

Making sense of the Canola Performance Trials

The small plot canola performance trials are conducted across the prairie provinces and are sponsored by seed companies and the prairie canola commissions. The information can be found through the following link <http://www.canolaperformancetrials.ca/>. However, one must use this information cautiously.

On this web page, you will find an online search tool that will allow you to view data from one to several: years, locations, herbicide types, and growing zones. Where caution is needed is in using too little data or information. For example, looking at one site year's worth of data may skew your judgement of a particular variety. A single trial site merely states how the varieties did at that site in that year under those specific environmental conditions. The expectation that the results are repeatable are small. However, with sufficient trial sites and years, the trends and differences become more reliable. Even with sufficient site years, further caution is warranted.

With several years' worth of data over several sites we find Variety "A" is 105% of the check. This doesn't mean anything. Yes, it shows as slightly better, but is the difference significant? Does Variety "B" that is 95% of the check make it inferior? There are no statistical measurements related to the graph, making interpretation challenging. Truthfully, it would likely take greater than 10% yield difference to see a statistical difference, but we don't know how much or little difference it takes. While we can surmise, slight yield improvement trends exist, the differences are likely small enough to be largely ignored and we must rely on other parameters to gauge which variety should be grown on each farm.

When reviewing the clubroot varieties for the midseason zone of central Alberta, there is not enough difference between the varieties to claim that a person should buy one over another. It is my opinion that the purchase decision should not hinge on yield but on other agronomic and economic considerations. For instance,

what is the height and lodging ability of the various varieties? Maturity? What incentives are being provided by the company along with herbicide options for the upcoming season. How good is the support of the company if there is a seeding issue? What if there is a cutworm or flea beetle outbreak? How have certain varieties worked in your area for you and your neighbors?

This year Ray Agro & Petroleum will be promoting Brett Young's (BY) 6076CR and Dekalb's (DK) 75-42CR. Both are moderately priced canola with BL/CR resistance genetics and excellent standability in our harvest conditions. The Sclerotinia rating of the BY is Improved Tolerance (IT). This means it is not resistant like a Blackleg rating, but can tolerate low sclerotinia infection levels better than the check. Spraying would still be necessary under wet conditions at flowering. The DK is about 2 days more early maturing than the BY.

Come in and see Matt, Elmer or Adam to book your canola today and take advantage of early purchase incentives!

6076^{CR}


 TRIPLE LAYERED
DEFENDR
 SCLEROTINIA + BLACKLEG + CLUBROOT


NEW

Clubroot Tolerant with
 Intermediate 5x Resistance
 and Great Yield

Features

Yield:	99% ¹
Blackleg:	R
Clubroot:	R + Int. 5x
Sclerotinia:	IT
Harvestability:	Excellent
Maturity:	+2.6 days ²

DEKALB®

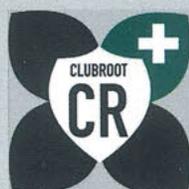
75-42 CR

Ahead on maturity. Ahead on yield.



Growing Confidence

The newest clubroot resistant hybrid from DEKALB®: 75-42 CR gives farmers an early maturity advantage combined with excellent yield potential.

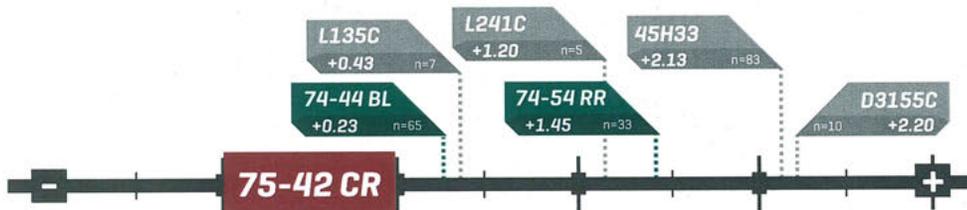


Clubroot Resistance

Strengths & Differentiators

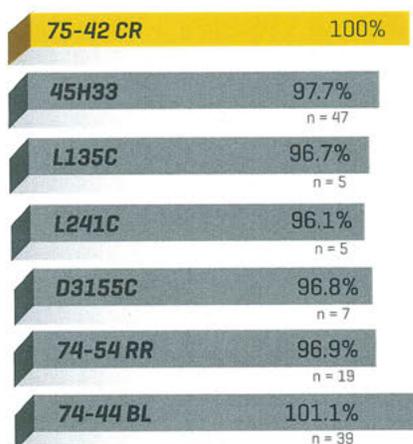
- ▶ Outstanding yield potential
- ▶ Early maturity advantage
- ▶ Black seed coat colour
- ▶ Clubroot resistant with an R-rating to Blackleg

75-42 CR Relative Maturity*



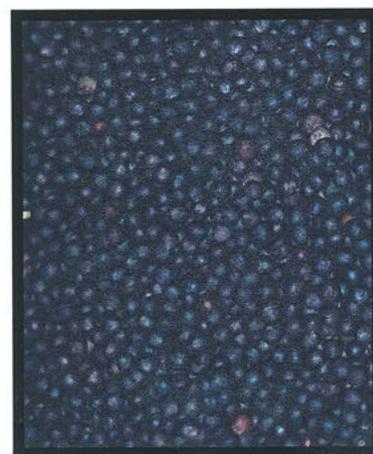
* Source: 2016 Monsanto Field Scale Trials as of October 12, 2016

Western Canada Yield Comparisons [bu/ac]*



* Source: 2016 Monsanto Field Scale Trials as of October 12, 2016

75-42 CR Seed Coat Colour



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