

# Evaluating Flax linseed lines from Saskatchewan

## Project duration

2018-2020

## Objectives

The purpose of this trial was to assess newly registered flax cultivars (SVPG entries) and experimental lines (FP entries) from the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) and Crop Development Centre (CDC) Flax Breeding Program in comparison to relevant reference flax cultivars under Manitoban conditions.

## Collaborators

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Eric Fridfinnson (Manitoba Flax Growers Association)

Wayne Thompson (Sask Flax Dev. Comm.)

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## Results

The trial was established successfully at PESAI site, but deer caused extensive damage later during fall, resulted in yield variability. The yield results were not accepted.

## Project findings

The test will be repeated in 2019 season.

## Background

With the declining popularity of flax as a rotational crop choice in Manitoba, farmers need incentive to grow a crop like flax. The existing flax varieties are not keeping up with yield advances and farmers are switching to other more profitable crops.

University of Saskatchewan and Crop development Centre run flax breeding program and has developed experimental flax lines. These lines are still in evaluation phase. Some of these lines may have potential to have better yield output.

## Material and methods

*Experimental Design* – Randomised block design with three replications

*Treatments* – 26 flax lines

*Plot size* – 7.1 m<sup>2</sup>

*Data collected* – plant stand, plant height, lodging, days to maturity, yield

*Agronomic info*

*Stubble, soil type* – Fallow, heavy clay

*Fertilizer applied* – Soil nutrient levels (lbs/acre): N – 83, P – 34, K – 680

P – 20lbs/acre was applied at seeding.

*Pesticides applied* – Curtail @ 0.8L/acre on June 16

Basagran Forte @ 0.9L/acre on June 28

*Seeding/harvesting date* – May 26 / Oct 17