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### **Research snapshots shed light on the Diverse Field Crops Cluster research activities**

*Saskatoon, SK:* A unique alliance has given seven high-potential prairie crops some much-deserved research attention. The Diverse Field Crops Cluster (DFCC) supports the research and development of camelina, canary seed, flax, hemp, mustard, quinoa, and sunflower.

DFCC activities focus on agronomy, variety development, and value-add initiatives. A new series of ‘research snapshots’ describe the 16 different activities at the half-way mark in the five-year program. DFCC is managed by Ag-West Bio with funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada’s Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program and industry partners.

Karen Churchill, president and CEO of Ag-West Bio says Ag-West Bio is pleased to provide support to DFCC. “This is an important program that aligns industry and researchers and opens new opportunities for producers.”

DFCC Project Manager Carol Ann Patterson says the snapshots illustrate the hard work of researchers, cluster members and industry partners. “The articles shed light on the research behind innovative and unique Canadian crops.”

The crops are represented by Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance, Canary Seed Development Commission of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission, Smart Earth Camelina Corporation, Manitoba Crop Alliance, Mustard 21 Canada Inc, and Northern Quinoa Production Corporation.

For more information about the Diverse Field Crops Cluster and to read the research snapshots visit the [DFCC.ca](https://dfcc.ca).

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**About Ag-West Bio:** Ag-West Bio is Saskatchewan's bioscience industry association. The company works as a connector and a catalyst for industry growth in the bioeconomy through investments, aiding strategic alliances, and providing business planning support, regulatory advice, and communications. Funding for Ag-West Bio is provided by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) program.

**Articles** (*titles are linked*)

**Camelina**

Camelina for companion animals: canine and equine oil supplements  
Cultivating camelina's unique traits provides more opportunities to prairie producers

**Canary Seed**

Watch for canary seed (alpiste) as a new food ingredient

**Flax**

Developing new flax varieties to meet the needs of industry  
Researchers work to improve disease resistance in flax  
Researchers take proactive approach to flax quality

**Hemp**

GxE: Learning how agronomic conditions affect the hemp industry in Canada  
Heavy metals: understanding hemp's affinity for cadmium  
A hemp meal for dairy cows

**Mustard**

Better yields with condiment mustard hybrids  
A crop with big potential: *Brassica carinata*  
Herbicide-tolerant mustard gives farmers more opportunity and flexibility in the field  
Adding mustard to the mix: Researchers look at adding special crops to conventional crop rotation systems.  
Beyond the hotdog: innovative uses of yellow mustard

**Quinoa**

Quinoa: It's a Canadian thing!

**Sunflower**

A budding opportunity: sunflower variety development benefits Canadian value-chains