

1 **Camelina: Planting Date and Method effects on Stand Establishment and Seed Yield**

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19

1 **Abstract**

2 There has been keen interest in camelina (*Camelina sativa* L. Crantz) in recent years
3 due to the unique fatty acid composition of the seed oil for human and animal consumption
4 and, more importantly, the value of the seed oil to provide “green energy” to fuel
5 commercial and military aircraft. The objective of our research was to evaluate several
6 planting dates and two planting methods for camelina stand establishment and seed yield.
7 Field experiments were conducted for three years at four distinct rainfed agro-environments
8 in the Pacific Northwest, USA. Average crop-year precipitation at the sites during the three
9 years was: Lind WA, 228 mm; Pendleton OR, 421 mm; Moscow ID (one year only), 760 mm;
10 and Corvallis OR, 993 mm. Camelina was planted on an average of five dates at each site
11 (n=55) from early October to mid April at a rate of 6 kg/ha by either drilling seed at a shallow
12 depth or broadcasting seed on the soil surface. Although camelina has excellent cold
13 hardiness, the best plant stands were achieved with the late-winter and early-spring
14 plantings. Four divergent planting date yield responses across sites were: no yield
15 differences at Lind; increased yield with later planting dates at Pendleton; reduced yield with
16 later plantings at Moscow (one year data) and; a curvilinear response at Corvallis with the
17 lowest yields from plantings in early fall and those after March 1 and highest yields from
18 late-fall and mid-winter plantings. Both drilling and broadcast were effective for planting
19 camelina with no overall advantage of either method. Seed yields ranged from < 100 kg/ha
20 during an extreme drought year at Lind to 2900 kg/ha at Moscow. Averaged across the four
21 Pacific Northwest agro-environments in this study, we recommend: (i) late February-early
22 March as the best overall planting date because of optimum stands and seed yield and

1 having effective control of winter-annual broadleaf weeds with herbicide applied just prior
2 to planting, and (ii) the broadcast method of planting as it generally equaled or slightly
3 exceeded drilling for plant stand establishment and seed yield and can be accomplished
4 more quickly at less expense.

5

6 **1. Introduction**

7 Camelina is a short-season annual oil-seed crop in the Brassicaceae family that has
8 been produced for the oil in Europe for 3000 years (Zubr, 1997). European production of
9 camelina was largely replaced by canola (*Brassica napus* L.), but limited production of
10 camelina continues in Northern Europe. Camelina likely appeared first in North America as a
11 contaminant in flax (*Linum usitatissimum* L.) seed (Putnam et al., 1993). Camelina is newly
12 introduced to crop production in the USA and Canada with most production taking place in
13 the last five years in Montana and North Dakota, a region with summer-dominant rainfall.
14 Montana is the leading producer in recent years with a range of 3,600 to 8,100 planted
15 hectares (NASS, 2011).

16 Oil content in camelina seed can range from 38 to 43% and seed protein content
17 from 27 to 32% (Gugel and Falk, 2006). Similar to flax, high concentrations (36 to 39%) of
18 linolenic acid (C18:3), an omega-3 fatty acid, in the oil makes camelina an attractive food oil
19 crop (Gugel and Falk, 2006). While erucic acid (C22:1) concentrations in the oil are often less
20 than 3% (Putnam et al., 1993), the 2% or lower level food standard of this fatty acid has not
21 been widely attained, thus limiting its use as a food crop at this time (Gugel and Falk, 2006).
22 However, camelina meal has been approved and used on a limited basis in rations for beef

1 cattle and chickens. The oil can also be used as a feedstock for biodiesel (Fröhlich and Rice,
2 2005) and more recently has been under investigation as a feedstock for aviation fuel
3 (Shonnard et al., 2010).

4 Dependence on imported oil and environmental concerns about excessive use of
5 petroleum-derived fuel has led the United States and other countries to seek alternative and
6 renewable energy sources such as biofuel. Jet fuel derived from camelina oil has undergone
7 extensive testing by commercial airlines and the US military in recent years. Test results
8 show that camelina-based hydrotreated jet fuel meets all jet engine performance
9 expectations and significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions compared to petroleum-
10 based jet fuel (Shonnard et al., 2010).

11 Glucosinolate concentrations in the seed can vary among cultivars and range from 13
12 to 36 $\mu\text{mol/g}$ (Schuster and Friedt, 1998). Camelina seed and raw oil have high
13 concentrations of tocopherol, an anti-oxidant that inhibits rancidity and allows long storage
14 without degradation (Eidhin et al., 2003).

15 Camelina may have potential benefits in rotation with crops in the grass family
16 including small grain cereals and cool-season grass seeds. In the Willamette Valley of
17 Oregon, camelina is preferred over other potential bioenergy crops because it does not have
18 the potential to cross with *Brassica* spp. vegetable seed crops that are widely grown there
19 (Hansen, 1998). Additionally, camelina under certain conditions can be an economically
20 viable crop without the use of herbicide inputs (Gesch and Cermak, 2011). Camelina appears
21 to be a competitive crop to weed species and can compensate widely as plant populations
22 fluctuate. McVay and Khan (2011) showed no significant seed yield reduction with up to

1 50% stand reduction at either rosette or bolting stage. This plasticity also was evident for oil
2 content that was only diminished when stands were reduced more than 75% at bolting.

