

Bayer increases bid for Monsanto

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Bayer AG has raised the stakes in its attempt to buy Monsanto Co. and create a chemical and agricultural giant.

Two months after its first offer for the seed and farm products manufacturer was rejected, the German company upped its bid to \$54.7 billion in cash, a \$3-a-share increase to \$125 a share. [July 14th's] proposal came just hours after news that St. Louis-based Monsanto might entertain a deal with another German chemicals giant, BASF SE.

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Yet the developments at Bayer, Monsanto and BASF all underscore the brisk consolidation sweeping the chemicals business, as well as Bayer Chief Executive Officer Werner Baumann's determination to form the world's largest supplier of crop seeds and chemicals. . . .

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One of the key concerns has been that a deal between Monsanto and Bayer, coming amid a wave of megadeals in the agricultural-chemicals and seeds industry, may invite close scrutiny from regulators. . . .

Buying Monsanto would give Bayer a controversial pioneer of genetically modified crops, which while valuable, have also been a lightning rod for environmental activists in Europe and elsewhere.

Read full, original post: [Bayer Raises Bid to Lure Monsanto as Investors Still Skeptical](#)