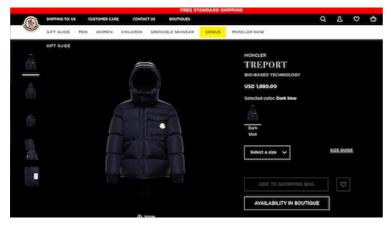


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APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

## Moncler on road to carbon neutrality with new bio-based down jacket

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Moncler's Treport bio-based down jacket's fabric, lining, buttons and zips is made of castor beans. Image credit: Moncler

By STAFF REPORTS

Italy's Moncler has launched a new bio-based and carbon-neutral down jacket made with plant-based fabrics and accessories in a seeming atonement for criticism three years ago that the outerwear label's down suppliers mistreated animals.



The new jacket called Treport debuts soon after the launch of the Moncler Grenoble Recycled line as the company seeks to address the effect of manufacturing down products and apparel on the environment.

Moncler is currently the subject of speculation that Gucci owner Kering may soon swoop in and buy the brand known for its luxurious puffer down jackets.

## Not full of beans

Available in dark blue, the bio Treport bio-based jacket costs \$1,880.

Collaborating with the R&D departments of its suppliers, Moncler has used castor beans for its bio-based down jacket's fabric, lining, buttons and zips.

Castor is a sustainable and renewable resource as it grows in arid regions without requiring much water and not displacing food supply.

The castor beans themselves are a raw material that allows for a 30 percent cut of carbon dioxide emissions compared to a fossil-origin source, Moncler said.

Emissions generated throughout the lifecycle of the down jacket are offset through REDD+ certified projects focused on preserving the Amazon rainforest.

The offset makes the bio-based down jacket carbon neutral, Moncler claims as it travels the journey of sustainability with its fashion peers.



Moncler goes green with its Treport bio-based jacket. Image credit: Moncler

## Birds of a feather

Moncler in 2016 performed an audit on its suppliers in the wake of criticism of its down production (see story).

Two years prior, an Italian documentary show claimed to expose mistreatment of geese at a plant in Hungary that provided down for the Moncler's jackets.

While Moncler at the time denied any wrongdoing, Reuters reported that Moncler launched an external review of its providers to ensure its supply chain was clean.

The show, which aired on the station RAI, showed footage of geese being injured by plucking methods.

However, the brand responded to the allegations, assuring that its down suppliers complied with principles outlined by the European Down and Feather Association (see story).

Moncler has now hired inspectors from Control Union to check on its producers' methods. Under Moncler's contract with its suppliers, they are not allowed to pluck geese while they are still alive or to force-feed the birds.

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