3 Previous studies on the date of planting in establishment of camelina have been
4 conducted in several environments and have provided mixed results. Urbaniak et al. (2008)
5 reported that seed yield of camelina in the maritime provinces of eastern Canada was not
6 influenced by the date of planting. In Nebraska, however, highest seed yields were obtained
7 when camelina was sown in late March until mid-April (Pavlista et al., 2011). Lower seed
8 yields were observed with early planting dates in February or early March, and with later
9 planting dates in late April through June. Fall-planted camelina seed yields were best in
10 Minnesota in early or mid-October rather than earlier in mid or late September (Gesch and
11 Cermak, 2011).

12 The influence of planting date on camelina seed yield in the varied precipitation and
13 soils of the Pacific Northwest states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, a region of winter-
14 dominant precipitation, has not been previously investigated. Moreover, no studies have
15 been published in the literature on methods of planting camelina. The objective of our study
16 was to investigate how planting date and method affected stand establishment and seed
17 yield of camelina across four diverse crop production environments.

18

19 **2. Materials and methods**

20 *2.1 Overview*

21 A 3-year field experiment was conducted during the 2008, 2009, and 2010 crop years
22 at four sites in the Pacific Northwest to determine the most suitable planting date(s) and

1 method of planting for rainfed camelina production. Field sites were located at Lind WA,
2 Pendleton OR, Moscow ID, and Corvallis OR, where long-term average annual precipitation is
3 242, 418, 695, and 1085 mm, respectively. The climate throughout the Pacific Northwest is
4 Mediterranean, where two-thirds of precipitation occurs from October through March and
5 one-fourth from April through June. July through September are the driest months. Soils at
6 all sites are more than 180 cm deep and well drained with soil textures ranging from coarse
7 silt loam (Lind) to silty clay loam (Corvallis). The sites represent each of the four major
8 rainfed agricultural production zones in the Pacific Northwest. All four sites were located on
9 university-owned research farms. Precipitation (Table 1) was measured in all locations at
10 official U.S. National Weather Service recording sites located ≤ 300 m from the experiments.

11 Experimental design was a split plot in randomized block arrangement with planting
12 date as the main plot and planting method as subplots. All treatments were replicated four
13 times. The size of individual plots varied depending on the equipment and land available at
14 each location. Individual plot sizes were 2.4 x 30 m at Lind, 2.4 x 10.6 m at Pendleton, 1.5 x
15 6.1 m at Moscow, and 3.0 x 15.2 m at Corvallis. Camelina was direct seeded into the
16 standing stubble of recently harvested (no summer fallow) winter wheat (*Triticum aestivum*
17 L.) at Lind and Pendleton. Tillage was used for seedbed preparation after wheat harvest at
18 Moscow and Corvallis. The camelina cultivar 'Calena' was used at all locations and sowing
19 rate was 6 kg/ha, with a typical seed weight of 1.2 g/1000 seed or about 5 million seeds/ha.
20 Nitrogen fertilizer was applied at all sites at moderate rates based on soil test. Averaged
21 over the three years, nitrogen application rates at Lind, Pendleton, Moscow, and Corvallis
22 were 28, 45, 78, and 68 kg/ha, respectively. In-crop post-emergence grass weed herbicides,

1 either Poast™ (sethoxydim) or Assure II™ (quizalofop-p-ethyl), were successfully used every
2 year to control downy brome (*Bromus tectorum* L.), volunteer wheat and other grass weeds
3 at Lind and Pendleton. No in-crop herbicides were used in Moscow or Corvallis.

4

5 *2.2 Planting dates*

6 Planting dates at all sites were intended for mid October, mid November, mid
7 December, mid January, mid February, early March, and “last feasible” for planting. The last
8 feasible date for planting ranged from March 15 at Lind to April 17 at Corvallis and was
9 based on long-term experience growing spring-planted crops at these locations. We realized
10 at the inception of the experiment that some of the planned late-fall and early-to-mid winter
11 planting dates would not be possible due to frozen soil or snow cover (Lind, Pendleton,
12 Moscow) or saturated soil conditions (Corvallis). As a result, planting was conducted on five
13 dates per crop year when averaged over locations and years. At the Moscow site, only 2009
14 crop-year data were collected as the experiment was abandoned due to a soil herbicide
15 carryover problem in 2008 and heavy broadleaf weed infestation in 2010. Therefore, seed
16 yield data for 10 site years is presented in this paper.

