

# Technical Bulletin

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Canada's Seed Partner

## CDC Esme Flax



Progress Through Research  
Le progrès grâce à la recherche

### Description:

CDC Esme (FP2591) is a large seeded, high yielding brown seeded flax variety with good lodging resistance and late maturity.

### Adaptation:

- All flax growing areas of western Canada.

### Pedigree:

- HYF12139/HYF12546

### Strengths:

- High grain yield, 105% of CDC Glas and 108% of CDC Bethune
- Larger seed size, 6.33 g tkw vs CDC Glas 5.22 g tkw
- -2 cm shorter than CDC Glas
- Oil content similar CDC Glas and CDC Bethune
- Seed protein similar to CDC Glas
- Immune to flax rust

### Neutral Traits:

- Similar protein content to CDC Glas
- Slightly lower lodging tolerance than CDC Glas, 2.4 vs 2.1 on a 1-9 scale where 1 is upright and 9 is flat

### Weaknesses:

- 3 day later maturing than CDC Glas

### Breeder:

Dr. Bunyamin Tar'an and team,  
Crop Development Centre  
University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK

**PBR 91 Pending**

### 2019 and 2021 Linseed Co-op Trials

| Variety         | Yield as % CDC Glas | Maturity (days) | Lodging 1 = erect 9 = flat | Height (cm) | 1000 Seed Weight (g) | Oil Content (%) | Oil Yield kg/ha | Iodine Number | Linolenic Acid Content (%) | Seed Protein Content (%) | Meal Protein Content (%) |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| CDC Bethune     | 97                  | 100             | 2.1                        | 59.8        | 5.93                 | 44.7            | 950             | 186           | 53.2                       | 22.2                     | 40.1                     |
| CDC Glas        | 100                 | 101             | 2.1                        | 58.2        | 5.22                 | 44.5            | 995             | 189           | 54.5                       | 21.7                     | 39.6                     |
| <b>CDC Esme</b> | <b>105</b>          | <b>104</b>      | <b>2.4</b>                 | <b>56.5</b> | <b>6.33</b>          | <b>44.5</b>     | <b>1040</b>     | <b>192</b>    | <b>57.1</b>                | <b>22.4</b>              | <b>40.3</b>              |

## 2026 Seed Manitoba Flax Comparison

| Variety         | Site Years | Yield bu/ac | Maturity +/- 102 days | Height +/- 68 cm | Seed Colour  | Seed Size TKW | Oil Content (%) | Oil Quality   |             | Resistance to: |               |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
|                 |            |             |                       |                  |              |               |                 | Iodine Number | ALA Content | Lodging        | Fusarium Wilt |
| AAC Bright      | 25         | 35          | +2                    | 0                | Yellow       | 5.6           | 48.8            | 192.1         | 56.2        | G              | MR            |
| CDC Bethune     | 84         | 35          | 0                     | 0                | Brown        | 5.8           | 45.6            | 188.6         | 54.7        | G              | MR            |
| CDC Glas        | 53         | 36          | +1                    | +3               | Brown        | 5.2           | 45.8            | 192.0         | 56.6        | G              | MR            |
| CDC Kernen      | 29         | 37          | +1                    | 0                | Brown        | 6.5           | 45.4            | 191.6         | 57.3        | VG             | MR            |
| CDC Plava       | 21         | 35          | -2                    | -3               | Brown        | 5.7           | 46.5            | 195.5         | 57.2        | G              | MR            |
| CDC Rowland     | 28         | 39          | +4                    | 0                | Brown        | 6.8           | 45.2            | 195.1         | 59.2        | G              | MR            |
| <b>CDC Esme</b> | <b>21</b>  | <b>37</b>   | <b>+2</b>             | <b>-2</b>        | <b>Brown</b> | <b>6.3</b>    | <b>44.5</b>     | <b>192.0</b>  | <b>57.1</b> | <b>G</b>       | <b>MR</b>     |

M=Medium; ME=Medium Early; ML=Medium Late; MR=Moderately Resistant; VG=Very Good; FG=Fair to Good; P=Poor

