

Bioenergy Cropping Systems Research & Outreach

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We must solve the agronomic issues to reach our end goal!

We KNOW there are many agronomic advantages of canola for improving cereal crop yields.....

Breaks **pest cycle** and provides an opportunity to control problem weeds.



Cereal yields could increase **up to 20%** when following canola.



Extensive tap root system improves **water infiltration** rate of soil.



We NEED TO KNOW how to produce canola in the winter rainfall region of E. Washington.....

Questions being explored.....

- ✓What is the optimal planting DATE, RATE, and METHOD?
- ✓How do we achieve uniform emergence?
- ✓What is the best variety to use in a particular region?
- ✓Is Canola an economically viable option?
- ✓What is the alternative market potential of canola?



1,340 lbs/A yield
 August 25, 2008 planting @4 lbs/A



1,240 lbs/A yield
 August 25, 2008 planting @8lbs/A

Project Successes

- Plant when mother nature tells you to.
- USDA Risk Management Agency used research data to procure winter canola crop insurance.
- When moisture <2.5 inches, don't need shovels.
- Increased winter canola acreage greatly.
- Canola recognition day



North Central WA Canola Partners

- Colville Confederated Tribes
- USDA-ARS
- USDA-NRCS
- USDA Risk Management Agency
- Local schools, growers, and businesses
- WSU Extension
- WA State Biofuel Project
- WA State Dept. of Ag

Working Infrastructure