17

18 *2.3 Planting methods*

19 Seed was planted both with a drill at a shallow (< 1.0 cm) depth and by broadcasting
20 on the surface on all planting dates. Drills and method of broadcasting varied at each
21 location. At Lind, a Kyle hoe-opener air drill was used to plant camelina seed in 10-cm paired
22 rows with each opener on 30-cm row spacing. This same drill was used for the broadcast

1 treatment, but with the openers operated 12 cm above the soil surface to ensure uniform air
2 distribution of seed. A light, five-bar tine harrow was pulled behind the drill for the
3 broadcast treatment to gently incorporate seed into the soil. At Pendleton, drilling was done
4 with a Fabro drill with Atom-jet shank openers on 30-cm row spacing. A “Brillon” drop
5 seeder with dual culti-pack rollers was used for broadcast planting with the seed dropped
6 between the dual rollers. Drilling at Moscow was accomplished with a double-disc drill on
7 18 cm row spacing and the broadcast treatment was established by hand spreading seed
8 with no soil incorporation. At Corvallis, a double-disc drill with 15-cm row spacing was used
9 for both drilling and broadcasting. For broadcasting, the tubes from the seed box to the
10 openers were disconnected and a plywood board inserted at an angle beneath the seed cups
11 to ensure uniform dribbling of seed onto the soil surface and then incorporated with a one-
12 bar spike-tooth harrow.

13

14 *2.4 Field measurements*

15 Camelina stand establishment was determined from all plots every year in mid-April
16 (Lind) and immediately after seed harvest in July (Pendleton). With direct drilling, stand
17 establishment was measured by counting individual plants in 1-m-long row segments. A 1-
18 m-diameter hoop (Lind) or wire frame 1-m² in area (Pendleton) was used to measure stands
19 in the broadcast treatment. These measurements were obtained from three areas in each
20 plot and the numbers then averaged.

21 At Lind, weed species in the experiment were identified, counted, and collected in
22 early July every year just before seed harvest within a 3 m² sampling frame randomly placed

1 in each plot. Each weed species present was counted, hand clipped at ground level, and
2 placed in a separate paper bag. Above-ground dry biomass of each weed species was
3 determined after placing samples in a low-humidity greenhouse for 30 days, then weighing
4 them on a digital scale.

5 At all locations, grain yield was measured by harvesting the seed from plants in a
6 swath through each plot using a plot combine with the cutting platform operated near the
7 soil surface. All plot combines were equipped with specialized screens to properly separate
8 the small camelina seed from the crop residue.

9 Water use efficiency (WUE) was calculated as kilograms of seed yield per hectare per
10 millimeter of growing-season (Sept. 1 – Aug. 31) precipitation. The preceding wheat crop
11 was assumed to have extracted all available soil water by time of harvest. As camelina was
12 planted after wheat harvest (i.e., no fallow), growing-season precipitation was the only
13 source of water for camelina.

14

15 *2.5 Statistical analysis*

16 Analysis of variance was conducted for plant stand establishment, weed population,
17 weed dry biomass, seed yield, and WUE (Table 2) using SAS Proc Mixed (SAS, 2002) with
18 planting date as the main plot factor and method of planting the subplot factor. Seed yield
19 data were transformed where necessary to improve the validity of normality and
20 homogeneity of variance assumptions. Suspected outlying observations were included in the
21 analysis as conclusions did not change with their inclusion or exclusion. Simple regression
22 procedures using SAS Proc Reg (SAS 2002) were followed to fit coefficients of determination

1 for plant stand establishment and seed yield as affected by date of planting. All analysis of
2 variance and regression tests were done at the 5% level of significance.

3

4 **3. Results and discussion**

5 *3.1 Plant stand establishment*

6 Both direct drilling and broadcasting were successful for achieving plant stands and
7 the majority of time there were no significant differences in stand establishment between
8 the two methods on individual planting dates at either Lind or Pendleton. When there were
9 differences, they were evenly divided in favor of either method (Table 3). We suspect that,
10 even though seed was placed <1.0 cm into the soil, fragile soil crusts that occur after rain
11 showers may have sometimes hindered emergence in the direct drilled treatment. Similarly,
12 lack of rainfall following broadcasting of seed sometimes had a severe negative effect on
13 broadcast plant stands as can be seen in the Feb. 15 and March 15, 2008 and March 17,
14 2010 planting dates at Lind (Table 3) where rainfall did not occur for more than two weeks
15 after planting. Soil surface drying and lack of timely rain was less of a problem at Pendleton
16 (Table 3) due to more precipitation at that location compared to Lind (Table 1).

17 Significant differences in stand establishment as affected by planting date occurred
18 every year except for 2010 at Pendleton (Table 3). The fall and mid-winter plantings
19 generally had lower plant populations than other dates (Table 3). Over-winter plant
20 mortality was observed with dead camelina seedlings found intermixed with healthy
21 seedlings in both planting methods. However, camelina seedlings in the two-leaf stage of
22 development appeared to have excellent tolerance to extreme cold as they withstood -23°C

1 air temperature for eight hours with no snow cover and sustained winds of 32 km/hour at
2 Lind in December 2008 with approximately 70% survival rate. Such cold tolerance is similar
3 to that of winter wheat, the dominant crop in the region.

