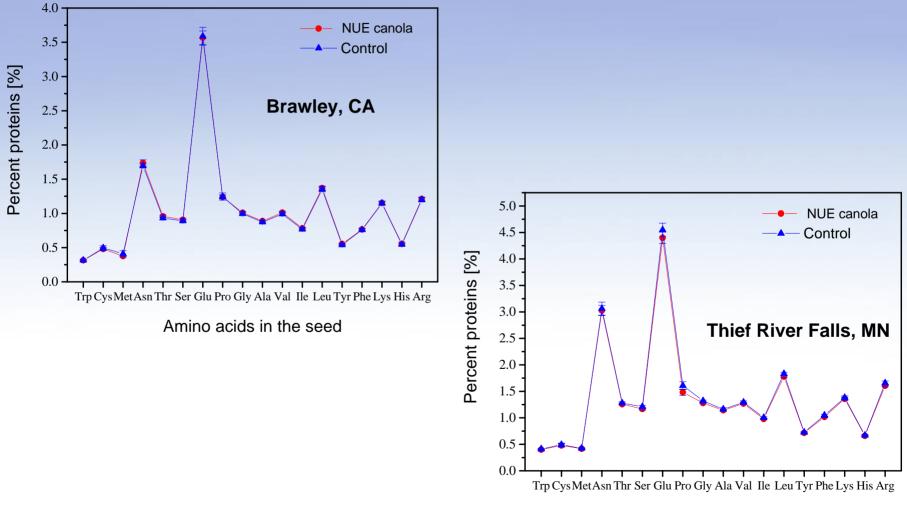


# **No Differences in Seed Protein %**





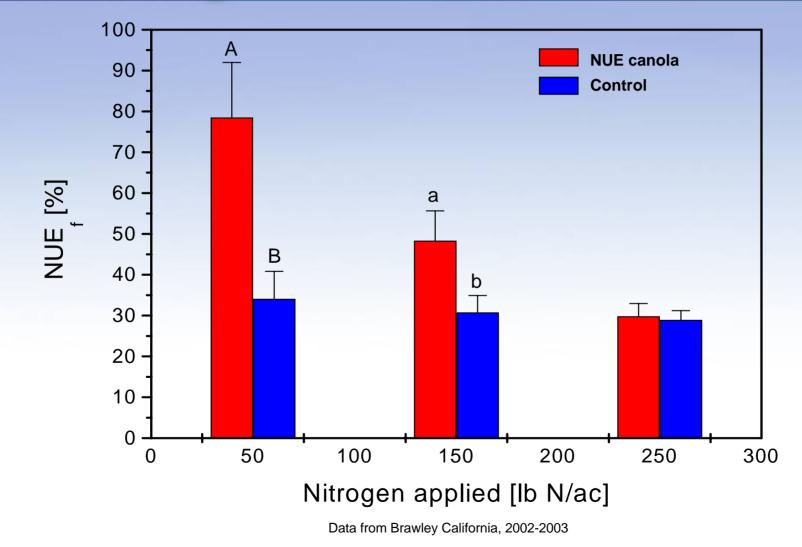
#### **No Differences in Seed Amino Acids**



Amino acids in the seed



## NUE Canola Plants Use N Fertilizer More Efficiently



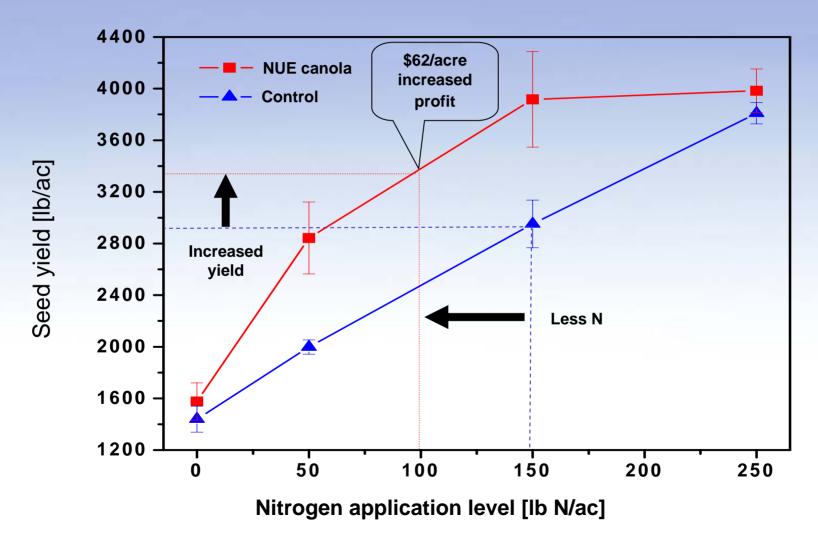


# **Economic Impact of NUE Gene**

- <u>N Reduction</u>: Field trials from four continuous crop seasons demonstrate that the NUE gene can reduce N fertilizer requirements by up to 66% in canola
- <u>Yield Increase</u>: At conventional N application rates, the NUE gene increases yield by 30-40%

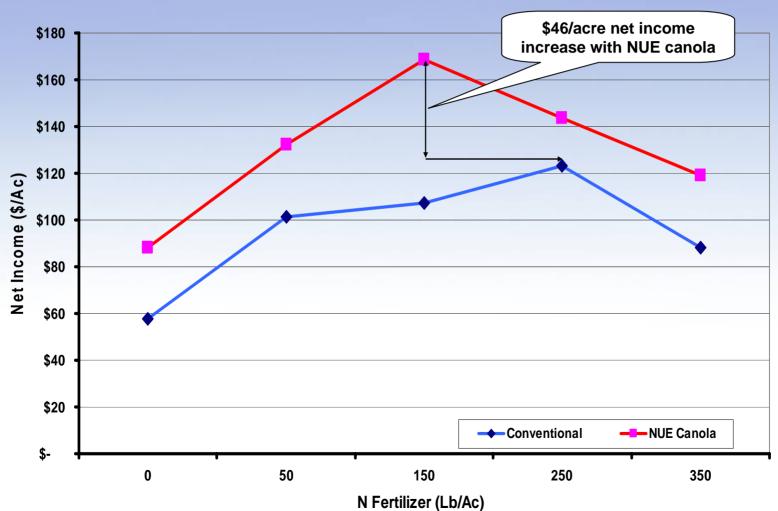


# **Compromise in Required N Reduction Situations**





## **NUE Canola Economics**





# NUE Technology Can Preserve Existing Markets

- In the past ten years Denmark has decreased nitrogen fertilizer use by about 48% with the protein content of winter wheat declining by 17% (from 12% to 10% in dry matter)\*
- Applying the NUE technology to wheat, a 48% reduction in N would result in a 40% yield (protein) increase

\* Fertilizer Nitrogen Use Efficiency – British Sulfur Conference, 2004



# NUE Technology May Open New Markets

- Reducing the amount of fertilizer required to grow a viable crop by 50% to 60% may make fertilizer affordable to currently inaccessible markets in Africa and South America
- Our salt tolerant technology will allow crops to be grown in previously nonproductive areas. This new production can create a market for fertilizer that does not currently exist