

Canola Oil Production



Canola is a valuable oilseed crop for Canadian farmers. BrettYoung and DSV have invested considerable time and resources at developing new varieties in the last 12 years in Western Canada. From the onset oil production and oil content has been an important criteria for selection of new varieties. The oil content of the crop is a product of good genetics, good environmental conditions and good management by the producer.

The key factors for the grower producing a crop of canola with a high oil content include:

- Select a variety with high oil potential
- Seed early to avoid stress during flowering and seed development
- Fertilize adequately. We recommend a soil test (over fertilization with N may favor increased protein content over oil).
- Use adequate seeding rate
- Establish a uniform stand
- Remove weeds early
- Delay cutting as late as possible to ensure full development of seed oil content
- Recommendation is for minimum 30% color change on main stem
- Seed oil content is one of the last steps in reaching full seed maturity
- Straight cutting has been shown to have a very positive impact on seed oil.

The DSV breeding program uses NIR technology to select both parental lines and hybrids based on oil content. The criteria for selection are yield by oil content and also the agronomic traits required to meet the Canadian standards for registration. DSV has a long experience from Winter Canola programs in Europe on selecting varieties with improved oil content.

The RoundUp Ready OP varieties that the program has released have consistently provided oil contents above the industry standards. Our newest OP 997 RR was 1.3% above the standards and our newest Hybrid 4414RR showed oil content of 1.1% and is higher than the standards in the registration trials.

2005 PUBLIC COOP TRIALS

Variety	% Oil Content	Difference from Check
997RR	48.5	+1.3%
4414RR	48.3	+1.1%
46A65	47.2	0