## 2026 Saskatchewan Varieties of Grain Flax Comparison

| Variety                  | Years Tested | Yield as % of CDC Glas |              |                  |            | Relative Maturity +/- 101 days | Seed Size | Resistance to: |                |               |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
|                          |              | Area 1 & 2             | Area 3 South | Area 3 North & 4 | Irrigation |                                |           | Lodging        | Powdery Mildew | Fusarium Wilt |
| <b>CDC Glas</b>          | <b>14</b>    | <b>100</b>             | <b>100</b>   | <b>100</b>       | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>                       | <b>M</b>  | <b>VG</b>      | <b>MR</b>      | <b>MR</b>     |
| AAC Bright (yellow seed) | 8            | 93                     | 95           | 94               | 97         | +1                             | M         | G              | MR             | MR            |
| CDC Bethune              | 15           | 96                     | 93           | 100              | 103        | -1                             | M         | G              | MR             | MR            |
| CDC Kernen               | 8            | 100                    | 106          | 102              | 103        | +1                             | L         | G              | MR             | MR            |
| CDC Rowland              | 7            | 102                    | 106          | 103              | 103        | +3                             | L         | G              | MR             | MR            |
| CDC Sorrel               | 4            | 90                     | 87           | 95               | 99         | 0                              | L         | G              | MR             | MR            |
| <b>CDC Esme</b>          | <b>7</b>     | <b>103</b>             | <b>103</b>   | <b>99</b>        | <b>105</b> | <b>+3</b>                      | <b>L</b>  | <b>G</b>       | <b>---</b>     | <b>MR</b>     |

M=Medium; L=Late S=Small; M=Medium; L=Large G=Good; VG=Very Good; F=Fair; P=Poor

R=Resistant; MR=Moderately resistant, I=Intermediate; MS=Moderately susceptible; S=Susceptible

## 2026 Alberta Seed Guide Flax Comparison

| Variety          | Most Recent Year of Testing | Overall Years of Testing | Overall Yield | Yield Category (% CDC Glas) |                  | Agronomic Characteristics           |             |           |             |                       | Disease Tolerance | Quality         |                 |              |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
|                  |                             |                          |               | Low <37 (bu/ac)             | High >37 (bu/ac) | Maturity Rating (Days +/- CDC Glas) | Seed Colour | Seed Size | Height (cm) | Resistance to Lodging | Powdery Mildew    | Oil Content (%) | ALA Content (%) | Iodine Value |
| CDC Glas (bu/ac) |                             |                          | 44            | 26                          | 57               |                                     |             |           |             |                       |                   |                 |                 |              |
| CDC Glas         | 2025                        | 77                       | 100           | 100                         | 100              | 108                                 | Brown       | M         | 62          | G                     | MR                | 46              | 57              | 192          |
| CDC Bethune      | 2022                        | 47                       | 96            | 95                          | 96               | -1                                  | Brown       | M         | 61          | G                     | MR                | 46              | 55              | 189          |
| CDC Kernen       | 2025                        | 43                       | 101           | 105                         | 99               | +2                                  | Brown       | M         | 64          | G                     | MR                | 45              | 57              | 191          |
| CDC Plava        | 2016                        | 26                       | 96            | 101                         | 87               | -3                                  | Brown       | M         | 51          | G                     | NT                | 47              | 57              | 196          |
| CDC Rowland      | 2023                        | 24                       | 104           | 104                         | 104              | +4                                  | Brown       | L         | 61          | G                     | MR                | 45              | 59              | 195          |
| CDC Sorrel       | 2008                        | 14                       | 104           | 110                         | 99               | 0                                   | Brown       | L         | 61          | F                     | MR                | 45              | 58              | 193          |
| CDC Esme         | 2025                        | 34                       | 105           | 107                         | 103              | +4                                  | Brown       | L         | 61          | G                     | NT                | 46              | 59              | 195          |

S=Small, M=Medium, L=Large; VG=Very Good; G=Good; F=Fair; P=Poor; VP=Very; R=Resistant; MR=Moderately resistant, I=Intermediate; MS=Moderately susceptible; S=Susceptible; NT = Not tested