4 Overall, stand establishment at Lind was greater than at Pendleton even though
5 seeding rate was the same at both locations and Lind has the harsher growing environment
6 (Table 3, Fig. 1). We attribute these differences to the time at which stand data were
7 collected. At Lind, stand counts were measured in mid April compared to after seed harvest
8 in July at Pendleton, i.e., some plants died during the spring and early summer.

9 Analysis of variance showed that plant stands at both Lind and Pendleton were
10 significantly affected by year, date of planting, and method of planting and significant
11 interactions of these factors also occurred (Table 2). The only interaction that was not
12 significant was date x method at Pendleton. The interactions reflect the aforementioned
13 wide variability of data within and across years.

14 Coefficients of determination and fitted regression lines to describe the relationship
15 of planting date and plant stand establishment are shown in Fig. 1. The trend was for better
16 stands with the later planting dates at both locations. Although this relationship was not
17 statistically significant at Lind due to wide data scatter over the three years, a significant
18 relationship ($r^2=0.42$, $P<0.001$) occurred at Pendleton.

19

20 2.2 Weeds

21 Winter annual broadleaf weed species that were a factor in the Lind experiment
22 were tumble mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum* L.) and tansy mustard (*Descurainia pinnata*

1 Walt.). Application of herbicides to control these weeds prior to the late-winter planting
2 dates was not possible as the fall and early-winter planting treatments were intermixed
3 throughout the experiment area. Both of these mustard species are easily controlled when
4 glyphosate [N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine] is applied prior to planting camelina in mid-to-late
5 winter or early spring. Lack of opportunity to control fall-germinating broadleaf weeds is a
6 disadvantage of planting camelina in the fall or early winter.

7 Russian thistle (*Salsola iberica* L.) (Young, 1986) was, by far, the major spring annual
8 broadleaf weed of importance at Lind. Russian thistle becomes established in April or later
9 after the period of severe frosts. The late-winter camelina planting averaged 24 Russian
10 thistle plants/m² compared to six plants/m² for the fall plantings. Dry biomass of Russian
11 thistle measured at camelina seed harvest in July averaged 15 and 267 kg/ha for the fall and
12 late-winter camelina planting dates, respectively; in this case showing an advantage of fall
13 planting for weed control.

14 The application of grass weed herbicide to established camelina plants was effective
15 in controlling downy brome at Lind and Pendleton. Therefore, the incorporation of a
16 broadleaf crop such as camelina in cereal-based cropping systems offers an excellent
17 opportunity to control this major winter annual grass weed (Young et al., 1996). In late
18 winter and spring plantings, downy brome was controlled with the pre-plant application of
19 glyphosate.

20

21 *2.3 Seed yield*

22 *2.3.1 Planting method*

1 From a total of 55 planting dates at four locations over three years, planting method
2 significantly affected camelina seed yield on 13 dates (24% of the plantings, Table 4). Of
3 these 13, broadcasting produced higher seed yield than drilling on 10 dates. The advantage
4 of broadcast planting was most apparent at Pendleton where this method significantly
5 increased seed yield over drilling on 44% of the planting dates. There were no yield
6 differences between the two methods at Pendleton on the other planting dates (Table 4).
7 Greater seed yield with broadcasting over drilling at Pendleton occurred mostly in the fall
8 and mid-winter planting dates and never in spring planting dates (Table 4). We do not have
9 an explanation for this other than to speculate that winter-annual weed pressure (not
10 measured at Pendleton) may have been greater in the direct-drill treatment due to 30-cm-
11 wide row spacing whereas broadcast seed was more uniformly distributed to provide better
12 competition against weeds. On the four planting dates (three at Lind and one at Moscow)
13 where seed yield was significantly less with broadcasting versus drilling, we suspect that a
14 dry surface soil combined with lack of precipitation for several weeks after planting was the
15 likely reason. Seed yield differences between planting methods at Lind were always
16 associated with differences in plant stand, but this was not always the case at Pendleton
17 (Table 3 and Table 4). Planting method had no effect on seed yield at Corvallis except for
18 one planting date.

19 Averaged over the three years, planting method had a highly significant ($P < 0.001$)
20 effect on seed yield at Lind and Pendleton combined with significant year x method and date
21 x method interactions (Table 2). The date x method interaction at Lind is explained by
22 neither planting method having an overall advantage over the other and, at Pendleton,

1 because the broadcast method had higher seed yield from the fall and winter planting dates
2 but not from the spring plantings (Table 4). Method of planting had no significant main
3 effect on seed yield or date x method interaction at Moscow or Corvallis (Table 2).

