

National Winter Canola Variety Performance Trial, Walsh 2005
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Purpose: To identify the best adapted, highest yielding varieties of winter canola.

Results and Discussion

All of the plants of winter canola varieties survived the winter. The 100% winter survival is indicative of a mild winter. Severe winter can cause large stand losses. Typically, selecting winter canola varieties with high winter survival is a wise choice for our environment.

Canola would be a good candidate as a limited irrigated crop. We furrow irrigated the study with an irrigation in the fall and an irrigation in the spring. This year, we had poor soil moisture at planting. The lack of soil moisture at planting is a common scenario. Because we frequently have dry conditions at planting, and recommend maximum planting depth for canola is only 1.5 in., irrigating after planting is a good way to assure a stand.

Flowering dates are an important consideration because they reflect timeliness of harvest and flower sensitive freeze dates. The earlier flowering varieties are ready for harvest before the later flowering varieties. This could be important because the timing of wheat and canola harvests could clash. Remember, canola is one of the worst crops for shattering; do not delay harvest when it is ready for harvest. Varieties that flower early risk late-season frost damage. The earliness of some canola varieties may help avoid harvesting conflicts with wheat, but costly freeze damage on early flowering varieties may negate the harvest scheduling benefit.

Materials and Methods

We planted 28 winter canola varieties for the National Winter Canola Trial on September 9, 2004. The trial was planted at 5 Lb Seed/A with a 12 in. row-spaced drill to a depth of 1.5 inches in dry soil. We furrow irrigated the site on 5 ft. beds until the moisture soaked across the bed. We fertilized the site with 75 Lb N/A using a sweep plow prior to planting. No other fertilizers were applied. The soil test was: N, 14 ppm; P, 6.2 ppm; and K, 490 ppm. For weed control, we applied Treflan 24 Oz/A prior to planting. We furrow irrigated once in the fall and once in the spring with about 8 to 10 in./A of total water applied for the winter canola trial. We harvested the winter canola variety trial on June 28. We harvested using a small grain head attached to a self-propelled combine (direct harvest) equipped with a digital scale.

National Canola Variety Trial: Walsh, CO, 2005.

Variety	Stand	Winter Survival	Flowering Date	Plant Height	Seed Yield
	(0-10)	(0-10)		in.	lb/acre
NPZ 0326	8.3	10	20-Apr	67	2482
Kronos	5.7	10	19-Apr	61	2462
ARC2189-1	5.2	10	19-Apr	60	2409
Baldur	4.2	10	18-Apr	59	2402
Wichita	4.7	10	17-Apr	57	2366
ARC92007-2	7.0	10	19-Apr	63	2290
Abilene	4.3	10	19-Apr	63	2129
KS9135	5.7	10	20-Apr	64	2125
KS2064	4.2	10	18-Apr	58	2109
KS2169	5.0	10	18-Apr	56	2092
ARC2180-1	8.5	10	19-Apr	68	2033
Rasmus	3.5	10	18-Apr	58	2000
KS9124	4.5	10	20-Apr	58	1941
Titan	3.8	10	18-Apr	60	1881
Jetton	6.2	10	20-Apr	59	1875
Casino	2.5	10	20-Apr	61	1862
VSX-2	5.3	10	19-Apr	60	1808
ARC92004-1	5.5	10	20-Apr	61	1775
Baros	6.3	10	17-Apr	57	1703
KS2098	4.8	10	21-Apr	68	1689
KS7436	4.0	10	19-Apr	58	1676
Plainsman	3.7	10	21-Apr	68	1617
KS2185	3.2	10	17-Apr	54	1610
KS7436-055	2.3	10	19-Apr	52	1599
Virginia	2.3	10	20-Apr	52	1544
Sumner	4.2	10	16-Apr	53	1518
KS3018	4.3	10	18-Apr	63	1300
Ceres	0.5	10	20-Apr	52	436
Mean	4.6	10	18-Apr	60	1883
LSD 0.05	2.92				531.7

Planted: September 9, 2004; Harvested: June 28, 2005.
 Limited furrow irrigated with about 10 in. of total water applied.