

ADOPT

Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies

Final Report – Jan 31, 2011

ADOPT Project #20090001

Investigating New Crop Varieties for NE Sask

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Objectives:

This project was intended to demonstrate to producers the latest releases of crops from the CDC. The CLC will focus on wheat, oats, red lentils, and green and yellow field peas.

Rationale:

Producers are always looking for new varieties and like to see field demos before committing large acres to a new variety. Each chosen crop will be compared to a check variety in the field, giving producers hands on comparisons of the new crop to existing varieties. The impact of this project should be quite significant, as our research indicates that producers feel this is the most important type of project to get them onto the farm to witness the results. Positive results would suggest producers would adopt these new varieties for future crops.

Materials and Methods:

This demo started in May 2010 at the CLC. The project included 2 new varieties compared to a check variety. It included trials of red lentils, green and yellow field peas, oats, and midge resistant wheat. Yield measurements were conducted at maturity of the crop.

Soil tests were conducted in the spring to determine fertility requirements.

All seeding rates and fertility rates were followed as per SMA guidelines



Results:

This demo was less affected from our wet season and produced a decent sample of comparison crops. Most interest was generated from the midge resistant wheat varieties with the oat varieties a close second. Of all of our demo plots last season, this demo attracted the most interest with several individual producers coming to the farm to witness this demo.

Wheat Variety	Yield (bu/acre)	% Increase over check
Wheat CDC Stanley (check)	73.31	
AC Fieldstar	76.58	4
AC Unity	90.2	19

Note: This was a small plot trial and samples were taken from a one metre plots in the row and were hand thrashed.

Note: An unexpected surgery did not permit the manager to complete all yield results. Their summer student was no longer employed as well as their field hand. Budgeting for the upcoming season has factored extra staff until all projects are complete.

Conclusion:

New variety trials are very popular with producers as their interest for the latest cropping variety options is steadily increasing. With crop rotations becoming more restricted as a result of increased canola acres, the producer is looking at other options that may be profitable enough to expand their rotations. The CLC will continue to demonstrate this initiative with inclusion of even newer varieties as available. Due to its popularity, following demos of this project will be increased in size

Tech Transfer:

Field Days:

Conservation Learning Centre – Annual Field Day – July 13th - 82 people
 Conservation Learning Centre – producer visits during growing season – 6 people

Presentation by **Curtis Braaten** (Conservation Learning Centre) in March at Crop Talk 2011 in Prince Albert – 60 in attendance

Report on the project to be posted on our website
www.conservationlearningcentre.com



Supporting Information**Acknowledgements:**

We would like to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Agriculture for the funding support and in-kind support with this project. To recognize the ADOPT program and the Ministry we had signage at the sites.

Abstract

New crop varieties have never been more popular to the producer. It appears most new canola varieties are only in the market place for 2 years prior to new releases that exhibit more favourable agronomics. This rate of change is not as apparent in cereal or pulses, the same agronomic improvements drive producers to investigate all new varieties. This project was simply a demo to give the producers a single location to compare new varieties to a check. Individual plots were 12'x60' producing a reasonable sample. Plots were seeded in May with measurements taken in late fall.

Finances

Budget reporting categories:

	Year 1 (\$)	Total (\$)
Salaries and Benefits		
• Students/contracts	2000	1500
• Postdoctoral / Research Associates		
• Technical / Professional Assistants	3600	4150
Consultant Fees & Contractual Services	600	600
Rental Costs		
• Rentals		500
Materials / Supplies	850	350
Project Travel		
• Field Work		
• Collaborations/consultations	150	150
Other		
• Field Day	300	300
• Administration	400	400
• Miscellaneous		
Total	7900	8450



Description of Finance Amounts

Salaries: all labour to conduct trial at research location calculated at Contractual Service:

all labour to conduct trial at demo location calculated at \$350/treatment x 15 treatments = \$5250.

10hrs x \$40 = \$400 SMA in-kind service

Equipment Rental: \$500 for hand harvester was budgeted but it became an in-kind contribution. This cost was applied to student salaries conducting maintenance.

Materials and Supplies:

Plot seed - \$500 in-kind contribution

Signs for demos \$250,

Flags/posts for field marking = \$100

Administration - \$400

Field Days – field day at \$300

Note: Salaries came under budget as a result of employee health conditions preventing all measurements.