4

5 2.3.2 *Planting date*

6 Camelina seed yield trends as affected by planting date differed by location. If one
7 excludes the 2008 data from Lind (near complete crop failure data due to extreme drought),
8 there was a clear tendency for higher seed yields with late-winter and early-spring plantings
9 compared to fall and mid-winter planting dates at both Lind and Pendleton (Table 4).
10 However, the opposite was true at Moscow, although we have only one year of data from
11 that site. At Corvallis, the late-fall and mid-winter planting dates produced the greatest seed
12 yield during all years (Table 4). Corvallis has the greatest annual precipitation (Table 1), but
13 a significant portion of this precipitation can be lost through drainage. The silty clay loam
14 soil at Corvallis is well drained and dries quickly once winter rains diminish. Small, shallowly-
15 rooted plants from spring plantings can easily become drought stressed.

16 Downy mildew caused by *Hyaloperonospora camelinae* (Putnam et al., 2009) was
17 evident in 2009 and 2010 at Corvallis and may have contributed to seed yield decline in
18 those years. Extremely heavy rainfall and associated humidity at Corvallis in May 2009
19 (Table 1) likely contributed to the incidence of downy mildew. In plants where downy
20 mildew was most severe, abortion of lower pods (manifested as red pods) in the
21 inflorescence was observed. The white hyphae and sporangiophores were concentrated
22 early in the youngest portions of the inflorescence and at maturity red aborted pods were

1 evident, contributing to lower seed yields. Unusually wet conditions between March and
2 the end of June (164% of normal) in 2010 may have contributed to low seed yields in 2010
3 since downy mildew was again evident.

4 Regression lines were fitted to show the relationship of planting date on camelina
5 seed yield averaged over three years and both planting methods. There was no effect of
6 planting date on yield at Lind (Fig. 2a). Urbaniak et al. (2008) also found that there was no
7 effect of planting date on seed yield of camelina in eastern Canada. At Pendleton (Fig. 2b),
8 seed yield improved significantly and proportionately moving from fall to spring planting
9 dates. Conversely, at Moscow, the highest seed yields were achieved with fall planting and
10 yields decreased significantly when planting was delayed until the spring (Fig. 3c). Yet
11 another unique yield response, a curvilinear pattern, was measured at Corvallis (Fig. 3d)
12 where the lowest yields occurred with early fall and spring planting dates and there was a
13 broad planting window from early November and through the winter where yields were
14 relatively uniform. The seed yield response pattern at Corvallis was similar to the one
15 reported by Pavlista et al. (2011) in Nebraska where early and late planting dates produced
16 the poorest seed yields. Best seed yields at Corvallis were found when planted in late fall
17 and mid-winter whereas in Nebraska, best seed yields were attained in late winter and early
18 spring.

19 Analysis of variance statistics for camelina seed yield as affected by planting date
20 averaged over three years showed no differences at Lind, but highly significant differences at
21 Pendleton, Moscow, and Corvallis (Table 2). There were significant year x date and date x
22 method interactions at Lind that are explained by the extreme drought, less than average

1 precipitation, and above-average precipitation during the 2008, 2009, and 2010 crop years,
2 respectively (Table 1) and the fact that neither planting method showed a consistent
3 advantage over the other. Pendleton had highly significant year x date and date x method
4 interactions (Table 2) because most, but not all, fall and early-winter planting dates reduced
5 seed yield and since the broadcast method was superior to direct drilling in many of the fall
6 and winter plantings but never from the spring plantings (Table 4). There were no two-way
7 interactions at Moscow or Corvallis (Table 2).

8

9 *2.4 Water use efficiency*

10 Water use efficiency was extremely low at Lind in 2008 because of near complete
11 crop failure due to extreme drought. Excluding the 2008 Lind data, WUE at Lind, Pendleton,
12 and Moscow was relatively uniform, averaging 2.8 kg seed/ha/mm (Fig. 3). The uniformity in
13 WUE across these three diverse locations, where average annual precipitation ranges from
14 242 to 695 mm, indicates that camelina seed yield potential can likely be accurately
15 predicted based on crop-year precipitation. This will be an important factor for farmers in
16 making their decision whether or not to grow camelina.

17 Water use efficiency at Corvallis averaged only 1.5 kg seed/ha/mm and was
18 consistently low for all three years of the experiment (Fig 3). Saturated soils, downy mildew,
19 and water drainage through saturated soils, as previously mentioned, were likely factors
20 contributing to the low WUE. Corvallis receives 1085 mm average annual precipitation and
21 is a suitable environment for profitable production of many crops species. Based on yield

1 averages, our data suggest that camelina may likely fit best in the drier Inland Pacific
2 Northwest (i.e., Lind, Pendleton, Moscow) rather than in the wetter Corvallis location.

