

Wyoming Oilseed Working Group

Location: North Central, Northeastern and Southeastern Wyoming

Funding Sources: UW Cooperative Extension,
Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

Project Goals:

- On Farm & Commercial Biodiesel Production
- Low Cost Local Livestock Feed
- Enterprise Diversity

Research and Extension Elements:

- Oilseed Meal Feeding Research in Ruminants
- Oilseed Crop Trials
- Demonstration of Oilseed Press Equipment
- Marketing Assistance to Producers



Irrigated Canola - 2009

Background: Initiatives to increase Wyoming's stake in energy crops have been ongoing since 2005. These efforts have reflected national trends to produce more domestic energy; produce environmental friendly fuels and spur rural economic development. Various private and public interests have promoted the potential for oilseed production, particularly *Camelina sativa*, in the Western High Plains. University of Wyoming (UW) experiment stations have conducted research trials for a number of years with oilseeds.

In 2007, UW Cooperative Extension and the NRCS worked with Eastern Wyoming producers to grow 40-60 acre plots of camelina. Subsequently, the UW of Wyoming conducted feed trials with camelina meal with excellent results. The value-added producer program of the Wyoming Business Council is developing a farmer training program to help producers interested in growing oilseeds. Attention to sunflower, safflower, camelina and canola grew during the energy inflation of 2008 and has continued as Wyoming farmers look for alternative crops and new energy sources. Interest in oil seed processing equipment, biodiesel processors and marketing has also increased.



Kern Kraft KK 40 Oilseed Press

Project Partners:

- University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension
- Wyoming Business Council
- USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
- University of Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Stations
- Montana State University Agricultural Research Centers
- Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)
- Northeastern Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development Area
- Wyoming producers in Sheridan, Laramie, Campbell, Hot Springs, Big Horn and Fremont Counties

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Marketing

Both oil production and high protein livestock meal may be the primary focus of oilseed production. Delivery points for cash sales currently exist in Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska and Colorado. Protein meal is generally 70-80% of the total volume of the crop and has a wide range of livestock uses on-farm, locally or as a product for export.

Oils can be sold for human consumption or converted to biodiesel depending on the quality of the crush and market conditions. Existing grain elevators and farmer cooperatives are playing an important role by providing storage for crops such as camelina and sunflowers in Wyoming. On-farm storage facilities are an important element in a successful strategy and allow the producer to pursue marketing alternatives



Camelina sativa Field Day - 2007



Wyoming Sunflowers

% Oil Content & Wyoming Adaption

Most cold presses will expel up to one-third of the crop as oil. The remaining high protein meal has a significant value as livestock feed.

Oil content can vary greatly according to growing conditions and the crop grown:

Sunflower	44-50%	Adapted to SE Wyoming
Camelina	30-38%	Adapted to E. Wyoming
Canola	38-44%	Potential Adaption
Safflower	36-44%	Potential Adaption
Flax	34-40%	Unknown potential
Mustard	32-35%	Unknown potential
Soybeans	18-20%	<i>Not adapted to Wyoming</i>

Oilseed Working Group Initiatives:

- Workshops featuring oilseed agronomics, livestock trial data and biodiesel production information
- Monitoring of producer trials of sunflower, canola and camelina in Wyoming
- Camelina Field Trials at Lingle, Powell and Sheridan Experiment Stations
- Publications and media highlighting research and on-farm experiences
- Mobile Oilseed Crushing unit for demonstration and cooperative use
- Cooperative Research with Montana State University
- Oilseed trade mission to Washington and Idaho
- Training for farmers on oilseed crushing



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