ALTERNATIVE OIL-SEED CROP - CAMELINA SATIVA

Fact Sheet

Project Information

Grant agreement ID: AIR32178
Funded under FP3-AIR

Start date: 1 January 1995
End date: 31 December 1998
Overall budget: € 1 981 718
EU contribution: € 1 102 000

Coordinated by ROYAL VETERINARY AND AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY Denmark

Objective

Diversification in agriculture and agro-industry and the general demand to reduce environmental impact of agriculture induces an acute need of progressive strategy. To support the desirable progress, a new alternative oil-seed crop - Camelina Sativa was chosen to be introduced in practice.

Camelina Sativa (false flax) is characterized by a wide spectrum of adaptability to different climatic conditions. It can be grown in crop rotation with the ordinary annual and biannual crops. Camelina Sativa is particularly suitable for a cropping system without chemical protection of plants. The crop has a low environmental impact.

Main product from Camelina Sativa are the seeds with a content of about 43 % oil in DM. The oil is high in polyunsaturated fatty acids (about 50 %) and Omega 3 fatty acid (Alpha linolenic acid). Owing to its high nutritional value, the oil is suitable for direct consumption and for production of health promoting food. It can be exploited
also in non-food products (bio-fuel). Seed processing by-product (oil-cakes) has a content of about 30% protein with a specific composition of amino-acids. A high content of essential amino-acids indicates an excellent fodder value. The content of glucosinolates is low. Stalks from the crop are applicable for production of paper pulp.

The proposed project consists of multilocal field research and adjacent agro-industrial research. The environmentally beneficial cultivation method would be further improved. New high yielding and resistant varieties for different climatic conditions will be identified. The agro-industrial research is designed to popularize the crop and the new industrial products deriving mainly from the oil. Simultaneously with the field research, extension work with the crop is envisaged to be carried out during the final phase of the project.

Programme(s)

Topic(s)

Funding Scheme

CSC - Cost-sharing contracts

Coordinator

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