3

4 **4. Summary and Recommendations**

5 Our data from 55 planting dates using two planting methods over 10 site years in the
6 Pacific Northwest indicate:

- 7 1. Camelina can be successfully sown over a wide range of planting dates from early fall
8 to early spring. Fall-planted camelina has excellent cold tolerance, similar to that of
9 winter wheat. However, due primarily to lack of in-crop herbicides to control winter-
10 annual broadleaf weeds, we recommend that farmers apply glyphosate or other non-
11 soil residual burn-down herbicide in mid-to-late February to control weeds, followed
12 by late February-early March camelina planting.
- 13 2. Both drilling and broadcasting were effective methods for planting camelina. There
14 was no overall advantage of one method over the other at Lind. There were three
15 occasions at Lind, however, where broadcast stands and subsequent seed yield were
16 significantly reduced compared to drilling when no precipitation occurred for several
17 weeks after planting. At Pendleton, seed yield from broadcast planting was superior
18 to drilling for fall and early-to-mid winter planting dates, presumably due to better
19 winter annual broadleaf weed control as the drill used at Pendleton had relatively
20 wide (30 cm) row spacing. There were no consistent differences in seed yield as
21 affected by planting method at Moscow and Corvallis. From an economic standpoint,
22 we recommend farmers use broadcast planting combined with some form of light

1 incorporation of seed into the soil. Broadcast air-driven applicators ≥ 20 m wide are
2 common rental inventory of local chemical dealers. These applicators easily allow
3 planting of 150 ha/day. Conversely, grain drills are not as wide, more expensive to
4 rent or own, generally need to be operated at a slower speed, and thus more time is
5 required to plant equivalent land area.

6 Finally, although not part of this experiment, farmers need to be mindful that
7 camelina produces relatively little residue. With heavy tillage, soil erosion may be a
8 problem during or after camelina production. To reduce the potential for soil erosion,
9 we recommend that (i) camelina be planted directly into the standing and undisturbed
10 stubble of the previous crop (i.e., no tillage), and (ii) minimal or no tillage be conducted
11 after camelina seed harvest and before planting the subsequent crop. This is especially
12 important if a year-long fallow period is scheduled in the rotation after camelina seed
13 harvest.

14

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Table 1. Crop-year (Sept. 1 – Aug. 31) precipitation (mm) at four sites during the 3-year study.

Month	Lind			Pendleton			Moscow	Corvallis		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2009	2008	2009	2010
Sept.	4	0	4	7	3	0	19	44	22	30
Oct.	17	6	39	33	5	45	20	110	38	75
Nov.	28	20	21	53	39	46	123	110	120	207
Dec.	30	38	32	60	71	44	97	240	153	138
Jan.	41	22	36	45	52	43	97	221	94	172
Feb.	6	23	21	16	36	18	51	68	84	111
Mar.	21	45	19	56	65	35	112	114	97	154
Apr.	5	23	30	13	45	70	55	61	33	111
May	3	21	47	33	36	100	76	10	93	84
June	12	6	35	34	29	73	37	26	16	70
July	0	3	8	3	0	0	32	1	20	3
Aug.	7	8	2	15	35	5	41	31	6	13
Total	174	215	294	368	416	479	760	1036	776	1168

Table 2. Analysis of variance for plant population and grain yield of camelina at four sites as affected by year (Y), date of planting[†] (D), and method of planting (M).

<u>Source</u>	<u>df</u>	<u>Plant pop.‡</u>	<u>Grain yield</u>
Lind			
Y	2	***	***
D	3	***	ns
M	1	***	***
Y x D	6	***	**
Y x M	2	***	*
D x M	3	***	***
Y x D x M	6	***	**
Pendleton			
Y	2	**	ns
D	4	***	***
M	1	*	***
Y x D	8	***	***
Y x M	2	***	***
D x M	4	ns	**
Y x D x M	8	*	ns
Moscow§			
D	4		**
M	1		ns
D x M	4		ns
Corvallis			
Y	1		ns
D	4		***
M	1		ns
Y x D	4		ns
Y x M	1		ns
D x M	4		ns
Y x D x M	4		**

*, **, *** Significant at the 0.05, 0.01, and 0.001 levels, respectively; ns = not significant.

[†] Analysis across dates only compares common planting dates among years.

‡ Plant population was measured only at Lind and Pendleton.

§ Data were obtained during only one year at Moscow.

Table 3. Camelina plant populations at Lind, WA and Pendleton, OR as affected by direct drilling (DD) or broadcast (BC) method of planting from numerous planting dates during three years.

Plant population (plants/m ²)											
2007-08				2008-09				2009-10			
Lind											
Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)†	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)
Oct 21	59	74	ns	Oct 17	34	66	ns	Oct 21	74	113	ns
Nov 20	12	60	36	Nov 17	66	171	40	Nov 18	73	84	ns
Feb 15	74	13	44	Feb 17	108	281	108	Jan 15	145	121	ns
Mar 15	43	6	25	Mar 1	87	220	68	Feb 11	202	85	ns
LSD (0.05)‡	23	14		Mar 15	159	183	ns	Mar 2	178	38	108
				LSD(0.05)	64	86		Mar 17	137	3	70
								LSD (0.05)	70	95	
Pendleton											
Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)
Oct 23	22	15	ns	Nov 17	14	30	ns	Nov 2	9	14	ns
Dec 21	4	14	ns	Jan 12	40	69	9	Jan 22	28	42	ns
Feb 12	36	41	ns	Feb 19	31	51	ns	Feb 10	31	38	ns
Mar 5	94	41	17	Mar 17	50	82	6	Mar 2	46	48	ns
Mar 22	38	23	7	Mar 27	68	73	ns	Mar 11	20	39	ns
Apr 1	54	37	ns	Apr 6	99	71	ns	Mar 24	44	54	ns
LSD (0.05)	29	26		LSD (0.05)	31	34		LSD (0.05)	ns	ns	

† Within row values show LSD (0.05) for DD versus BC method of planting for each planting date.

