

Project Title: National winter canola variety evaluation 2009 - 2010

Project Leader: Heather Mason

Project personnel: Louise Strang, James Thompson

Project Objective: To evaluate the winter survival, seed yield and agronomic traits of winter canola varieties in northwestern Montana.

Results:

Eighteen winter canola varieties were planted on August 28, 2009. Stands established nicely and made it to the 4-6 leaf stage prior to the date of first frost, October 6, 2009. In spring, plots seemed to be emerging early on, but survival was variable across plots. A hard spring frost appeared to kill many of the young plants, thus the trial was deemed to be a crop failure and was terminated in mid-May 2010.

Future Plans:

The National Winter Canola Variety Evaluations will be continued, but fewer entries will be included until we start to see some success with winter survival in this crop.