‡ Within column values show LSD (0.05) for both planting methods over all planting dates.

Table 4. Camelina seed yields using direct drill (DD) and broadcast (BC) methods on numerous planting dates at four locations over three years.

Yield (kg/ha)											
2007-08				2008-09				2009-10			
Lind											
Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)†	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)
Oct 21	114	150	ns	Oct 17	483	375	ns	Oct 21	935	832	ns
Nov 20	28	100	69	Nov 17	516	631	41	Nov 18	791	801	ns
Feb 15	132	41	43	Feb 17	558	564	ns	Jan 15	907	688	ns
Mar 15	58	4	ns	Mar 1	569	597	ns	Feb 11	941	794	ns
LSD (0.05)‡	ns	53		Mar 15	584	582	ns	Mar 2	1336	955	ns
				LSD (0.05)	102	ns		Mar 17	996	519	403
								LSD (0.05)	428	ns	
Pendleton											
Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)
Oct 23	838	1093	211	Nov 17	446	909	282	Nov 2	143	436	134
Dec 21	351	660	ns	Jan 12	928	1600	193	Jan 22	557	1148	519
Feb 12	1348	1324	ns	Feb 19	711	1048	ns	Feb 10	896	1559	305
Mar 5	1715	1598	ns	Mar 17	1597	1772	114	Mar 2	1576	1606	ns
Mar 22	1488	1298	ns	Mar 27	1404	1700	ns	Mar 11	1058	1304	ns
Apr 1	1454	1428	ns	Apr 6	1374	1449	ns	Mar 24	1551	1584	ns
LSD (0.05)	609	521		LSD (0.05)	579	469		LSD (0.05)	743	931	
Moscow§											
Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)
				Oct 31	2899	2550	ns				
				Dec 6	2536	2443	ns				
				Feb 17	2812	2325	332				
				Mar 27	1695	1640	ns				
				Apr 15	1712	1700	ns				
				LSD (0.05)	1080	847					
Corvallis											
Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)	Date	DD	BC	LSD (0.05)
Nov 9	1673	2281	ns	Sep 30	454	435	ns	Nov 3	1565	1813	ns
Dec 13	995	557	ns	Oct 29	1641	1312	ns	Nov 23	1509	1431	ns
Jan 23	2092	1961	ns	Dec 1	1669	1847	ns	Feb 19	1889	1942	ns
Feb 18	1515	1756	ns	Jan 24	1588	1874	165	Mar 19	1426	1388	ns
Apr 13	685	735	ns	Feb 5	1877	1788	ns	LSD (0.05)	456	234	
Apr 17	297	262	ns	Feb 20	1422	1495	ns				
LSD (0.05)	488	1161		Apr 6	605	554	ns				
				LSD (0.05)	712	697					

† Within row values show LSD (0.05) for DD versus BC method of planting for each planting date.

‡ Within column values show LSD (0.05) for both planting methods over all planting dates.

§ Data were obtained during only one year at Moscow.

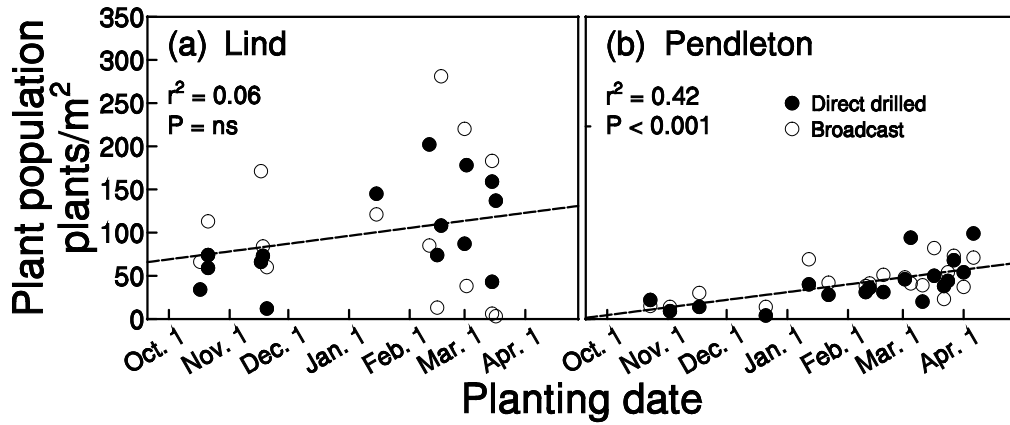


Fig. 1. Coefficients of determination for regression models to describe the relationship of camelina plant populations using both direct drilled and broadcast methods on numerous planting dates over three years at Lind, WA and Pendleton, OR.

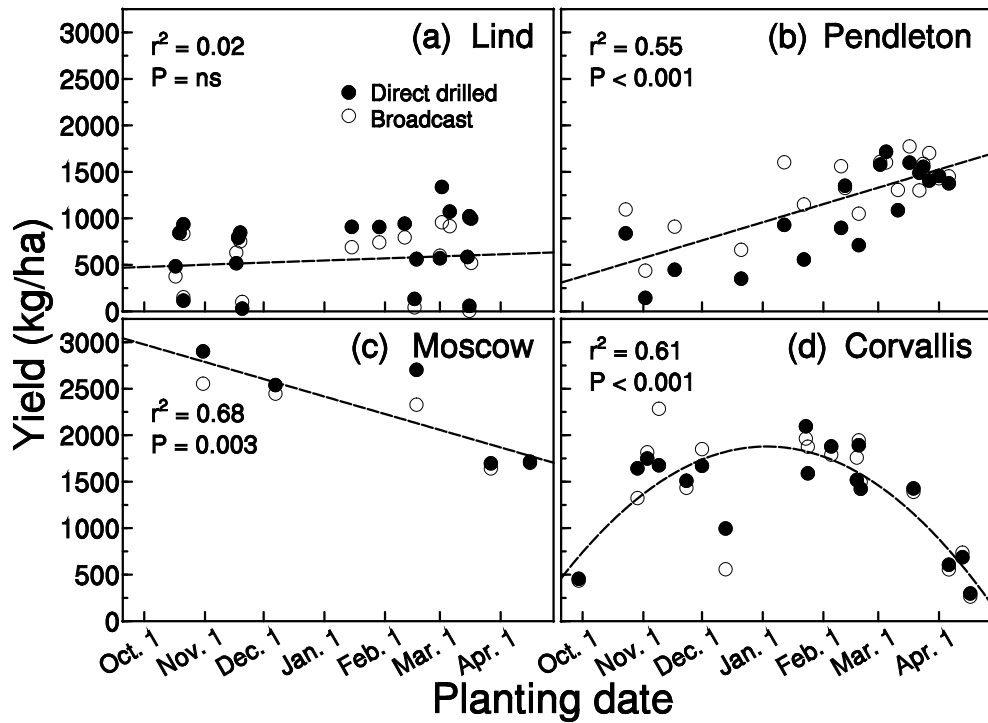


Fig. 2. Coefficients of determination for regression models to describe the relationship of camelina seed yield and planting date using both direct drilled and broadcast methods of planting at four locations over three years in the Pacific Northwest.

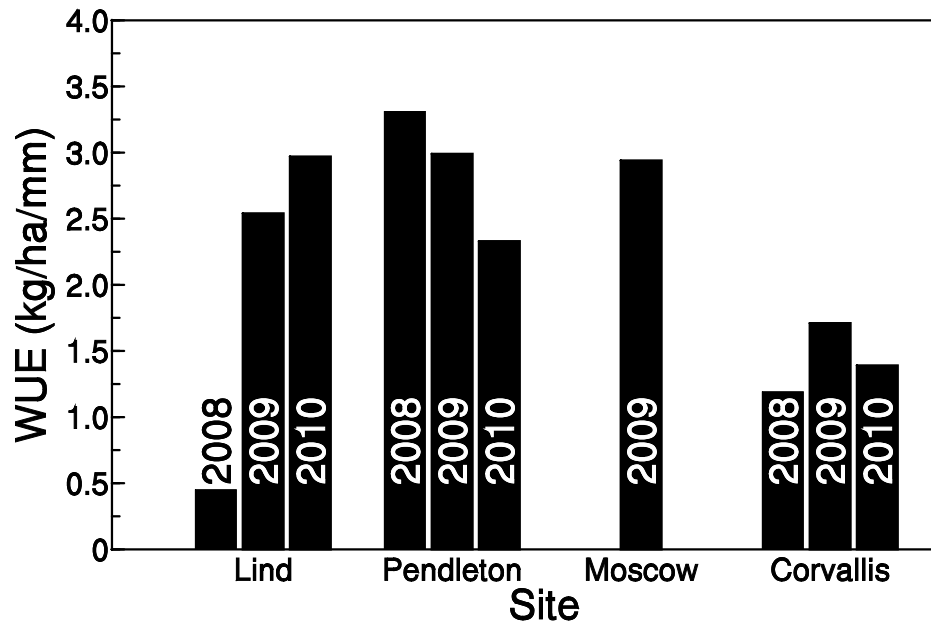


Fig. 3. Water use efficiency (WUE) of camelina grown at four sites over three years. Data for each site are the average from all planting dates and both planting methods during the year.